

Fire Inspection Check List

for Large Family Child Care Home

This list does not include all regulations that may apply to homes used for large family child care—it is only intended to provide guidance on issues and questions commonly encountered during fire clearance inspections, and each case is unique, so we are not able to include all code regulations that may exist and the inspector will determine your unique situation for your facility.

What do the fire department looks for when doing the inspection?



- EXITS:** A minimum of two exits are required and may include one sliding door. Exits need to be clear from drapes, furniture, or any storage. The sliding door may have vertical blinds, during the daycare hours.

The back exit should lead to an exit to the public street and this exit CANNOT be through the kitchen or the garage.



- STOVE EXHAUST SCREEN:** Shall be cleaned of all grease.



- SECOND LEVEL:** Rooms located above the first floor shall not be used for daycare purposes unless your home has automatic sprinklers.

- SPRINKLERS:** Are not required for single family homes



- GATES:** A child safety gate must be installed across the bottom of every stairway leading to the 2nd floor



- DEADBOLTS:** Are not allowed on any exit door. You should be able to open the door with one single action.



- ELECTRICAL:** Extension cords shall not be used in place of permanent wiring. Outlets need to be covered with protectors.



- SMOKE DETECTORS:** Smoke detectors shall be installed at a point centrally located in the corridor or area giving access to sleeping areas and every story.

- CARBON MONOXIDE(CO) DETECTOR:** Needs to be installed in the house



- EVACUATION DRAWING:** Posted at both exits



- ADDRESS:** shall be visible and legible from the street.

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- FIRE EXTINGUISHER:** A minimum of 5lbs. Portable Fire Extinguisher with a rating of (2A 10BC) The extinguisher handle shall be steel and no plastic and must be mounted no higher than 5' from the floor in a centrally located area. Extinguisher will need proof of service or purchased within the last 12 months.

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- ENCLOSED GAS-FIRE WATER HEATER OR FURNACE:** Located in the area used for child care purposes, should be protected/screened to prevent access by children.

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- EMERGENCY NUMBERS:** posted near the phone

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- MANUAL FIRE ALARM DEVICE:** must be present and functional.

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- HOME HAS:** 3 detached sides.

If you are thinking about moving to a larger location to apply for a large capacity you need to inform Community Care Licensing and pay a Change of Location Fee of 50% of the established fee for large or small capacity. **Take seriously the fire department requirements.** Providers sometimes move to a larger location with the hopes of getting a large capacity child care and later on, they find out that the house is not eligible because someone lives in the in-law and there are no sprinklers, or there is not a second exit that leads to the street without passing through the kitchen or the garage. Be prepared and if the reason of moving is to get a large license look for a place that complies with these regulations.

Know that this are only tips that can help you, these is not a complete guide. It is possible that the inspector may observe other things that are not noted in this check list. The inspector makes the ultimate decision.

For additional information about fire inspection, please check:

Sacramento Large-Family-Daycare Packet-914-Children-R3Updated070119.pdf