



Caring for Our Children: Environmental Health in Early Care and Education Compliance/Comparison Checklist

Caring for Our Children: Environmental Health in Early Care and Education was developed to be used by multiple audiences to identify best practices for environmentally-healthy early care and education programs.

Intended users of the Compliance/Comparison Checklist:

- **Early care and education caregivers/teachers** (family child care providers as well as center-based providers) who can implement these strategies to provide a safe and healthy environment in early care and education settings, while simultaneously supporting and partnering with families;
- **Facility owners, managers, and administrators** who develop and implement policies and make decisions regarding building construction, furnishing, maintenance, heating/cooling, foods, toys, cleaning products, and other purchasing decisions.
- **State and local regulators and policy makers** who can promote the adoption of these standards in their state and local licensing regulations in an effort to promote best practices within early care and education programs;
- **Health, mental health and education consultants, infant/toddler specialists, trainers and other health/public health professionals** who can promote these standards to early care and education programs and caregivers/teachers;
- **Parents/guardians** who can recommend and advocate for the use of these standards in their child's early care and education setting; and
- **Early care and education academic degree program administrators** who can enhance their curriculum.

Compliance/Comparison Checklist

CFOC3 Standard Number	CFOC3 Standard Title	Compliance/Comparison	
		Yes	No
I. Staffing and Training			
1.3.2.7	Qualifications and Responsibilities for Health Advocates		
1.4.1.1*	Pre-service Training		
1.4.2.3*	Orientation Topics		
1.4.4.1	Continuing Education for Directors and Caregivers/Teachers in Centers and Large Family Child Care Homes		
1.4.4.2	Continuing Education for Small Family Child Care Home Caregivers/Teachers		
1.4.5.3	Training on Occupational Risk Related to Handling Body Fluids		
1.5.0.2*	Orientation of Substitutes		
1.6.0.1*	Child Care Health Consultants		
1.7.0.4	Occupational Hazards		
II. Program Activities for Healthy Development			
2.1.1.3	Coordinated Child Care Health Program Model		
2.4.2.1	Health and Safety Education Topics for Staff		
2.4.3.2	Parent/Guardian Education Plan		
III. Health Promotion and Protection			
3.1.3.2*	Playing Outdoors		
3.1.3.3	Protection From Air Pollution While Children Are Outside		
3.2.1.4*	Diaper Changing Procedure		
3.2.1.5	Procedure for Changing Children’s Soiled Underwear/Pull-Ups and Clothing		
3.2.2.2*	Handwashing Procedure		
3.2.2.5	Hand Sanitizers		
3.2.3.4*	Prevention of Exposure to Blood and Body Fluids		
3.3.0.1*	Routine Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Disinfecting		
3.4.1.1*	Use of Tobacco, Alcohol, and Illegal Drugs		
3.4.5.1*	Sun Safety Including Sunscreen		

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		Yes	No
3.4.5.2	Insect Repellent and Protection from Vector-Borne Diseases		
3.5.0.1*	Care Plan for Children with Special Health Care Needs		
3.6.1.3	Thermometers for Taking Human Temperatures		
3.6.3.2*	Labeling, Storage, and Disposal of Medications		
IV. Nutrition and Food Service			
4.2.0.11	Ingestion of Substances that Do Not Provide Nutrition		
4.3.1.3*	Preparing, Feeding, and Storing Human Milk		
4.3.1.5*	Preparing, Feeding, and Storing Infant Formula		
4.3.1.9*	Warming Bottles and Infant Foods		
4.5.0.2	Tableware and Feeding Utensils		
4.8.0.7	Ventilation Over Cooking Surfaces		
4.8.0.8	Microwave Ovens		
4.9.0.13	Method for Washing Dishes by Hand		
V. Facilities, Supplies, and Equipment			
A. Location, Layout and Construction			
5.1.1.2*	Inspection of Buildings		
5.1.1.5*	Environmental Audit of Site Location		
5.1.1.6	Structurally Sound facility		
5.1.1.7	Use of Basements and Below Grade Areas		
5.1.1.9	Unrelated Business in a Child Care Area		
5.1.1.11	Separation of Operations from Child Care Areas		
5.1.3.1	Weather-Tightness and Water-Tightness of Openings		
B. Quality of Outdoor and Indoor Environment			
5.1.3.3	Screens for Ventilation Openings		
5.2.1.1*	Fresh Air		
5.2.1.2	Indoor Temperature		
5.2.1.3	Heating and Ventilation Equipment Inspection and Maintenance		
5.2.1.4	Ventilation When Using Art Materials		

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		Yes	No
5.2.1.5	Ventilation of Recently Carpeted or Paneled Areas		
5.2.1.6	Ventilation to Control Odors		
5.2.1.8	Maintenance of Air Filters		
5.2.1.9	Type and Placement of Room Thermometers		
5.2.1.10*	Gas, Oil, or Kerosene Heaters, Generators, Portable Gas Stoves, and Charcoal and Gas Grills		
5.2.1.12	Fireplaces, Fireplace Inserts, and Wood/Corn Pellet Stoves		
5.2.1.15	Maintenance of Humidifiers and Dehumidifiers		
5.2.2.1	Levels of Illumination		
5.2.2.3	High Intensity Discharge Lamps, Multi-Vapor, and Mercury Lamps		
5.2.3.1	Noise Levels		
5.2.5.1	Smoke Detection Systems and Smoke Alarms		
5.2.6.1	Water Supply		
5.2.6.2	Testing of Drinking Water Not From Public System		
5.2.6.3*	Testing for Lead and Copper Levels in Drinking Water		
5.2.6.4	Water Test Results		
5.2.6.5	Emergency Safe Drinking Water and Bottled Water		
5.2.6.6	Water Handling and Treatment Equipment		
5.2.6.7	Cross-Connections		
5.2.7.1	On-Site Sewage Systems		
5.2.7.2	Removal of Garbage		
5.2.7.6*	Storage and Disposal of Infections and Toxic Wastes		
5.2.7.3	Containment of Garbage		
5.2.8.1	Integrated Pest Management		
5.2.8.2	Insect Breeding Hazard		
5.2.9.1*	Use and Storage of Toxic Substances		
5.2.9.2*	Use of a Poison Center		
5.2.9.3*	Informing Staff Regarding Presence of Toxic Substances		
5.2.9.4*	Radon Concentrations		

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		Yes	No
5.2.9.5	Carbon Monoxide Detectors		
5.2.9.6	Preventing Exposure to Asbestos or Other Friable Materials		
5.2.9.7	Proper Use of Art and Craft Supplies		
5.2.9.8	Use of Play Dough and Other Manipulative Art or Sensory Materials		
5.2.9.9	Plastic Containers and Toys		
5.2.9.10	Prohibition of Poisonous Plants		
5.2.9.11	Chemicals Used to Control Odors		
5.2.9.12	Treatment of CCA Pressure-Treated Wood		
5.2.9.13*	Testing for Lead		
5.2.9.14	Shoes in Infant Play Areas		
5.2.9.15	Construction and Remodeling During Hours of Operation		
C. General Furnishings/Equipment and Maintenance			
5.3.1.1*	Safety of Equipment, Materials, and Furnishings		
5.3.1.4	Surfaces of Equipment, Furniture, Toys, and Play Materials		
5.3.1.6	Floors, Walls, and Ceilings		
5.4.1.5	Chemical Toilets		
5.4.2.6	Maintenance of Changing Tables		
5.5.0.5	Storage of Flammable Materials		
5.6.0.4	Microfiber Cloths, Rags, and Disposable Towels and Mops Used for Cleaning		
5.7.0.1	Maintenance of Exterior Surfaces		
5.7.0.2	Removal of Hazards From Outdoor Areas		
5.7.0.3	Removal of Allergen Triggering Materials from Outdoor Areas		
5.7.0.5	Cleaning Schedule for Exterior Areas		
5.7.0.6	Storage Area Maintenance and Ventilation		
5.7.0.7	Structure Maintenance		
5.7.0.10	Cleaning of Humidifiers and Related Equipment		

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VI. Play Areas/Equipment			
6.1.0.1	Size and Location of Outdoor Play Area		
6.1.0.2	Size and Requirements of Indoor Play Area		
6.1.0.7	Shading of Play Area		
6.1.0.8*	Enclosures for Outdoor Play Areas		
6.2.1.1	Play Equipment Requirements		
6.2.1.8	Material Defects and Edges on Play Equipment		
6.2.4.1	Sandboxes		
6.2.4.2	Water Play Tables		
6.2.4.3	Sensory Table Materials		
6.3.2.3	Pool Equipment and Chemical Storage Rooms		
6.3.4.1	Pool Water Quality		
6.3.4.2	Chlorine Pucks		
6.4.1.2*	Inaccessibility of Toys or Objects to Children Under Three Years of Age		
VII. Administration			
9.2.1.1	Content of Policies		
9.2.3.10	Sanitation Policies and Procedures		
9.2.3.15	Policies Prohibiting Smoking Tobacco, Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, and Toxic Substances		
9.2.4.3*	Disaster Planning, Training, and Communication		
9.2.4.5*	Emergency and Evacuation Drills/Exercises Policy		
9.4.1.2	Maintenance of Records		
9.4.1.6	Availability of Documents to Parents/Guardians		
VIII. Licensing and Community Action			
10.3.5.1	Education, Experience and Training of Licensing Inspectors		
10.5.0.1	State and Local Health Department Role		
10.6.1.1	Regulatory Agency Provision of Caregiver/Teacher and Consumer Training and Support Services		
10.6.1.2	Provision of Training to Facilities by Health Agencies		

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Availability

The full texts of *Caring for Our Children: Environmental Health in Early Care and Education* and *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs*, Third Edition are available online through the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education website (<http://nrckids.org/CFOC3/index.html>).

Print copies of the comprehensive source document *Caring for Our Children*, Third Edition are available from the American Academy of Pediatrics (<http://www.aap.org>) and the American Public Health Association (<http://www.apha.org/publications/bookstore/>).