

JB MDL Child and Youth Supervision Guidelines

Note: The ages specified are the maximum ages and are based on the child's ability to demonstrate age-appropriate behavior. Children who do not consistently demonstrate age-appropriate behavior should not be given the same degree of self-management responsibilities as those who do. In all instances below where a "yes" is indicated, the parent is responsible for using reasonable judgment and for any incident or mishap (not considered preventable) which occurs. Besides maturity of the child, parents should also consider the living environment, not limited to drugs, crime, and parental conflicts. Local curfew times must be followed.

Age of Child	Left Without Sitter in Quarters for 2 Hours or Less	Left Without Sitter in Quarters for More Than 2 Hours	Left Alone Overnight	Outside Unattended (To Include Playing)	Left in Car Unattended ⁴ or Unsupervised ⁵	Child Sit Siblings	Child Sit Others
0 - 4 ⁶	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO Must be attended / supervised	NO	NO
5 - 6	NO	NO	NO	YES Playground or yard with immediate access (visual sight or hearing distance) to adult supervision; ³ except at age 6 may walk to and from school.	NO Must be attended / supervised	NO	NO
7 - 9	NO	NO	NO	YES Adult recommended being in immediate area; except may walk to and from school.	NO Must be attended / supervised	NO	NO
10 - 11	YES During daytime hours before curfew, with ready access to adult assistance. ^{1,3}	NO	NO	YES With ready access to adult assistance. ³	YES ² Keys removed; handbrake applied. Please see comments regarding maturity, living environment. Should be assessed on case-by-case basis.	NO	NO
12 - 14	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES ² Keys removed; handbrake applied. Please see comments regarding maturity, living environment. Should be assessed on case-by-case basis.	YES ² Please see comments regarding maturity, living environment. Should be assessed on case-by-case basis.	YES ² Please see comments regarding maturity, living environment. Should be assessed on case-by-case basis.
15 - 17	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES ²	YES ²

¹ "Home alone" information required for family

² Red Cross babysitting training or equivalent required

³ Adult supervision/assistance is defined as someone who has or assumes responsibility for the child, e.g., parent, guardian, care provider, friend

⁴ "Unattended" refers to a child who has been left in a motor vehicle by a parent, legal guardian or other person responsible for that child, when that parent, guardian or other person is more than 10 feet from the vehicle and unable to continuously observe the child

⁵ "Unsupervised" refers to an unattended child when a person 14 years of age or older is not present in the motor vehicle

⁶ 0-12 Months: Constant direct supervision is required when the child is awake. These children should be checked periodically when sleeping. Responsible caregiver is essential at all times.

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RELEASABILITY: There are no releasability restrictions on this publication

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