Tennessee Department of Children's Services

Home Safety Checklist

Foster Home Name _____ **Foster Home ID#** _____

Household Requirements						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Designated spaces for informal living, dining, food preparation and storage; separate rooms for sleeping and bathing.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Stable supply of heat provided and maintained to rooms being occupied.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Garbage, refuse and other wastes disposed of in a way that does not constitute a health hazard.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Mirrors and other wall attachments fixed securely to walls.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Maximum temperature of hot water in bathroom 120 degrees or less.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Steps or railings sturdy, appropriately spaced and in good repair.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Extension cords in good repair.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Electrical outlets covered and not overloaded.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Electrical appliances and cords out of young children's reach.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Radiators, hot water pipes and fireplaces covered.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Exits and stairways gated or otherwise secured for infants and young children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Rugs and other moveable floor coverings safely secured.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Matches and lighters inaccessible to children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Toys safe, clean and in good repair.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Crib mobiles out of the reach of young children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Pot handles placed toward the back of the stove, out of the reach of young children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Knives, scissors, and other sharp instruments kept out of the reach of young children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Windows, screens, and balcony doors in high-rise apartment buildings secured by safety catches.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Blind and drape cords constructed without loops and out of the reach of young children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Television sets on tables or stands fastened securely.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Unused refrigerators/freezers/stoves stored with doors removed.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Adequate pest control.
Means of Communication						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Telephone access available.
☐	☐	☐	☐			List of emergency telephone numbers readily accessible.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Children/youth have knowledge of accessibility to phone for emergency usage.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Children/youth have knowledge of emergency plan.

Check the "Forms" Webpage for the current version and disregard previous versions. This form may not be altered without prior approval.
Distribution: Foster Home Case File

Fire Safety						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Smoke Detectors on every floor level of home and in working order.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Written Fire Evacuation Plan established and regularly reviewed with all family members.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Flashlight(s) in working order; easily accessible in emergency.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Fire extinguisher(s) in working order, on each floor; not less than 2½ pounds; for Class B and C fires.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Carbon Monoxide detector(s) on every level of the home.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Exits and hallways well lit and uncluttered.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Fireplace/woodstoves installed as per specification of the local fire department.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Fireplace screens or front guards in use; combustible deposits removed regularly.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Stovepipe cleaned regularly.
Sleeping Arrangements						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Infant cribs in compliance with government safety standards.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Discussed safe baby sleep for caregivers of infants.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Children will have their own bed (platform or standard that includes mattress, box springs, unless they are bunk beds, and bed frame).
☐	☐	☐	☐			Bedrooms occupied by children do not have external door locks.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Bedrooms occupied by children have a window.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Clothing storage space available for child's personal belongings.
☐	☐	☐	☐			No bedroom is in a building detached from the home, an unfinished attic or unfinished basement, or a stairway hall.
Weapons						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Weapons, including firearms, air rifles, and bows and hunting slingshots are made inoperable when not in use and are stored in locked cabinets, inaccessible to children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Ammunition will be stored and locked separately from weapons.
Medicines and Hazardous Substances						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Medications and other potentially hazardous pharmaceutical substances stored locked and inaccessible to children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Potentially hazardous household substances (e.g. bleach, cleaning fluids, pesticides) secured out of reach, latched, or locked away

Specific Safety Precautions						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Inform and instruct child about potential danger of certain types of farm equipment, structures, and livestock (where applicable).
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Inform and instruct child about water safety and potential danger of specific water hazards i.e. wells, water troughs, lakes, rivers, reservoirs, culverts, tubs, ponds, swimming pools, Jacuzzi tubs.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Swimming pools on property are secured with a fence, a locked gate, and a pool safety alarm as required by city/county/state regulations. Refer to ***Water Hazard / Pool Safety Assessment Tool***
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Swimming pools must be equipped with a life saving device such as a ring buoy.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Hot tubs and spas must have safety covers that are locked when not in use. Non-portable hot tubs and spas require a safety alarm.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Internet adult sites, adult videos, and other such adult materials are inaccessible to children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Precautions in place to protect children from second-hand smoke.
Pets						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Pet vaccinations in accordance with state and local laws.
☐	☐	☐	☐			In or on the premises of a foster home are kept in a safe and sanitary manner in accordance with state and local laws.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Potentially dangerous situations involving animals discussed and understood.
Automobile Safety						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Automobile in safe operating condition.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Valid Driver's License for each person driving children.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Equipped with child safety seats for infants/toddlers.
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Equipped with booster seats for children ages 4 through age 8 who are less than 4'9".
☐	☐	☐	☐			*Equipped with safety seat belts for each person.
☐	☐	☐	☐			All safety seats and belts meet standard safety regulations.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Foster parent is licensed.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Foster parent has arranged with other adults with license for transportation.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Copy of license on file in foster home files.
Water Source						
Yes	**No**	**Will Comply**	**N/A**	**Comply Date**	**Worker Initial**	
☐	☐	☐	☐			Municipal water system.
☐	☐	☐	☐			Well water.

Date of last test: Results:

Non-Compliance

Comment on areas of non-compliance and describe a safety plan addressing supervision and, if applicable, water safety. **The safety plan is not to exceed timeframe guidelines as referenced on the form instructions.**

Foster Parent Signature	Print Name	Date
Foster Parent Signature	Print Name	Date
FPS/Agency Signature	Print Name	Date