

Safety Requirements

Background Checks

- **If you are providing care in the child's home**
 - Background checks will need to be completed and the employment verification form will need to be turned in on the provider.
- **If you are providing care in the providers home**
 - A background check will need to be completed and the employment verification form will need to be turned in on any individual that is living in the home that is 18 years of age or older.
- A background check can be completed by calling your Fitness Determination Specialist at the Division of Child Care at 1-844-209-2657 to obtain instructions and documents needed to complete the process. You will also find a National Background Check Program Tip sheet located on the home page.

Home Safety Check List

If you are providing care in your home and are not related to the children in your care, a surveyor through the Division of Regulated Child Care will visit your home and complete a registered professional home safety checklist. This checklist is used to certify that the professional's house and each play area are safe for the children in their care. Review the regulations for registered professionals, to see in detail what the checklist will include.

The checklist will look for the following items to assure that children in the providers care are in a safe environment.

- You will be responsible for ensuring that the home and play areas are safe including:
 - Heat
 - Light
 - Ventilation
 - Each floor should include:
 - Unblocked exit to the outside
 - Smoke detectors
 - Fire extinguisher
 - Carbon monoxide detector in the home if there is a fuel-burning appliance or has an attached garage.
- The following items should be out of reach and inaccessible to children in care:
 - Knives, scissors, and other sharp objects
 - Cleaning supplies, poisons, paint, and insecticides
 - Power tools. Lawn mowers, hand tools, nails, and other similar equipment
 - Matches, cigarettes, vaping devices, lighters, combustibles. Flammable liquids
 - Alcoholic beverages

- o Medications
 - o Firearms and ammunition shall be stored and locked in locations separate from each other and inaccessible to a child in care.
- All electric outlets should be covered at all times, unless in use.
- Fans, Floor furnace, free-standing heaters, wood burning stove, or fireplace shall be out of reach of the child or have a safety guard to protect the child from injury.
- Safety gates should be used to protect children from being on the stairs if the children are under the age of three.
- Stairs shall be in good repair and include a railing comparable to the length to the stairs.
- You will need to have at least one working telephone with a residential line or an active mobile service.
- Each area should be equipped with an accessible list of emergency telephone numbers including numbers for:
 - o Police
 - o Fire
 - o Emergency Medical
 - o Poison Control and
 - o Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect
- The professional shall have a working refrigerator and maintains a temperature of forty-five (45) degrees Fahrenheit or below with a freezer that keeps a temperature of zero degrees Fahrenheit.
- You will need a first aid kit that includes:
 - o Liquid soap
 - o Band-Aids
 - o Sterile Gauze
 - o Adhesive tape

Registered professionals will need to register once a year. If you have any changes to the information that you have provided, you will need to report within 10 days of the changes.

- If the provider is to provide transportation, the following will need to be provided:
 - Written permission from the parent.
 - A vehicle that is equipped with seat belts.
 - Comply with [KRS 189.125](#) regarding child restraints and seating
 - Arrival and departure times of each child are recorded on the cabinet form.
 - Attendance records are kept for five years
- If there are pets in the home, vaccinations need to be up to date.

For further assistance in becoming a Registered Child Care Professional, please contact the Division of Child Care Help Desk at 844-209-2657.