



## Interviewing Daycare Centers

### When visiting a child care facility, ask the following questions:

- Is the facility licensed or registered with the state government? If so, ask to see a copy of the latest inspection report.
- Can you visit the facility during operating hours before registering your child?
- Once your child is registered, will you be able to visit at any time?
- Is there a written daily schedule that includes activities?
- Is there indoor and outdoor play and are children always supervised?
- Is each child assigned to one caregiver who is primarily responsible for him/her?
- Is there a written discipline policy?
- Is smoking banned from the facility?
- Are there written policies for the care of sick children?
- Will the caregivers give prescribed medicine to your children?
- Does a pediatrician or nurse serve as a consultant to the child care program?
- Do staff members have training in child development?
- Have child care workers received up to date first aid and CPR training
- How long have the supervisors and caregivers been employed there?
- Can you get recommendations from parents who use the program and from parents whose child have “graduated” from the facility or moved to another center?

### Look for the following at a childcare facility:

- Diaper changing areas with sink well within the caregiver’s reach
- Cubbies, lockers or other places to store children’s personal belongings
- Caregivers wash their hands after wiping a child’s nose
- Infants are fed sitting up, with an adult present during meals and snacks
- Plenty of age appropriate toys for all the children
- An outdoor play area free of sharp edges, pinch point, sharp rocks and ditches
- Impact absorbing material, such as wood chips, rubber mats or loosely packed sand in all areas where children are likely to fall
- Adults supervise outdoor play