



# Alternative Child Care Checklist

[www.qualitycareforchildren.org](http://www.qualitycareforchildren.org)

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Quality Care for Children does not refer unregulated (informal) caregivers. However, there are times that parents may need to utilize alternative care options. Some of these options may include:

- Relatives
- Friends
- Neighbors
- Informal Caregivers
- Babysitters

Although quality indicators are in place for registered caregivers, there are no regulations for providers who are paid to take care of one or two children. The following is a checklist that may be used in case alternative care is an option for you.

## ALTERNATIVE CARE OPTIONS CHECKLIST

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does caregiver have any experience caring for children (including her own children)?       | <input type="checkbox"/> Has parent worked out emergency procedures with caregiver? Does caregiver have emergency numbers?       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does caregiver understand what children can or cannot do at different stages of growth?    | <input type="checkbox"/> Does caregiver have clean and comfortable environment?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How many children will be in caregiver's care when child is present?                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Does caregiver have first aid kit, smoke detector, fire extinguisher and other health and safety items? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is there enough space indoors and outdoors for all the children to move freely and safely? | <input type="checkbox"/> Does caregiver have an alternate exit in case of fire?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will caregiver encourage good health habits, such as washing hands before eating?          | <input type="checkbox"/> Does caregiver know age appropriate activities?   |

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