

2023-24 | UM Family Resources



# UM Babysitter Directory

A Resource Guide for Parents

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### Overview

Welcome to the UM Babysitter Directory Guide! This is a go-to reference for parents seeking a successful and harmonious experience. It is designed to equip you with information, tips, and resources to help you get started on your journey.

The UM Babysitter Directory is a digital platform developed exclusively with the University community in mind and its goal is to connect parents seeking babysitting services with fellow students seeking casual employment. The directory serves as the centralized hub for the babysitter information that parents can access and arrange to receive childcare. It will consist of babysitter profiles and contain information such as relevant training, certifications, previous work experience, preferred locations, and more. This is open to all faculty members, support staff, and students.

The Canadian Centre for Child Protection Agency is encouraging parents to take the [Online Training: Commit to Kids: Foundational Information for Safeguarding Children from Sexual Abuse – protectchildren.ca](https://protectchildren.ca). It is FREE and will only take about 23 minutes long to complete.

# For parents

As a busy parent balancing the demands of work and family life, searching for a babysitter can be a daunting task. The UM Babysitter Directory was designed to support the University parent community by providing information on available students who are eager to provide care for your children. Whether you need a sitter for occasional care or on a regular basis, this resource guide will help you navigate through the process.

## General Process

UM parents can request access to the directory by visiting the [Family resources | University of Manitoba \(umanitoba.ca\)](#) and click on '*Request access to the UM Babysitter Directory*'. It will take you directly to our Disclaimer Form on MS Forms which both students (as babysitters) and parents will fill out.

After the Disclaimer Form has been completed, the parent will receive a notification email from the Family Resource Coordinator with the link to a private Team channel. The parent will click on the link and will either be accepted or denied access into the directory. The UM email address must be the same as the one used to complete the Disclaimer Form.

Once accepted into the Team channel, parents can view the directory on a locked Excel file. They will have limited options to manipulate the file, although the filter option is available. At any time, parents can contact their chosen person(s) to proceed with the hiring process via the student's UM email address.

Parents may choose the depth of which to perform the vetting process, according to their personal comfort level. This may include conducting interviews, background, and reference checks- as they will be considered the employers. Students were informed to be prepared to provide the documents that they have indicated to be in possession of, such as first aid/CPR certificate, clean criminal record and child abuse registry checks, other training certificates, etc.

All arrangements are made between the parent and the babysitter.

# Questions to Ask Prospective Babysitters

These are the top 30 questions to ask prospective babysitters (feel free to modify them to fit your needs):

1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
3. What are your pronouns?
4. What is your educational background?
5. Are you currently babysitting for any families?
6. What made you want to join the UM Babysitter Directory?

Reflective questions:

7. Can you tell me a little about yourself?
8. What are your biggest strengths? Weaknesses?
9. What do you think children like about you?
10. What do you think will be the most rewarding part about babysitting? Most challenging?
11. How would you handle boundaries and discipline with children?

Situational questions:

12. How do you plan on keeping a child engaged and entertained?
13. What would you do if a child was not listening or following instruction?
14. What would you do if a child was upset and will not stop crying?
15. What would you do if a child was throwing a tantrum?
16. What would you do if a child suddenly has a fever or gets injured?
17. Can you tell me a time when you have had to act quickly in an emergency?
18. What if you could not get a hold of me during an emergency?

If the individual has relevant training or previous experience working with children:

19. Can you tell me a little more about your previous work experience or training?
20. Do you have specific experience with newborns or toddlers?
21. Do you have specific experience with feeding, bathing, or bedtime routines?
22. Can you share your experience working with a child that has special needs or disabilities? (if indicated on profile)

If you are interested in hiring the individual:

23. What mode of transportation will you be taking to my home?
24. Are you comfortable working in a home with pets? (if any)
25. Are you comfortable in assisting with basic household tasks such as meal preparation, light cleaning, or helping with homework?
26. Do you have any other part-time jobs or commitments?
27. What is your expected hourly rate of pay?
28. What is your availability?
29. Why do you think I should hire you?
30. What is your preferred method of contact?

**i Tip:** Remember to have a conversation with the prospective babysitter (if they are an international student) about their knowledge of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) regulations and requirements for working off-campus.

Adapted from:

[Family Care Office \(University of Toronto\)](#)

[Common Interview Questions for Babysitters - Indeed.com](#)

[Interviewing babysitters - Care.com](#)

# Information to Leave with the Babysitter

Here is some information to consider providing:

- General information
- List of basic items and their location
- Activity schedule
- Pet care
- [Baby Schedule Chart](#)
- [Emergency plan](#) (created by the Canadian Red Cross and also available in other languages)

# INFORMATION FOR BABYSITTER

Adapted from: [nurture.life](http://nurture.life)

## Home

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Where we are and when we will be home: \_\_\_\_\_

## Other

Emergency contact name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wi-Fi password: \_\_\_\_\_  
Screen time limit for the tv and/or computer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Food & Drinks

Meal time(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Meal(s) prepared: \_\_\_\_\_  
Snacks allowed?       Yes       No  
No food or drinks after: \_\_\_\_\_  
Food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_  
Help yourself to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other info: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Bed & Bath Time

Bath time:                       AM       PM  
Bath routine: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nap time:                       AM       PM  
Bed time:                       AM       PM  
Sleep routine: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Other info: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency

In case of emergency, dial 9-1-1  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Police non-emergency: (204) 986-6222  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Poison control: 1-855-776-4766  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Services, dial 3-1-1  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nearest taxi service: \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency

Pediatrician info: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Health card registration number: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PHIN 9-digit number: \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency

First aid kit supplies location: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thermometer/medicine location: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_



# Home rules

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.





# My Child's Checklist To Do List

<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
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## Other resources

[Here's the going rate for babysitting in Canada | Care.com](#)

[Teaching children how to call 9-1-1 | City of Winnipeg](#)

[Resources & Research: Keeping Kids Safe – protectchildren.ca](#)

[Expect the Unexpected: Guide for Parents and Caregivers | Canadian Red Cross](#)