

Hazardous Items Storage for Child Care

NC Sanitation of Child Care Centers Rule 15A NCAC 18A .2820 (centers)

NC Child Care Center Rule 10A NCAC 09 .0604 and .1719 (family child care homes)



Keep all hazardous items in their original containers or in other containers labeled with the name of the hazard. Use these items according to the manufacturer's instructions only. Store all items in a container or cabinet that you can lock with a combination, electronic or magnetic device, keypad, key, or equivalent locking device. Store toxic substances below or separate from medications and food. Keep devices you use to unlock storage units out of children's reach and not inside the lock.

<p>Items to keep in locked storage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrosive agents • Pesticides including insect repellent and bleach • Cleaners and detergents • Polishes • Items under pressure in an aerosol can or dispenser • Substances which may be hazardous if a child ingests, inhales, or handles it • Employee purses/personal effects that contain hazards • All materials used for starting fires, such as matches, lighters and accelerants • All smoking materials • Medications (except emergency medication - see below) 	<p>Items to keep in locked storage, off the premises, or inaccessible to children</p> <p>Potentially hazardous items including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power tools • Loose nails and screws • Chemicals • Propane stoves • Lawnmowers • Gasoline • Kerosene • Toxic plants <p>In centers, firearms and ammunition are prohibited unless carried by law enforcement.</p> <p>In family child care homes, firearms must be emptied of ammunition and kept in separate locked storage.</p>
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Items to keep inaccessible to children

Store designated **emergency medications** - those used or needed for the immediate recovery from a life-threatening event - in unlocked storage and inaccessible to children, five feet or more above the floor.

- Glucagon (GlucaGen)
- Epinephrine auto-injector (Epi-Pen)
- Diazepam rectal instillation (Valium, Diastat)
- Albuterol inhalers or ampules for nebulizers

Emergency
Medication

Store items that are labeled keep out of reach of children, and have no other warning, inaccessible to children on a shelf or in an unlocked cabinet. The shelf or cabinet must be mounted at least five feet above the floor.

Examples:

- Non-aerosol sanitizers, disinfectants, and detergents that labeled as sanitizing, disinfecting or detergent (soapy water) solutions
- Sanitizers, lotions, and soap in bulk containers
- Any other item labeled "keep out of reach of children" and have no other warnings

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NORTH CAROLINA
Child Care Health and
Safety Resource Center

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