§747.305 What emergency and medical situations must I notify parents about?

(a) You must notify the parent of a child immediately if there is an allegation that the child has been abused, neglected, or exploited, as defined in Texas Family Code §261.001, while in your care.

(b) After you ensure the safety of the child, you must notify the parent of the child immediately after the child:

   (1) Is injured and the injury requires medical treatment by a health-care professional;
   
   (2) Shows signs or symptoms of an illness that requires hospitalization;
   
   (3) Has had an emergency anaphylaxis reaction that required administration of an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector;
   
   (4) Has been involved in any situation that placed the child at risk. For example, forgetting the child in a vehicle or failing to prevent the child from wandering away from your child-care home unsupervised; or
   
   (5) Has been involved in any situation that renders the child-care home unsafe, such as a fire, flood, or damage to the child-care home as a result of severe weather.

(c) You must notify the parent of less serious injuries when the parent picks the child up from your child-care home. Less serious injuries include minor cuts, scratches, and bites from other children requiring first-aid treatment by caregivers.

(d) You must provide written notice to the parent of each child attending the child-care home within 48 hours when any child in your care, a caregiver, or a household member has contracted a communicable disease deemed notifiable by the Texas Department of State Health Services as specified in 25 TAC Chapter 97, Subchapter A (relating to Control of Communicable Disease).

(e) You must provide written notice to the parent of each child attending the child-care home within 48 hours when there is an outbreak of lice or other infestation in the child-care home.
§747.501. What written operational policies must I have?

You must develop written operational policies and procedures that at a minimum address each of the following:

1. Procedure for the release of children;

2. Illness and exclusion criteria;

3. Procedures for dispensing medication, or a statement that medication is not dispensed;

4. Procedures for handling medical emergencies;

5. Discipline and guidance policy that is consistent with Subchapter L of this title (relating to Discipline and Guidance). A copy of Subchapter L may be used for your discipline and guidance policy;

6. Safe sleep policy for infants from birth through 12 months old that is consistent with the rules in Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Basic Requirements for Infants) that relate to sleep requirements and restrictions, including sleep positioning, and crib requirements and restrictions, including mattresses, bedding, blankets, toys, and restrictive devices;

7. Animals, if applicable;

8. Promotion of indoor and outdoor physical activity that is consistent with Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Developmental Activities and Activity Plan). Your policies must include:
   (A) The duration of physical activity at your home, both indoor and outdoor;
   (B) The recommended clothing and footwear that will allow a child to participate freely and safely in physical activities; and
   (C) A plan to ensure physical activity occurs on days when extreme weather conditions prohibit or limit outdoor time.

9. Procedures for parents to visit the child-care home any time during your hours of operation to observe their child, program activities, the home, the premises, and equipment without having to secure prior approval;

10. Procedures for parents to review a copy of the child-care home's most recent Licensing inspection report and how the parent may access the minimum standards online;
(11) Instructions on how a parent may contact the local Licensing office, access the Texas Abuse and Neglect Hotline, and access the HHSC website;

(12) Your emergency preparedness plan;

(13) Procedures for conducting health checks, if applicable;

(14) Information on vaccine-preventable diseases for employees, if your licensed child-care home is not located in your own residence. The policy must address the requirements outlined in §747.3411 of this chapter (relating to What must a policy for protecting children from vaccine-preventable diseases include?); and

(15) If your home maintains and administers unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors to use when a child in care has an emergency anaphylaxis reaction, policies for maintenance, administration, and disposal of unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors that comply with the unassigned epinephrine auto-injector requirements set by the Texas Department of State Health Services, as specified in 25 TAC Chapter 40, Subchapter C (relating to Epinephrine Auto-Injector Policies in Youth Facilities) and in Texas Health and Safety Code §773.0145.

Helpful Information

- Regarding paragraph (6), a sample Infant in Child Care Safe Sleep Policy can be found in the Licensing Technical Assistance Library.

- Regarding paragraph (8)(A), additional resources regarding physical activity are available in Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards, 4th Edition and in the Licensing Technical Assistance Library.

- Regarding paragraph (15), DSHS requirements for the maintenance and administration of unassigned epinephrine auto-injectors include requirements for:
  - Training;
  - Storage;
  - Administration;
  - Disposal;
  - Reporting; and
  - Parental notification of policies.

You can find more information about these requirements, as well as definitions pertaining to anaphylaxis, at Allergies and Anaphylaxis, Epinephrine Auto-Injector Policies in Youth Facilities, and in the CCR TA Library.
§747.701. What written records must I keep of accidents and incidents that occur at my child-care home?

You must record the following information on the Licensing Incident/Illness Report Form 7239 or another form that contains at least the same information:

1. An injury to a child in care that required medical treatment by a health-care professional or hospitalization;

2. An illness that required the hospitalization of a child in care;

3. An incident where a child in care had an emergency anaphylaxis reaction that required administration of an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector;

4. An incident of a child in care or caregiver contracting a communicable disease deemed notifiable by the Texas Department of State Health Services as specified in 25 TAC Chapter 97, Subchapter A (relating to Control of Communicable Diseases); and

5. Any other situation that placed a child at risk, such as forgetting a child in a vehicle or not preventing a child from wandering away from the child-care home.
§747.2107. Am I required to have a written activity plan?