411-346-0180 Professional Responsibilities of the Foster Provider

(2) RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHILD PLACING AGENCY. The foster provider must:

(a) Take part in planning, preparation, pre-placement activities, and visitation for the child placed in their home;

(b) Participate as team members in developing and implementing the ISP when initiated by the CDDP services coordinator for the child placed in their home;

(c) In advance or within one working day, notify the certifier of changes likely to affect the life and circumstances of the foster family or the safety in the home including but not limited to the following:

   (A) Foster family illness;

   (B) Divorce, legal separation, or loss of a household member;

   (C) Significant change in financial circumstances;

   (D) New household members or placement of a child in foster care by another agency, including respite;

   (E) Arrests or criminal involvement;

   (F) The addition of hunting equipment and weapons;

   (G) The addition of a swimming pool; or

   (H) The addition of a pet.

(d) Immediately notify the child's CDDP services coordinator and guardian of a child's injury, illness, accidents, or any unusual incidents or circumstances that may have a serious effect on the health, safety, physical, or emotional well-being of the child in foster care;

(e) Notify the guardian and CDDP staff of any unauthorized absence of a child in foster care within 12 hours or other mutually agreed upon time as determined by the ISP team;

(f) Sign and abide by the responsibilities described in the Child Foster Home Contract;

(g) Allow the certifier and child placing agency reasonable access to their home and to the child placed in their care. This includes access by family members when placement is voluntary. For the purpose of these rules,
reasonable access means with prior notice unless there is cause for not giving such notice;

(h) Allow the Division or certifying agency staff access to:

(A) Investigate reports of abuse, violations of a regulation, or provision of these rules;

(B) Inspect or examine the home, the child's records and accounts, and the physical premises including the buildings, grounds, equipment, and any vehicles; and

(C) Interview the child, adult, or alternate caregivers.

(i) Participate in interviews conducted by the Division or the certifier; and

(j) Authorize substitute caregivers to permit entrance by the Division or the certifier for the purpose of inspection and investigation.

(3) ACCEPTING CHILDREN FOR CARE.

(h) A child who turns 18 may continue to reside in their current certified child foster home when it has been determined by the ISP team it is in the best interest of the child to remain in the same home. When it has been determined by the ISP team a child who is turning 18 shall remain in their current certified child foster home the foster provider must:

(A) Submit a variance request to the Division in accordance with OAR 411-346-0210; and

(B) Submit to the Division and the certifier, a copy of the ISP addendum signed by the ISP team noting it is in the best interest of the child to remain in the current certified foster home.

411-346-0190 Standards and Practices for Care and Services

(1) The foster provider must:

(c) In accordance with the ISP and if applicable as defined in the DHS-CW case plan, encourage the child to participate in community activities with family, friends, and on their own when appropriate.

(e) In accordance with the ISP and if applicable as defined in the DHS-CW case plan, ask the child in foster care to participate in household chores appropriate to the child's age and ability that commensurate with those expected of the provider's own children.

(g) In accordance with the ISP and if applicable as defined in the DHS-CW Case Plan, permit and encourage the child to have visits with family and friends.
(2) RELIGIOUS, ETHNIC, AND CULTURAL HERITAGE.

(b) In accordance with the ISP and guardian preferences, the foster provider must participate with the ISP team to arrange transportation and appropriate supervision during religious services or ethnic events for a child whose beliefs and practices are different from those of the provider.

(4) ALTERNATE CAREGIVERS.

(c) The foster provider must have a Respite Plan approved by the certifier or the Division when using alternate caregivers.

(e) When the foster provider uses an alternate caregiver and the child shall be staying at the alternate caregiver's home, the foster provider must assure the alternate caregiver's home meets the necessary health, safety, and environmental needs of the child.

(7) BEHAVIOR SUPPORT AND DISCIPLINE PRACTICES.

(a) The foster provider must teach and discipline a child with respect, kindness, and understanding, using positive behavior management techniques. Unacceptable practices include but are not limited to:

(A) Physical force, spanking, or threat of physical force inflicted in any manner upon the child;

(B) Verbal abuse, including derogatory remarks about the child or the child's family that undermine a child's self-respect;

(C) Denial of food, clothing, or shelter;

(D) Denial of visits or contacts with family members, except when otherwise indicated in the ISP or if applicable the DHS-CW case plan;

(E) Assignment of extremely strenuous exercise or work;

(F) Threatened or unauthorized use of physical interventions;

(G) Threatened or unauthorized use of mechanical restraints;

(H) Punishment for bed-wetting or punishment related to toilet training;

(I) Delegating or permitting punishment of a child by another child;

(J) Threat of removal from the foster home as a punishment;

(K) Use of shower or aversive stimuli as punishment; and
(L) Group discipline for misbehavior of one child.

(b) The foster provider must set clear expectations, limits, and consequences of behavior in a non-punitive manner.

(c) If time-out separation from others is used to manage behavior, it must be included on the child's ISP and the foster provider must provide it in an unlocked, lighted, well-ventilated room of at least 50 square feet. The ISP must include whether the child needs to be within hearing distance or within sight of an adult during the time-out. The time limit must take into consideration the child's chronological age, emotional condition, and developmental level. Time-out is to be used for short duration and frequency as approved by ISP team.

(d) No child in foster care or other child in a foster home shall be subjected to physical abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, neglect, emotional abuse, mental injury, or threats of harm as defined in ORS 419B.005 and OAR 407-045-0260.

(e) BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PLAN (BSP). For a child who has demonstrated a serious threat to self, others, or property and for whom it has been decided a BSP is needed, the BSP must be developed with the approval of the ISP team.

(f) PROTECTIVE PHYSICAL INTERVENTION. A protective physical intervention must be used only for health and safety reasons and under the following conditions:

(A) As part of the child's ISP team approved BSP.

   (i) When protective physical intervention shall be employed as part of the BSP, the foster provider and alternate caregivers must complete OIS training prior to the implementation of the BSP.

   (ii) The use of any modified OIS protective physical intervention must have approval from the OIS Steering Committee in writing prior to their implementation. Documentation of the approval must be maintained in the child's records.

(B) As in a health-related protection prescribed by a physician or qualified health care provider, but only if absolutely necessary during the conduct of a specific medical or surgical procedure, or only if absolutely necessary for protection during the time that a medical condition exists.

(C) As an emergency measure if absolutely necessary to protect the child or others from immediate injury and only until the child is no longer an immediate threat to self or others.
(g) MECHANICAL RESTRAINT.

(A) The foster provider may not use mechanical restraints on a child in foster care other than car seat belts or normally acceptable infant safety products unless ordered by a physician or health care provider and with an agreement of the ISP team.

(B) The foster provider must maintain the original order in the child's records and forward a copy to the CDDP services coordinator and guardian.

(h) DOCUMENTATION AND NOTIFICATION OF USE OF PROTECTIVE PHYSICAL INTERVENTION.

(A) The foster provider must document the use of all protective physical interventions or mechanical restraints in an incident report. A copy of the incident report must be provided to the CDDP services coordinator and guardian.

(B) If an approved protective physical intervention is used, the foster provider must send a copy of the incident report within five working days to the services coordinator and guardian.

(C) If an emergency or non ISP team approved protective physical intervention is used, the foster provider must send a copy of the incident report within 24 hours to the services coordinator and guardian. The foster provider must make verbal notification to the CDDP services coordinator and guardian no later than the next working day.

(D) The original incident report must be on file with the foster provider in the child's records.

(E) The incident report must include:

   (i) The name of the child to whom the protective physical intervention was applied;

   (ii) The date, location, type, and duration of entire incident and protective physical intervention;

   (iii) The name of the provider and witnesses or persons involved in applying the protective physical intervention;

   (iv) The name and position of the person notified regarding the use of the protective physical intervention; and

   (v) A description of the incident, including precipitating factors, preventive techniques applied, description of the
environment, description of any physical injury resulting from the incident, and follow-up recommendations.

(8) MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE. The foster provider must:

(a) Provide care and services, as appropriate to the child's chronological age, developmental level, and condition of the child, and as identified in the ISP.

(b) Assure that physician or qualified health care provider orders and those of other licensed medical professionals are implemented as written.

(c) Inform the child's physicians or qualified health care providers of current medications and changes in health status and if the child refuses care, treatments, or medications.

(d) Inform the guardian and CDDP services coordinator of any changes in the child's health status except as otherwise indicated in the DHS-CW Permanent Foster Care contract agreement and as agreed upon in the child's ISP.

(e) Obtain the necessary medical, dental, therapies, and other treatments of care including but not limited to:

   (A) Making appointments;

   (B) Arranging for or providing transportation to appointments; and

   (C) Obtaining emergency medical care.

(f) Have prior consent from the guardian for medical treatment that is not routine, including surgery and anesthesia except in cases where a DHS-CW Permanent Foster Care contract agreement exists.

(g) Keep current medical records. The records must include, when applicable:

   (A) Any history of physical, emotional, and medical problems, illnesses, or mental health status;

   (B) Current orders for all medications, treatments, therapies, use of protective physical intervention, specialized diets, adaptive equipment, and any known food or medication allergies;

   (C) Completed medication administration record (MAR) from previous months;

   (D) Pertinent medical and behavioral information such as hospitalizations, accidents, immunization records including
Hepatitis B status and previous TB tests, and incidents or injuries affecting the health, safety, or emotional well-being of the child;

(E) Documentation or other notations of guardian consent for medical treatment that is not routine including surgery and anesthesia;

(F) Record of medical appointments;

(G) Medical appointment follow-up reports provided to the foster provider; and

(H) Copies of previous mental health assessments, assessment updates including multi-axial DSM diagnosis and treatment recommendations, and progress records from mental health treatment services.

(h) Provide, when requested, copies of medical records and medication administration records to the child's legal guardian, services coordinator, and DHS-CW caseworker.

(i) Provide copies, as applicable, of the medical records described in section (8)(g)(H) above to the licensed medical professional prior to the medical appointment or no later than the time of the appointment with the licensed medical professional.

(9) MEDICATIONS AND PHYSICIAN OR QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ORDERS.

(a) There must be authorization by a physician or qualified health care provider in the child’s file prior to the usage of or implementation of any of the following:

(A) All prescription medications;

(B) Non prescription medications except over the counter topicals;

(C) Treatments other than basic first aid;

(D) Therapies and use of mechanical restraint as a health and safety related protection;

(E) Modified or specialized diets;

(F) Prescribed adaptive equipment; and

(G) Aids to physical functioning.

(b) The foster provider must have:
(A) A copy of an authorization in the format of a written order signed by a physician or a qualified health care provider; or

(B) Documentation of a telephone order by a physician or qualified health care provider with changes clearly documented on the MAR, including the name of the person giving the order, the date and time, and the name of the person receiving the telephone order; or

(C) A current pharmacist prescription or manufacturer's label as specified by the physician's order on file with the pharmacy.

(c) A provider or alternate caregiver must carry out orders as prescribed by a physician or a qualified health care provider. Changes may not be made without a physician or a qualified health care provider's authorization.

(d) Each child's medication, including refrigerated medication, must be clearly labeled with the pharmacist's label, or in the manufacturer's originally labeled container, and kept in a locked location, or stored in a manner that prevents access by children.

(e) Unused, outdated, or recalled medications may not be kept in the foster home and must be disposed of in a manner that shall prevent illegal diversion into the possession of people other than for which it was prescribed.

(f) The foster provider must keep a MAR for each child. The MAR must be kept for all medications administered by the foster provider or alternate caregiver to that child, including over the counter medications and medications ordered by physicians or qualified health care providers and administered as needed (PRN) for the child.
(g) The MAR must include:

(A) The name of the child in foster care;

(B) A transcription of the written physician's or licensed health practitioner's order including the brand or generic name of the medication, prescribed dosage, frequency, and method of administration;

(C) A transcription of the printed instructions from the package for topical medications and treatments without a physician's order;

(D) Times and dates of administration or self-administration of the medication;

(E) Signature of the person administering the medication or the person monitoring the self-administration of the medication;

(F) Method of administration;

(G) An explanation of why a PRN medication was administered;

(H) Documented effectiveness of any PRN medication administration;

(I) An explanation of all medication administration or documentation irregularities; and

(J) Any known allergy or adverse drug reactions and procedures that maintain and protect the physical health of the child placed in the foster home.

(h) Any errors in the MAR must be corrected by circling the error and then writing on the back of the MAR what the error was and why.

(i) Treatments, medication, therapies, and specialized diets must be documented on the MAR when not used or applied according to the order.

(j) SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION. For any child who is self-administering medication, the foster provider must:

(A) Have documentation that a training program was initiated with approval of the child's ISP team or that training for the child was unnecessary;

(B) Have a training program that provides for retraining when there is a change in dosage, medication, and time of delivery;
(C) Provide for an annual review, at a minimum as part of the ISP process, upon completion of the training program;

(D) Assure that the child is able to handle his or her own medication regime;

(E) Keep medications stored in a locked area inaccessible to others; and

(F) Maintain written documentation of all training in the child's medical record.

(k) The foster provider may not use alternative medications intended to alter or affect mood or behavior, such as herbals or homeopathic remedies, without direction and supervision of a licensed medical professional.

(l) Any medication that is used with the intent to alter behavior of a child with a developmental disability must be documented on the ISP.

(m) BALANCING TEST. When a psychotropic medication is first prescribed and annually thereafter, the foster provider must obtain a signed balancing test from the prescribing health care provider using the Division's Balancing Test Form. Foster providers must present the physician or health care provider with a full and clear description of the behavior and symptoms to be addressed as well as any side effects observed.

(n) PRN prescribed psychotropic medication is prohibited.

(11) CHILD RECORDS.

(e) INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT PLAN (ISP). Within 60 days of placement, the child's ISP must be prepared by the ISP team and, at a minimum, updated annually.

(A) The foster provider must participate with the ISP team in the development and implementation of the ISP to address each child's behavior, medical, social, financial, safety, and other support needs.

(B) Prior to or upon entry to or exit from the foster home, the foster provider must participate in the development and implementation of a Transition Plan for the child.

   (ii) The room and board fee that is paid to the provider at the beginning of each month;

   (iii) The date, amounts, and purpose of funds disbursed on behalf of the child; and
(iv) The signature of the person making the entry.

(B) Any single transaction over $25 purchased with the child's personal funds, unless otherwise indicated in the child's ISP, must be documented including receipts in the child's financial record.

(C) The child's ISP team may address how the child's personal spending money shall be managed.

(D) If the child has a separate commercial bank account, records from that account must be maintained with the financial record.

(E) The child's personal funds must be maintained in a safe manner and separate from other members of the household funds.

(F) Misuse of funds may be cause for suspension, revocation, or denial of renewal of the child foster home certificate.

(g) PERSONAL PROPERTY RECORD.

(A) The foster provider must maintain a written record of each child's property of monetary value of more than $25 or that has significant personal value to the child, parent, or guardian, or as determined by the ISP team. Errors must be corrected with a single strike through and initialed by the person making the correction.

(B) Personal property records are not required for children who have a court approved Permanent Foster Care contract agreement unless requested by the child's guardian.

(C) The personal property record must include:

   (i) The description and identifying number, if any;
   (ii) The date when the child brought in the personal property or made a new purchase;
   (iii) The date and reason for the removal from the record; and
   (iv) The signature of the person making the entry.

   (i) The Transition Plan must include a summary of the services necessary to facilitate the adjustment of the child to the foster home or after care plan; and

   (ii) Identify the supports necessary to ensure health, safety, and any assessments and consultations needed for ISP development.
(f) FINANCIAL RECORDS.

(A) The foster provider must maintain a separate financial record for each child. Errors must be corrected with a single strike through and initialed by the person making the correction. The financial record must include:

(i) The date, amount, and source of all income received on behalf of the child;

(h) EDUCATIONAL RECORDS. The foster provider must maintain the following educational records when available:

(A) The child's report cards;

(B) Any reports received from the teacher or the school;

(C) Any evaluations received as a result of educational testing or assessment; and

(D) Disciplinary reports regarding the child.

(i) Child records must be available to representatives of the Division, the certifier, and DHS-CW conducting inspections or investigations, as well as to the child, if appropriate, and the guardian, or other legally authorized persons.

(j) Child records must be kept for a period of three years. If a child moves or the foster home closes, copies of pertinent information must be transferred to the child's new home.

411-346-0200 Environmental Standards

(d) BEDROOMS. Bedrooms used by the child in foster care must:

(A) Have adequate space for the age, size, and specific needs of each child;

(B) Be finished and attached to the house, have walls or partitions of standard construction that go from floor to ceiling, and have a door that opens directly to a hallway or common use room without passage through another bedroom or common bathroom;

(C) Have windows that open and provide sufficient natural light and ventilation with window coverings provided that take into consideration the safety, care needs, and privacy of the child;

(D) Have no more than four children to a bedroom;
(E) Have safe, age appropriate furnishings that are in good repair, provided for each child including:

   (i) A bed or crib with a frame unless otherwise documented by an ISP team decision, a clean comfortable mattress, and a waterproof mattress cover if the child is incontinent;

   (ii) A private dresser or similar storage area for personal belongings that is readily accessible to the child;

   (iii) A closet or similar storage area for clothing that is readily accessible to the child; and

   (iv) An adequate supply of clean bed linens, blankets, and pillows. Bed linens are to be properly fitting and provided for each child's bed.

(F) Be on the ground level for a child who is non-ambulatory or has impaired mobility;

(G) Provide flexibility in the decoration for the personal tastes and expressions of the child placed in the provider's home;

(H) Be in close enough proximity to the provider to alert the provider to nighttime needs or emergencies, or be equipped with a working monitor;

(I) Have doors that do not lock;

(J) Have no three-tier bunk beds in bedrooms occupied by a child in foster care; and

(K) Not be located on the third floor or higher from the ground level.

(e) A child of the foster provider may not be required to sleep in a room also used for another purpose in order to accommodate a child in foster care.

(f) The foster provider may not permit the following sleeping arrangements for a child placed in their home:

   (A) Children of different sexes in the same room when either child is over the age of five years of age; and

   (B) Children over the age of 12 months sharing a room with an adult.
(5) FIRE SAFETY.

(a) Smoke detectors must be installed in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions, equipped with a device that warns of low battery, and maintained to function properly.

(A) Smoke detectors must be installed in each bedroom, adjacent hallways leading to the bedrooms, common living areas, basements, and at the top of every stairway in multi-story homes.

(B) Ceiling placement of smoke detectors is recommended. If wall-mounted, the smoke detectors must be between 6” and 12” from the ceiling and not within 12” of a corner.

(b) At least one fire extinguisher, minimally rated 2:A:10:B:C, must be visible and readily accessible on each floor, including basements. A qualified professional who is well versed in fire extinguisher maintenance must inspect every fire extinguisher at least once per year. All recharging and hydrostatic testing must be completed by a qualified entity properly trained and equipped for this purpose.

(c) Use of space heaters must be limited to only electric space heaters equipped with tip-over protection. Space heaters must be plugged directly into the wall. No extension cords must be used with such heaters. No freestanding kerosene, propane, or liquid fuel space heaters must be used in the foster home.

(d) An Emergency Evacuation Plan must be developed, posted, and rehearsed at least once every 90 days with at least one drill practice per year occurring during sleeping hours. Alternate caregivers and other staff must be familiar with the emergency evacuation plan and a new child placed in foster care must be familiar with the Emergency Evacuation Plan within 24 hours. Fire drill records must be retained for one year.

(A) Fire drill evacuation rehearsal must document the date, time for full evacuation, location of proposed fire, and names of all persons participating in the evacuation rehearsal.

(B) The foster provider must be able to demonstrate the ability to evacuate all children in foster care from the home within three minutes.

(g) Every bedroom used by a child in foster care must have at least one operable window, of a size that allows safe rescue, with safe and direct exit to the ground, or a door for secondary means of escape or rescue.