

## CHLD 202: Health, Safety, and Nutrition for the Young Child

### Program Health and Safety Profile

<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	1. Demonstrate knowledge of how basic physical, mental health, nutritional, and safety needs of young children are met through environmental and curricular policies and procedures. 3. Explain and identify ways to maintain a safe environment including: identifying hazards and risks; conducting regular health and safety assessments consistent with regulations and quality standards; and taking corrective action when necessary.
<b>DEC Recommended Practices</b>	PP8 The program is based on recommended practices of the field including standards from accrediting agencies and professional associations.
<b>NAEYC Standards</b>	6b Knowing about and upholding ethical standards and other professional guidelines.

This activity requires that you develop a health and safety profile of an early childhood program that serves children between the ages of birth and five. The program you choose must be licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services.

#### To prepare for this assignment you will need to:

- Re-read Chapter 7 in your course text: “Creating High-Quality Environments”
- Locate and study Subpart G: Health and Hygiene from:
  - Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. (2010, December 15). *Licensing standards for day care centers*. Available from <http://www.state.il.us/dcf/docs/407.pdf>
- Arrange to interview the director or assistant director from a licensed childcare program that serves children between the ages of birth and five. You may wish to interview additional people within the program to determine their knowledge of the policies and practices discussed. Your interview is likely to last approximately one hour.

#### To complete this assignment, use the “Program Health and Safety Profile” questions below to gather your data as you conduct the interview.

1. What regular policies and practices are used within the environment to control the spread of infectious diseases?
2. What strategies does the program use on a regular basis to manage children’s communicable and acute illness?
3. Are there written policies and procedures that provide an overview of these strategies?
4. What kind of record-keeping systems do you use to track immunizations and health checks?
5. What policies and practices insure safety in the indoor environment?
6. What policies and practices insure safety in the outdoor environment?
7. How are the safety strategies communicated to staff?

8. How effectively do you feel these safety strategies are implemented?
9. What policies and practices does the program have regarding the prevention, identification, and reporting of child abuse and neglect?

**After you complete the interview:**

- Write a profile/report for your instructor, including examples from your interview, that includes the following points:
  1. Give an overview of the program's specific strengths.
  2. Give an overview of the program's specific challenges.
  3. Describe how the environment you observed compared to licensing standards provided through the Department of Children and Family Services.
  4. Provide two suggestions or recommendations for the program.
  5. What additional information would have been beneficial for you to make a full assessment of health and safety factors within the program you observed?