

**Texas Department of Insurance
State Fire Marshal's Office
Foster Family Home Fire Safety Evaluation Checklist
Revised March 2012**

Name of Owner(s):	
Telephone:	
Home Address:	

A WORKING CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM MUST BE INSTALLED ON THE WALL OR CEILING OF THE RESIDENCE. BATTERY POWERED IS ACCEPTABLE.

AN INSPECTOR MAY REQUIRE MORE THAN ONE IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

	Yes	No	Item
1.			Will there be less than seven children be living in the Foster Home?
2.			Are all the children ambulatory and capable of self-preservation?
3.			Is a working smoke detector installed in each sleeping room?
4.			Is a working smoke detector installed in the hallway near the sleeping rooms?
5.			If the house is more than one story is a working smoke detector installed at the top of the stairs?
6.			Does each sleeping room and living area have at least one of the following secondary means of escape other than the "front" or "back" door of the home? A) A door, stairway, passage or hall providing unobstructed travel leading directly to the outside of the dwelling; or B) An outside window with a minimum opening of not less than 5.7 sq. ft. in area, minimum of 20 inches wide, and at least 24 inches high, and no higher than 44 inches above the floor, located within 20 ft. of grade accessible to fire department apparatus; or C) A non-locking door into an adjoining room that has a means of escape described in A or B above.
7.			Can a person travel from any room of the house to an exit that leads directly outside without having to pass through an interior door than can be locked?
8.			Can all primary exterior exit doors, windows used as a secondary means of escape, and any security bars incorporated with these primary and secondary means of escape, be opened from the inside without the use of a key, tool or special knowledge (security code, combination)?
9.			Are the closet doors equipped so that a child can open the door from the inside?
10.			If the bathroom door is equipped with a lock, can the door be unlocked from the outside during an emergency?
11.			Can all bedrooms and/or living areas above the first floor be accessed by a standard set of stairs?
12.			Are all gas, wood, or fuel-fired heaters used in the home vented to the outside? (unless listed and approved)
13.			Are heaters, including wood burning or gas log fireplaces, equipped with immovable screens or barriers to prevent contact with open flames or hot surfaces?
14.			Are gas appliances (heaters, water heaters, stoves) equipped with metal tubing and metal connectors?
15.			Does a qualified technician inspect all gas-fired heaters annually?
16.			Are combustible items (things that burn) stored away from any stove, heater, or fireplace in the Foster Home?
17.			Are all lighters and matches kept out of the reach of children?
18.			Are flammable liquids stored in safety cans and kept away from heat and children?
19.			Is there an operable five-pound dry chemical fire extinguisher available for use in the kitchen?
20.			Has a Home Fire Escape Plan been written, practiced, and documented?
21.			Does the electrical system appear to be in good condition?