Questions for Your Potential Babysitter:

1) **What are your hours? How often are you going to be available?** It’s best to find a babysitter that has a good amount of flexibility. That way, if you need them in an emergency, they will be readily available.

2) **How many kids are you comfortable with watching? How many have you watched in the past?** It’s best to find someone who has worked with the amount of kids that you are asking them to work with.

3) **What experience do you have caring for (babies, toddlers, etc)?** You want a babysitter who is comfortable with a kid or kids your age.

4) **Aside from babysitting, are you comfortable with doing anything else such as cleaning, making dinner and picking them up?** The more chores the babysitter is able to do, the less stressed you can be when you get home for the day.

5) **Why should I hire you? Let me know about your qualifications.** Try to hire a babysitter that has CPR training and extensive babysitting experience.

6) **Can you provide me with at least three references?**

7) **How would you discipline a child?** If they can’t come up with an answer, let them know what kind of discipline you believe in.

8) **Explain a difficult situation you have been in before, and how you dealt with it.** Every babysitter has been in a difficult situation before, so it is important they have a real answer.

9) **Do you like being around pets?** Only ask this question if you have household pets of any kind.

10) **Do you have any allergies or health problems?**

11) **How are you going to get here?** Keep in mind that many students must rely on public transportation and may need a ride home if they are working for you late into the evening.

12) **What are your favorite activities to do with children?**

13) **Are you comfortable with putting children to bed?** If your babysitter has to put your children in bed, make sure that they are comfortable with it.
Questions for Your Potential Babysitter:

14) **How would you deal with an emergency? Have you ever dealt with one in the past?** Remember, if they don’t have transportation, it’s important that they know who to contact.

15) **How are you doing in school? What classes are you taking?** Good grades can show a lot of responsibility, but some students might have a workload too large to be readily available.

16) **What will you do if my children won’t get along with you?** It’s always great to throw a curve ball in the mix to see how they will react.

17) **How much do you charge?** Ask them up front how much they want to be paid, and make sure it is within a range you find justifiable.

Have recommendations for additional questions? Email them to us at yourlife@gwu.edu