

# Child Care Checklist

## Legal Care

- Anyone providing care for more than three children including their own must be licensed.
- If the provider is licensed, is there an up-to-date license posted?
- Are there first-aid supplies and fire extinguishers?

## Safe, clean and nurturing?

- Is the facility attractive, clean and well-lit with safety in mind?
- Is there a proper sleeping place for nap time?
- Are the bathroom and diaper areas clean? Is there water nearby for handwashing?
- Is there enough space indoors and outdoors so all the children can move freely and safely?

## Provided by a qualified, experienced caregiver?

- Does the provider have experience or training in working with children of different ages and stages?
- Does the provider understand what children can do and want to do at different stages of growth?
- Is the provider someone who listens to what you want for your child and asks questions about how you do things?

## Provides Opportunities to Play and Learn?

- Are children allowed to make choices?
- Is there a variety of equipment and materials to help children learn and grow mentally and physically?
- Can children reach materials and supplies without asking for adult assistance?

## Offers Positive Interactions between children and Adults

- Does the provider appear to be warm, friendly and patient?
- Does the provider talk with the children and encourage them to express themselves creatively with words and activities?
- How are the parents involved in the program? Can you visit anytime?

## Utilizes Appropriate Guidance and Discipline

- Are children encouraged to resolve conflicts between themselves in an acceptable manner?
- Does the provider set limits in a way that does not punish or shame children?
- Is there a place that a child can be quiet when they need to calm down?



Funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services.

To Check Past History of Licensed  
Providers, you may call:  
*Day Care Information Line:*  
1-877-746-0829