

NORTHEAST OHIO ADOPTION SERVICES

FAMILY FOSTER CARE POLICY

In compliance with Child Welfare Licensing Rules in Chapters 5101:2-5 and 5101:2-7 of the Ohio Administrative Code, the following policies for family foster caregivers have been developed and implemented by Northeast Ohio Adoption Services (NOAS).

"Family" foster homes shall receive up to (forty-two) 42 hours of pre-placement training prior to NOAS recommending the home for certification. (Fifty percent) 50% of preplacement training may be completed per live synchronous distance learning where a trainer or facilitator is available real time to deliver the training. The preplacement training shall be completed within the eighteen-month span immediately prior to the date NOAS recommends the foster home for certification. The preplacement training program for "family" foster homes shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following topics:

- The legal rights and responsibilities of foster caregivers;
- NOAS' policies and procedures regarding foster caregivers;
- ODJFS' requirements for certifying foster homes;
- The effects placement, separation, and attachment issues have on children, their families, and foster caregivers;
- Foster caregivers' involvement in permanency planning for children and their families;
- The importance of meaningful connections between the child and parents, including regular visitation.
- The effects of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, and substance abuse on normal human growth and development;
- Behavior management techniques;
- Effects of caregiving on children's families;
- At least two hours of cultural issues in placement training including cultural diversity training;
- Prevention, recognition, and management of communicable diseases;
- Community health and social services available to children and their families;
- The substance of section 2152.72 of the Ohio Revised Code which deals with the information required to be shared with a foster caregiver when a child who has been adjudicated a delinquent child for the commission of certain violent crimes is placed in a foster home. A course addressing section 2152.72 of the Ohio Revised Code shall be not less than one hour long.
- Preparing adolescents for independent living (for a prospective foster caregiver who will be providing care for a youth expected to remain in foster care until the youth's eighteenth birthday).
- The reasonable and prudent parent standard as described in division (C) of section 5103.162 of the Revised Code.
- Certified in First Aid/CPR
- Medication administration
- Procedures for reporting suspected child abuse or neglect.

Within one (1) year of the recertification period, NOAS requires all licensed families to complete three (3) sessions of Trust Based Relational Intervention (TRBI) training. (Connecting Principles, Correcting Principles and Empowering Principles). NOAS believes this parenting model provides foster families with additional education and skills necessary to successfully parent children who have experienced trauma. The three TRBI sessions will be marked on the Individual Needs Assessment as high needs. Individual sessions will be offered by NOAS at various times throughout the year. These hours shall be included in the minimum continuing training hours required by the state.

NOAS family foster homes shall complete a minimum of (thirty) 30 hours of continuing training during

each two-year certification span beginning from the effective date of the caregiver's initial certification or the effective date of the most recent recertification as applicable. . Up to fifty percent (50%) may be delivered by live synchronous distance learning where the trainer or facilitator is available real time to deliver the training. Fifty percent (50%) shall be completed in the classroom with an instructor present. The continuing training program shall be in accordance with the caregiver's written needs assessment and continuing training plan and may include but not be limited to, the following topics:

- Parents and foster caregivers as part of child protection teams;
- The dynamics of child abuse and neglect and recognizing and preventing child abuse and neglect;
- The effect of child abuse and neglect on child development;
- How foster caregivers should work with children and their families regarding placement, separation, and attachment issues
- Behavior management techniques;
- Foster caregivers' working with children's families;
- Effects of caregiving on children's families;
- Caring for children who have been sexually abused;
- Cultural competency;
- Substance abuse and dependency;
- Symptoms of mental illness and learning disorders;
- Developmentally appropriate activities for children;
- Preparing adolescents for independent living (for a foster caregiver who will be providing care for a youth expected to remain in foster care until the youth's eighteenth birthday).

Each foster caregiver who is certified to care for a child ages fourteen years and older is required to receive training during each two-year certification span that relates to providing independent living services, as defined in section 2151.81 of the Revised Code, to a child placed as provided in division (B)(2) of section 2151.353 of the Revised Code.

If the foster caregiver has a "good cause" (e.g., documented illness, critical emergencies, lack of accessible training programs, etc.) as determined by NOAS for failing to complete the continuing training, NOAS will recommend to ODJFS that the foster caregiver's foster home certificate be renewed. However, before recommending this renewal, NOAS will develop a corrective action plan, specific to the individual caregiver's situation, for prompt completion of the continuing training. If the foster caregiver fails to comply with the corrective action plan, NOAS will recommend to ODJFS that the foster caregiver's foster home certificate be revoked.

It will be considered "good cause" for failing to complete the continuing training, if the foster caregiver has served in active duty with a branch of the armed forces of the United States for more than thirty days in the preceding two-year span or if the foster caregiver has served in active duty as a member of the Ohio organized militia as defined in section 5923.01 of the Revised Code, which includes the Ohio national guard, the Ohio naval militia and the Ohio military reserve, for more than thirty days in the preceding two-year span and that active duty relates to either an emergency in or outside of Ohio or to military duty in or outside of Ohio. In the corrective action plan for failing to complete the continuing training, the additional time granted to the foster caregiver to complete the continuing training will be one month for each month the caregiver was on active duty. Any required training that is not met at the end of a foster caregiver's certification span applying to the preceding sentence will be waived by NOAS. When a waiver of training is approved by NOAS regarding the situations mentioned in this paragraph, the required training for the next certification span will be the same as for any other caregiver operating a foster home of which the foster caregiver is certified. The agency will document any such extension of time in the foster caregiver's record.

A foster caregiver may complete up to twenty per cent of his or her continuing training requirement by teaching one or more training classes to other foster caregivers or by providing mentoring services to other foster caregivers. The definition of mentoring services, at a minimum, is assisting foster caregivers with

information that will encourage communication between the new foster caregivers and human services agencies; offering foster caregivers possible solutions to problems that may occur while caring for a child in placement; assisting and guiding recently certified foster caregivers in day to day activities while caring for a child in placement; offering to assist foster caregivers in utilizing resources within their community; and encouraging recently certified foster caregivers to attend training sessions in order to maintain their current certification. To qualify for teaching or mentoring services, a foster caregiver shall:

- Have at least two years' experience as a certified foster caregiver.
- Have had at least two child placements in their foster home.
- Be a currently certified foster home.
- Not be under a corrective action plan by a recommending agency.
- Not be under investigation for a violation of a state statute or rule by a recommending agency or ODJFS.

Continuing training hours obtained by a foster caregiver by teaching one or more training classes to other foster caregivers or providing mentoring services to other foster caregivers may be used in combination with approved training completed outside a classroom to meet no more than one-third of the foster caregiver's continuing training requirements.

Assessment Policy

NOAS will not begin the homestudy process prior to receiving a completed JFS 01691 "Application for Child Placement" which is signed by the prospective foster caregiver(s). NOAS will not accept an application for certification as a foster home which does not contain complete and accurate information. NOAS will commence the homestudy within thirty days of receiving the fully completed application. The commencement of a homestudy means, at a minimum, scheduling an appointment to interview the applicant or assuring that the applicant has been informed of the necessary materials required for the assessor to complete the homestudy. The applicant(s) must be a permanent legal resident of the United States and a resident of the state of Ohio to be eligible. The applicant(s) may not be a Type A or Type B family day care home.

NOAS requires prospective family foster caregivers to complete, and submit to, all of the items listed in Chapter 5101:2-5 and Chapter 5101:2-7 of the Ohio Administrative Code which pertain to the assessment or homestudy process. Other than preplacement training, none of these items may be completed prior to NOAS receiving an application with complete information; otherwise, the items will need to be completed again after the completed application is received by NOAS. A few of these requirements include:

- NOAS will request from ODJFS a Statewide Automated Child Welfare System (SACWIS) alleged perpetrator search of abuse and neglect history and a search of the National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW) for each foster care applicant and each adult who resides with the applicant. This SACWIS clearance check and NSOPW search will also be completed on any new adult household member within ten days of their becoming a member of the household.
- NOAS is required to have a copy of the prospective foster caregiver's, and adult household member's, Social Security card and driver's license (or Ohio ID card) on file before requesting this report.
- If a foster caregiver has not resided in the State of Ohio for at least five years, NOAS will obtain a child abuse and neglect clearance report from any state(s) in which the foster caregiver resided during the past five years.
- NOAS will complete a JFS O1348 "Safety Audit of a Foster Home" within six months of recommending a foster home for certification, to ensure compliance with all safety requirements.
- Each prospective foster caregiver and adult member of the household needs to obtain criminal records checks through BCII and FBI.
- The applicants need to submit the names and contact information of at least two unrelated persons

and one related person for NOAS to use as references for the applicants. NOAS will also contact all adult children of the applicant(s) for a reference.

- Each applicant needs to provide NOAS with the name of any other agency or organization with which the applicant has been previously recommended for certification as a foster caregiver or has provided care and supervision of children as well as a written and signed release of information statement in order that any such reference may be contacted.
- All household members of the prospective foster home need to obtain a JFS 01653 "Medical Statement of Foster Care/Adoptive Applicant and all Household Members" completed by a licensed physician, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner, or certified nurse-midwife within twelve months prior to becoming certified as a foster home.
- All children who are household members are to be up to date on immunizations unless the immunization is contrary to the child's health as documented by a licensed health care professional or for reasons of conscience, including religious convictions.
- All household members in a home caring for infants and children with special medical needs are to have an annual influenza vaccine unless contrary to the individual's health as documented by a licensed health care professional or for reasons of conscience, including religious convictions.
- All household members in a home caring for infants and children with special medical needs are to have the pertussis vaccine unless contrary to the individual's health as documented by a licensed health care professional or for reasons of conscience, including religious convictions.
- The applicants need to have a fire inspection report (JFS 01200) completed, within twelve months of becoming certified as a foster home, to certify that the home is free from conditions hazardous to the safety of children.
- There shall be a continuous supply of safe drinking water. Well water used for drinking and cooking shall be tested and approved by the health department prior to the date NOAS recommends the home for certification and annually thereafter.
- Prior to the end of the assessment (homestudy) process, applicants shall complete and sign the JFS 01673-A "Child Characteristic Checklist for Foster Care and/or Adoption" indicating the acceptable characteristics of the child that the applicant is requesting to adopt. Upon completion of the assessment (homestudy) process, the JFS 01673-A will be attached to the JFS 01673 "Assessment for Child Placement (Homestudy)". An applicant has the opportunity to revise the JFS 01673-A at any time regarding the characteristics or number of children desired.
- The applicant needs to inform NOAS of the revocation of any foster home license, certificate or other similar authorization in another state within the five years prior to submitting an application with NOAS. Failure to report this is grounds for denying the family's foster care certification or revoking their certification, whichever is applicable.

In addition to the requirements for the assessment or home study process as stated in Chapter 5101:2-7 and 5101:2-5, NOAS requires foster caregiver applicants to submit copies of marriage license certificates, divorce decrees, death certificates, well water tests, and autobiographical information. NOAS also completes a Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) check and does not allow a foster caregiver with six or more points on their BMV driver record to transport foster children. NOAS also requires the applicants to submit releases of information to check local police records. Also, in addition to the 36 hours of preplacement training required by ODJFS, NOAS requires prospective foster caregivers to take a three-hour preplacement training session entitled "Foster Care Rules and NOAS Policies". Lastly, NOAS does not allow family level foster caregivers to hold a Type B day care license.

The applicants must have the following information available for a NOAS worker to view: auto insurance policy, verification of pets meeting local and state safety requirements, Social Security card and driver's license for each adult household member, and proof of sufficient income to meet the basic needs of the household (this includes completing the JFS 01681 "Applicant Financial Statement", proof of household income for the most recent tax year and a two-month period within six months prior to the date of becoming certified as a foster home, as well as one utility bill for each utility the household utilizes for any time period after the date of application).

A foster caregiver or prospective foster caregiver shall notify his/her permanency planning specialist or the director of permanency planning within 24 hours if any criminal offense charges or conviction is brought against the foster caregiver or a resident in the home. Failure to do so will result in NOAS notifying ODJFS who may then seek an order to revoke or deny the foster caregiver's certification to operate a foster home. Also, a foster caregiver or prospective foster caregiver shall notify his/her permanency planning specialist or the director of permanency planning in writing within 24 hours if a person residing in the home who is at least 12 years old, but under 18 years old, has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any criminal offense or has been adjudicated to be a delinquent child for committing an act that if committed by an adult would constitute one of the offenses listed in the appendix of this policy. If NOAS learns that a foster caregiver has failed to notify NOAS of this, NOAS will notify ODJFS who may then seek an order to revoke or deny the foster caregiver's certification to operate a foster home. This notification is also required for any conviction or adjudication of delinquency resulting from a violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in the appendix of this policy.

Foster Care and Adoption Joint Approval

All applicants to the agency shall be given the opportunity to simultaneously apply for foster care and adoption. In fact, NOAS strongly encourages foster caregivers to simultaneously apply for adoption. Those wishing to do so must be at least 18 years of age at the time of initial certification. All application forms required by state regulations must be completed by those who wish to pursue both programs at once. One set of homestudy interviews will be completed to satisfy both foster care and adoption requirements, and the approval process will occur simultaneously. NOAS is certified to both recommend foster homes for certification and to approve adoptive homes. If an adoptive applicant decides during the homestudy process to also become a certified foster caregiver, the homestudy documentation and training completed up to that point may be utilized as long as the documentation or training has not expired upon completion of the homestudy. Applicants will not be required to duplicate documentation as a result of a new application date.

Foster Care Annual Review

Within 30 days prior to or after the one year certification period, NOAS will complete a home visit to the foster home. A new safety audit will be completed to assure the home remains in compliance with all ODJFS safety rules. The family worker and foster parents will review the family's progress in obtaining the required continuing education hours as applicable to their licensure, including the high needs topics identified in the Individual Training Needs Assessment. If the family fails to make sufficient progress in the obtaining the required training, the family worker and family will develop a plan of action to assure all on-going training requirements will be completed in a timely manner. The family will provide an annual well water test completed by the local health department, if applicable. A review of the 5101:2-5 and 5101: 2-7 rules, and foster caregiver assurances will be completed. An inspection of all vehicles used to transport foster children will be completed. The family worker will complete the Foster Home Annual Review form and place it in the family record.

Foster Home Recertification Policy

All currently certified foster homes shall be recertified every two years from the beginning date of the current certificate. If a homestudy is simultaneously approved for adoption and certified for foster care by the same agency, the spans shall be the same for both programs from the date of the foster home certification.

NOAS will notify the foster caregiver(s) of the date of expiration of the foster home certificate not less than ninety or more than one hundred fifty days prior to the expiration date. The notification will identify any

information or documentation that is required for the recertification and be completed on the JFS 01331, "Notice of Expiration and Reapplication for a Foster Home Certificate or Adoption Homestudy Approval". Following this notification to the foster caregiver, if the caregiver(s) wishes to be recertified for another two-year span, the foster caregiver(s) needs to document this on the JFS 01331 and return the JFS 01331 to NOAS. If the caregiver fails to either reapply or voluntarily terminate prior to the expiration date of the certificate, the foster home certificate shall expire and the caregiver(s) will need to apply for initial certification and begin a new homestudy process. If a foster home certificate expires because a caregiver has failed to reapply there are no rights to appeal pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

If a foster caregiver(s) has reapplied for a foster home certificate at least thirty days prior to the expiration of a current certificate, an assessor will complete a JFS 01385, "Assessment for Child Placement Update", to ensure that the foster caregiver(s) remains in compliance with the requirements set forth in Chapters 5101:2-5 and 5101:2-7 of the Administrative Code, and determine the continued suitability of the caregiver to serve as a foster caregiver. NOAS will compile and review the following documents, in addition to completing the JFS 01385:

- The most recent annual well water test approved by the health department, if applicable.
- The agency shall request through SACWIS the alleged perpetrator search of abuse and neglect report history and will complete a search of the National Sex Offender Public Website for each foster caregiver and adult household member
- The agency shall conduct a safety audit utilizing the JFS 01348 "Safety Audit" (rev. 12/2014) completed within six months prior to recommending a foster home for recertification, documenting that the residence continues to meet all safety standards.
- The most recent criminal records checks for all foster caregivers and adult household members. Once a foster caregiver is certified, a new criminal records check shall be conducted, for the foster caregiver(s) and each adult household member every four years prior to recommending a foster home for recertification. If an existing resident of the home, including youth placed in the home, turned eighteen years of age during the current certification span, the agency shall have criminal records (including BCI/FBI, SACWIS AP and NSOPW) checks completed at the time of the next recertification and every four years thereafter at the time of recertification.
- Documentation that the foster caregiver(s) has completed the required ongoing training hours and topics. Including maintaining a current certification in First Aid/CPR.
- An assessor's recertification of a foster home shall include at least one home visit and one interview with each member of the household (except foster children) member based on his/her age and development currently residing in the home. This may be a joint interview or individual interviews.
- If all of the requirements have been met by the foster caregiver(s), they will be recertified to provide foster care for another two-year certification span. The effective date of the new foster home certificate will be the first day following the expiration of the previous certificate.
- If a currently certified foster caregiver has not completed first aid and CPR training (adult and child) and certification, the caregiver is to complete the training by their subsequent recertification. These hours may be included in required ongoing training hours.

If an agency receives a completed JFS 01331 less than thirty days prior to the expiration date of a foster home certificate, the agency may complete the requirements listed in this rule if they have sufficient time and resources to complete the assessment prior to the expiration of the foster home certificate. If the agency is unable to complete the recertification prior to the expiration, the foster care certificate will expire on the date of expiration. If the family wishes to have a foster care certificate after the expiration date, they shall reapply

through the initial homestudy application process.

Notification Policy

A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency in writing prior to allowing any person to reside for more than two weeks in the fosterhome.

A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within one hour of the caregiver gaining the knowledge of any of the following circumstances involving a foster child:

- A serious injury or illness involving medical treatment of a foster child.
- The death of a foster child.
- Unauthorized absence of a foster child from the home.
- Removal of a foster child from the home by any person or agency other than the placing agency, or attempts at such removal.
- Any involvement of a foster child with law enforcement authorities.

A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours or the next working day of any of the other following circumstances:

- Any impending change in the marital status of the foster caregiver or in the household occupancy of the home.
- Any serious illness or death in the household.
- Any fire or other incident, requiring the services of a fire department or emergency personnel occurs at or within the home.
- The foster home becomes uninhabitable for any reason.

A foster caregiver shall inform the recommending agency at least four weeks prior to a planned move of the foster caregiver.

A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours of any charge of any criminal offense brought against the caregiver or any adult resident of his home. If the charges result in a conviction, the foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours of the conviction. Failure to notify the agency in either of these circumstances shall result in the agency recommending to the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS) to seek an order to revoke or deny the caregiver's certification to operate a foster home.

A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours of any charge or complaint brought against any resident of the foster caregiver's home who is at least twelve years of age, but less than eighteen years of age for committing an act that if committed by an adult would constitute a criminal offense. Pursuant to section 5103.0319 of the Revised Code, a foster caregiver shall also notify the recommending agency in writing within twenty-four hours if a resident of the foster caregiver's home is at least twelve years of age, but less than eighteen years of age, and has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the offenses listed in the appendix to this policy, or has been adjudicated to be a delinquent child for committing an act that if committed by an adult would have constituted such a violation. The notification is also required for any conviction or adjudication of delinquency resulting from a violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in the appendix to this policy. Failure to notify the agency of this shall result in the agency recommending to the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS) to seek an order to revoke or deny the caregiver's certification to operate a foster home.

NOAS shall notify the foster child's custodial agency immediately if any of the following incidents occur:

- A serious injury or illness involving medical treatment of the foster child.

- The death of a foster child.
- Unauthorized absence of the foster child from the home. NOAS shall provide the notification to the custodial agency immediately, but no later than twenty-four hours from the time the recommending agency became aware of the unauthorized absence.
- Removal or attempted removal of the foster child from the home by any person or agency other than the placing agency.
- Any involvement of the foster child with law enforcement authorities.

Foster Care Amendments

If the agency is notified of any of the following changes for the foster caregiver, the agency shall amend the homestudy:

1. A change in the marital status of the foster caregiver(s).
2. The death of a foster caregiver or household member.
3. A change in household members, not including foster children. If the amendment is due to a new household member, the agency shall ensure the following:
 - a. New household members residing with the foster caregiver shall have a JFS 01653 "Medical Statement for Foster Care/Adoptive Applicant and All Household Members" completed documenting they are free from any physical, emotional or mental condition which would endanger children or seriously impair the ability of the household member to care for the child placed in the home. If the new occupant is an adopted child who immediately prior to the adoption resided in the home as a foster child, a JFS 01653 is not required. The JFS 01653 shall be dated within ninety days of the date the person becomes a household member.
 - b. New adult household members residing with the foster caregiver shall have a bureau of criminal investigation (BCI) and federal bureau of investigation (FBI) records check, as outlined in rule 5101:2-5-09.1 of the Administrative Code. The agency shall request a search of the SACWIS alleged perpetrator of abuse or neglect history, and will complete a search on the National Sex Offender Public Website. These checks shall be conducted within ten working days of the date the person becomes a household member.
 - c. New adult household members shall provide the name of any agency they have applied to or had a homestudy approved for foster care or adoption, or any organization they have worked with in providing care and supervision of children.
 - d. The agency shall request a check of the child abuse and neglect registry of any other state the new adult household member has resided in for the five years immediately prior to the date of the criminal records check for the new household member, as required by division (A) of section 2151.86 of the Revised Code.
 - e. If the new household member is the co-parent or spouse of the foster caregiver and shall therefore be added to the certificate, the agency shall contact all adult children of the new co-parent or spouse for a reference. If the person has not previously completed the preservice training, the agency shall ensure the co-parent or spouse completes the preplacement training required pursuant to rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code no later than one hundred eighty days after becoming a household member. Once the co-parent or spouse is added to the certificate, the required continuing training hours shall be prorated from the date the co-parent or spouse is added to the foster care certificate through the expiration of the current certification span.
4. A change of address for the foster family that is different than the address listed on the foster home certificate. If the amendment is due to a change of address of the foster home, the agency shall ensure the following:
 - a. The agency shall conduct a safety audit documenting the new residence satisfactorily meets all safety standards. The safety audit shall be completed on the JFS 01348 "Safety Audit". The safety audit shall be conducted within ten working days after the change of address.

- b. The agency shall require the foster caregiver to obtain a fire safety inspection certifying the new residence is free from conditions hazardous to the safety of a foster child. The fire safety inspection shall be completed on the JFS 01200 "Fire Inspection Report For Residential Facilities Certified by ODJFS" or other form used for a local or state fire inspection. The fire safety inspection shall be requested prior to or within thirty days of the date of the change of address. The fire safety inspection shall be conducted prior to or within ninety days of the date of the change of address.

Socialization and Education

Foster caregivers shall allow privileges and assign responsibilities to a foster child similar to those which would be assigned to a family member of the foster caregiver who is of similar age and functioning level.

NOAS will make arrangements with the placing agency for each school-age foster child to attend a school that complies with the minimum standards as prescribed by the state board of education and shall ensure that the foster child attends school in accordance with the child care agreement. A foster caregiver who provides home schooling for a foster child shall do so only with the approval of the child's custodial agency. Any home schooling program used by a foster caregiver shall be approved by the public school district in which the caregiver resides and a copy of the approval shall be placed in the foster home record.

Foster caregivers shall encourage a foster child to participate in community, school, recreational, and cultural heritage activities which are appropriate to the child's age and functioning level and shall, as is necessary and reasonable, arrange appropriate transportation for the foster child to and from such activities. A foster caregiver shall, as appropriate, teach a foster child tasks and skills required for life in the community.

Religious Participation

Foster caregivers will demonstrate consideration for, and sensitivity to, the religious background of a foster child and of families receiving agency services. A foster child has the right to enjoy freedom of thought, conscience and religion or to abstain from the practice of religion. Opportunity shall be provided each foster child for practicing the chosen religious beliefs and faith of the child or his or her parents/family, including dietary restrictions due to beliefs, unless it is determined and documented in the child's case plan by the custodial agency that practicing the child's or family's chosen religious beliefs and faith is not in the child's best interest. A child may be encouraged to participate in religious activities, but shall not be coerced to do so. NOAS prohibits a foster caregiver from allowing a foster child to be baptized or submitting a foster child to any religious procedures without prior consent of the child according to his or her age and functioning level and prior approval of the foster child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

NOAS will not require a foster child to receive non-emergency medical treatment that conflicts with the religious tenets or practices of the religion of the child or parent without the specific written consent of the parent, guardian or custodian. When a foster child requires emergency medical treatment and such treatment conflicts with the religious tenets or practices of the child, parent, guardian or custodian, the foster caregiver shall immediately transport or arrange for the transportation of the child to a medical facility and contact the child's custodial agency so that authorization for treatment can be given. The foster caregiver should then contact NOAS regarding this medical emergency.

Disciplinary Policy

1. Disciplinary methods shall stress praise and encouragement for desired behavior rather than punishment. It is expected that each foster child will be treated with kindness, consistency and respect.
2. Foster caregivers shall provide humane, instructive discipline appropriate to a foster child's age and functioning level. All rules and expectations made by a foster caregiver shall be explained to a foster child in a manner appropriate to the child's age and understanding during

the child's pre-placement visitation or initial orientation and prior to any disciplinary action for violation of these rules.

3. Foster caregivers shall not punish a child for actions, over which the child has no control, or for bed wetting or in the course of toilet training activities.
4. Foster caregivers shall not subject a foster child to verbal abuse or swearing, to derogatory remarks about foster children, their families, their races, their gender, their religion, their color or their national origin, or to threats of physical violence or removal from the foster home. A foster caregiver shall not discriminate in providing care and supervision to foster children on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, color or national origin.
5. Foster caregivers are prohibited from the use of any of the following punishments for a foster child:
 - a. Physical hitting or any type of physical punishment inflicted in any manner upon the body including but not limited to spitting, spanking, paddling, punching, shaking, biting, hair pulling, pinching or rough handling;
 - b. Physically strenuous work or exercise, when used as a means of punishment;
 - c. Requiring or forcing a foster child to take an uncomfortable position, such as squatting or bending, or requiring a foster child to repeat physical movements when used as a means of punishment;
 - d. Denial of social or recreational activities for excessive or prolonged periods of time, defined by this agency as being five (5) successive days of duration;
 - e. Denial of social or casework services, medical treatment, or educational services;
 - f. Deprivation of meals;
 - g. Denial of visitation or communication rights with the foster child's family as a means of punishment;
 - h. Denial of sleep;
 - i. Denial of shelter, clothing, bedding, or restroom facilities.
6. Physical, prone, mechanical, and chemical restraint of a foster child shall not be utilized by a foster caregiver in any circumstance. Chemical restraint does not include prescription drugs as prescribed by a physician. A foster caregiver shall not use any device to prevent or restrict movement as punishment or for convenience. If the foster caregiver believes physical restraint of a foster child is warranted for self-protection, when a child cannot control himself/herself, or for the protection of another person from a foster child, the foster caregiver shall contact local law enforcement officials to request police intervention in managing the situation.

NOAS shall be notified by the caregiver immediately following a police intervention. Any act of omission or commission by a foster caregiver or other member of the household which results in any of the following toward a foster child may be grounds for the denial or revocation of a foster home certificate:

- a. Death
 - b. Injury
 - c. Illness
 - d. Abuse
 - e. Neglect
 - f. Exploitation
7. NOAS supports the discipline regulations contained in the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services' rules for foster homes.
 8. Concerning the hygiene of a foster child, the foster caregiver shall:

Ensure that each foster child's clothing and footwear shall be clean, well-fitting, seasonal, and appropriate to the child's age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, race, and national origin.

- a. Ensure that each foster child capable of meeting their own personal hygiene needs shall be provided with adequate personal toiletry supplies appropriate to the child's age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, race, and national origin.
- b. Provide each foster child instruction on good habits of personal care, hygiene, and grooming appropriate to the child's age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, race, national origin, and need for training.

Grievance Procedure

Grievances arising between foster caregivers and the agency will be resolved in the following manner:

1. The foster caregivers must first discuss the grievance with the agency permanency planning specialist assigned to work with them.
2. If the grievance is not resolved to the satisfaction of the involved parties, the foster caregiver may submit the grievance to the next higher level within the organization (director of permanency planning). A meeting to discuss the grievance will be scheduled within five (5) working days.
3. If the grievance is not resolved at this level, it may be submitted, in writing, to the executive director for resolution. The grievance will be heard in a meeting within five (5) working days, and a response given in writing to the foster caregivers. The decision of the executive director shall be final.

Reimbursement Policy

1. Rates
 - a. Foster-to-Adopt Placements: \$27.00/Day + \$1.50 per day clothing
 - b. Traditional Family Foster Care: \$27.00/Day + \$1.50 per day clothing
 - c. Respite: \$27.00/Day
 - d. Preplacement Training: \$10.00 per hour for preplacement training. This payment will be made after the foster caregiver has received his/her foster care certificate.
 - e. Continuing Training: \$10.00 Per hour for the first 30 hours of continuing classroom training in the two-year certification span. Foster caregivers will not be paid for training received from books, videos, etc.

2. Requirements

Requirements which are covered in the family foster caregiver's per diem:

- a. Attend routine school conferences: Liaison with the school and develop relationships. (Up to four school conferences per child per year are considered routine.)
 - b. Attend routine medical and counseling appointments: Coordinate medical care. (Up to two medical appointments per child per month are considered routine. Up to one counseling session per child or sibling group per week is considered routine.)
 - c. Attend school events; support the child's academic and social development.
3. Mileage Reimbursement
Transportation of foster children to and from school, recreational activities, church, sporting events, shopping, counseling, medical, etc. are considered part of the daily routine of any family and are not a reimbursable expense.

Mileage expenses for reunification visitation, sibling visitation, and extraordinary

medical/dental/mental health appointments that are *more than 50 miles round trip* will be reimbursed at the rate of \$0.35 per mile. Mileage must be logged on the Northeast Ohio Adoption Services Foster Care Monthly Mileage form and submitted *no later than 60 days after the event*. Mileage submitted later than 60 days after the event, *will not* be reimbursed.

4. Family Foster Caregiver Pays For (Out of Per Diem)

- a. Haircuts
- b. School supplies (e.g., paper, pencils, scissors, erasers, etc.)
- c. Routine mileage
- d. Personal supplies (e.g., shampoo, deodorant, etc.)
- e. Laundry, drycleaning
- f. Entertainment
- g. School field trips up to \$10.00
- h. Preparation of own home for placement (e.g., beds, well test, fire extinguishers, etc.) unless special items/equipment are needed for a child.
- i. Child-care if custodial agency doesn't pay for it

5. Custodial Agency Might Pay for (Depending on Their Policy)

The following is a listing of the types of items that custodial agencies sometimes pay for (each custodial agency differs in what they pay for and in the amount they will pay):

- a. School fees (e.g., lab fees, home economics fees, shop fees, etc.)
- b. Senior expenses (e.g., pictures, cap & gown, class ring, prom attire, etc.)
- c. Field trips over \$10 (perhaps negotiated with the child paying part)
- d. Camps
- e. Clothing
- f. Accidental damages (county agency is liable)
- g. Purposeful damages (child earns restitution)
- h. School pictures (other than Seniors) up to \$10 per year
- J. Mileage beyond routine
- k. Child-care

6. Reimbursement for Expenses Due to Extraordinary Circumstances

Reimbursement for expenses due to extraordinary circumstances will be determined on a case-by-case basis by NOAS administration in conjunction with the county agency.

7. Birth Family Visits or Preplacement Visits for Adoption by Foster Child

Foster families will receive their current day of care rate for all birth family visits or preplacement visits for adoption by the foster child lasting three days or less.

8. Runaways

When a foster child runs away, the foster family will continue to receive their current day of care rate for the first 3-14 days that the child has run away if the plan is for the child to return to the foster family. The number of days paid is determined by the NOAS contract with the custodial agency.

9. Detention

When a foster child is held in a detention facility, the foster family will continue to receive their current day of care rate for the first 3-14 days that the child is being held in the facility if the plan is for the child to return to the foster family upon discharge. The number of days paid is determined by the **NOAS** contract with the custodial agency.

10. Hospitalization

When a foster child is hospitalized, the foster family will continue to receive their current day of care rate for the first 3-14 days that the child is hospitalized if the plan is for the child to return to the foster family upon discharge and if the foster caregiver visits the child regularly. The number of days

paid is determined by the **NOAS** contract with the custodial agency. It is expected that a foster caregiver will visit the child daily if the child is in a local hospital for medical reasons and as often as possible if the child is not in a local hospital. If the child is hospitalized for other reasons (e.g. emotional-psychological), a foster caregiver shall visit the child per the recommendations set forth in the service plan.

Sharing and Transfer of a Foster Home

1. Sharing of a Foster Home:

Prior to an agency sharing the use of a foster home that has been recommended for certification by another agency, the agency wishing to use the home shall obtain a written agreement signed by the recommending agency stating how the home is to be used and that all parties affected by the agreement approve of it. The recommending agency shall provide a copy of the agreement to the foster caregiver(s) and all agencies currently using the home.

2. Transfer of a Foster Home:

An agency shall not solicit homestudies or transfers from other agencies for the purpose of locating a family of a specific race, color or national origin.

Pursuant to the transfer conditions listed throughout this rule, a foster home shall only be considered for a transfer to another agency that recommends foster homes of the type that the caregiver is qualified to provide. If a transfer is approved for a foster caregiver certified to operate a specialized foster home to an agency that does not operate a specialized foster home program, the caregiver shall agree that upon execution of the transfer, the foster home designation will be identified as a family foster home.

An agency shall consider a transfer request of a foster home from another agency only if the foster caregiver has been certified with the recommending agency for a minimum of one year. A foster caregiver shall not transfer more than once during a certification period. Exceptions to these limitations may be made if a foster caregiver has relocated to a county not served by the foster caregiver's recommending agency, if the foster caregiver's recommending agency ceases to recommend foster homes for certification to the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS) or ceases to recommend the type of foster home that the caregiver is currently certified to provide or if both the sending and receiving agency agree to the transfer of the foster home.

Upon receipt of a written request from a foster caregiver who expresses a desire to transfer from their current recommending agency, a receiving agency shall make a determination whether to further consider the transfer request. If the receiving agency decides to continue the review of the transfer, the receiving agency shall notify the foster caregiver's current recommending agency in writing to inform them of the transfer request and to request a complete copy of the caregiver's foster home record, with the exception of references and criminal background checks. The receiving agency shall only accept documentation located in the foster home record from the recommending agency. The records shall not be accepted directly from the foster caregiver or other individual. A caregiver may provide other information to the receiving agency that the caregiver considers to be relevant.

Upon receipt of the transfer request from the receiving agency:

- a. If the recommending agency has previously made a decision not to place any additional children in the foster caregiver's home, it shall inform the receiving agency of this decision and the reason why this decision was made. If the receiving agency still wishes to proceed with exploring the transfer request, it shall notify the recommending agency in writing.
- b. The recommending agency shall ensure that a signed release of information has been obtained from the foster caregiver authorizing release of the record. The release may be initiated by either agency or the foster caregiver.
- c. While the transfer request is pending, the recommending agency shall continue to work with the foster caregiver as it does with all other foster caregivers associated with the agency. The recommending agency shall continue to provide the caregiver with notification of training events needed pursuant to the foster caregiver's needs assessment and continuing training plan. The recommending agency shall allow the foster caregiver to attend any such events and shall continue to meet with the caregiver regarding the care of any child placed in the home.

Within fifteen working days of receipt of the signed release of information and any applicable copying fee, the recommending agency shall forward a complete copy of the foster home record to the receiving agency, with the exception of references and criminal background checks. The record shall be sent electronically, by certified mail, return receipt requested, or hand delivered by agency staff. If records are hand delivered, the recommending agency shall be provided with a receipt showing the date the records were delivered to the receiving agency. The receiving agency shall also document the date the record was received. The record shall include the following:

- a. The most recent initial homestudy and all homestudy recertifications.
- b. The most recent report of the alleged perpetrator search of child abuse and neglect information from the statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS).
- c. Training records.
- d. Fire inspection reports.
- e. Safety audits.
- f. Medical reports.
- g. Foster home exit interviews.
- h. Complaint or rule noncompliance investigations and any applicable corrective action plans. If there are any outstanding investigations or corrective action plans that have not been fully completed or

implemented, the recommending agency shall notify the receiving agency of the nature of those investigations and corrective action plans.

Upon receipt of the foster caregiver's records, the receiving agency shall assign an assessor to review the information received and conduct an assessment of the transfer request. In addition to reviewing the recommending agency's records and any information provided by the caregiver, the assessor shall:

- a. Contact staff from the current recommending agency and the caregiver to determine the reasons why the request to transfer is being made at this time.
- b. Determine if there are foster children in the home, and, if so, identify the agency with custody of the child(ren).
- c. Make at least one visit to the foster home and conduct a face-to-face interview with each foster caregiver and all other household members over the age of four.
- d. Receive three new personal references for the foster caregiver(s) from persons who are unrelated to the caregiver(s) and do not live in the foster home.
- e. Receive new references from all adult children of the caregiver(s). If the adult children are unable or unwilling to provide a reference this shall be assessed during the transfer process and documented in the caregiver record.
- f. Conduct a new criminal records check for all persons subject to a criminal records check residing in the foster home. Results shall be obtained, reviewed and approved prior to accepting the transfer request.
- g. Complete a new safety audit of the foster home on the JFS 01348 "Safety Audit" (rev. 12/2014) to ensure the home meets all current safety requirements for foster homes.

If the record indicates that there are outstanding investigations or corrective action plans that have not been fully implemented, the assessor shall not recommend acceptance of the transfer unless the assessor is satisfied that any outstanding investigations or plans are not material to the request to transfer the home and do not jeopardize the safety of any children who are or may be placed in the home.

If there are foster children currently placed in the home, all custodial agencies must approve of the transfer of the foster home, as evidenced by the custodial agency signature(s) on the JFS 01334 "Notification of Transfer of a Foster Home". If the custodial agency does not agree to the transfer while a child in its custody is placed in the home, the transfer shall not take place until that child is no longer placed in the home. No child shall be removed from a foster caregiver's home solely because the caregiver has requested a transfer from one agency to another.

If a transfer request of a foster home is pending within ninety days immediately prior to the expiration of the certificate, the current recommending agency and the receiving agency may determine through mutual agreement which agency will conduct the recertification of the foster home. If there is no agreement between the agencies, the current recommending agency shall be responsible for completing the recertification of the home. The assessor shall complete the transfer assessment within sixty days of the date the complete record was received from the current recommending agency. If the transfer assessment cannot be completed in that timeframe, the assessor shall document the reason(s) in the record.

Upon the completion of the assessment, the assessor shall make a final recommendation regarding the transfer and document that decision in the receiving agency's record. Written notice of the decision shall be given to the foster caregiver and the recommending agency within five working days of the date the decision was made. The decision to approve or reject the transfer request rests solely with the receiving agency, subject to the approval of ODJFS and the custodial agency of any foster child(ren) placed in the home. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to require an agency to accept the transfer of a foster home from another agency. The rejection of a transfer creates no right of appeal pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code for any party of the transfer request.

If the decision is to deny the transfer request, all information contained in the copy of the caregiver's record from the current recommending agency, as well as any information gathered during the transfer assessment, including the written recommendation to deny the request, shall be maintained by the agency for at least two years.

If the decision is to approve the transfer request, all information contained in the copy of the caregiver's record from the current recommending agency, as well as any information gathered during the transfer assessment shall be incorporated into the receiving agency's foster care provider record. The certificate shall be effective from the date of transfer until the end of the current certification period. If the foster caregiver is upgrading the type of foster care the home will provide, the caregiver shall begin a new two-year certification span starting on the date of transfer due to the increased training requirements. The transfer of a foster home to a receiving agency has the effect of conferring upon the receiving agency all the duties of a recommending agency contained in Chapter 5101:2-5 of the Administrative Code. Prior to or not later than thirty days after a transfer request has been processed by ODJFS, the receiving agency shall provide an orientation to the foster caregiver of the agency's foster care policies and procedures. Upon receipt of a signed release of information form, an agency shall release a copy of a foster care homestudy to an adoption agency when the foster caregiver is being considered as an adoptive parent.

Foster Caregiver Liability and Responsibility

1. Liability insurance and compensation for damages done by foster children are the responsibility of the agency or parent who has legal custody of the foster child.
2. Legal representation, legal fees, counseling or legal advocacy for foster caregivers for matters directly related to the proper performance of their roles shall be the responsibility of the foster caregiver.
3. Allegations of abuse or neglect involving a child living in a foster home will be reported to and investigated by the public children services agency in the county in which the foster family resides. NOAS will notify the custodial agency or parent of the alleged incident of abuse or neglect.
4. A foster caregiver shall notify NOAS within one hour of gaining knowledge of a serious injury or illness involving medical treatment of a foster child, the death of a foster child, the unauthorized absence of a foster child from the home, the removal or attempted removal of a foster child from the home by any person or agency other than the placing agency or any involvement of a foster child with law enforcement authorities. NOAS will then immediately notify the child's custodial agency by phone when gaining knowledge that any of these incidents have occurred.

Non-Discrimination Requirements for Foster Care Placements

NOAS abides by the JFS 01611 "Non-discrimination Requirements for Foster Care and Adoptive Placements". A copy of the JFS 01611 is attached to this policy. Also, NOAS staff and contractors agree to abide by the Multiethnic Placement Act, 42 U.S.C. 1996(b) (1996) (MEPA) standards of conduct pursuant to rule 5101:2-33-11 of the Administrative Code. NOAS does not deny or delay any person the opportunity to become a foster or adoptive parent based on race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, geographic location, national origin, handicap, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or age of the child or the parent(s). NOAS does not delay or deny the placement of a child for adoption or in foster care on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, national origin, handicap, gender, gender identity, gender orientation or age of the child or the parent(s). NOAS does not discriminate in approving or disapproving a homestudy or homestudy update on the basis of disability in violation of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794 (7/2014) and of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 1201 (8/1981).

Matching Children with Foster Caregivers

NOAS matches children with foster caregivers based upon consideration of their needs, the capabilities of the foster caregiver and family-centered, neighborhood-based practices. Matches are made after careful consideration of the compatibility between the child's needs (e.g., sibling groups, behavioral/emotional challenges, etc.) and the characteristics and capabilities of the foster caregiver. NOAS attempts to match each child referred for services with a family capable of meeting the child's needs.

If a home is not available in our program, the referral source will be informed of such in a timely manner. The referral source is then responsible for contacting other providers to find a home for the child. The final decision for placement rests with the custodial agency.

Procedure for Complaints of Alleged Discriminatory Acts, Policies or Practices in the Foster Care Process that Involve Race, Color or National Origin (RCNO)

NOAS will provide a written notice of the procedure for any complaints of discrimination in the foster care process that involve race, color or national origin (RCNO) to all individuals inquiring about or applying to be a foster caregiver. Such notice will be provided within seven days of the individual's first contact with the agency. Any individual may file a complaint alleging a discriminatory act, policy or practice involving RCNO in the foster care process of NOAS or the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). Any person, including but not limited to, an employee or former employee of NOAS or a member of a family which has sought to become a foster caregiver, may also file a complaint alleging that he or she was intimidated, threatened, coerced, discriminated against or otherwise retaliated against in some way by NOAS or by ODJFS due to the individual making a complaint, testifying, assisting, or participating in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing in connection with an allegation that NOAS or ODJFS engaged in discriminatory acts, policies, or practices as it applies in the foster care process.

The complaint procedure is as follows:

- The individual filing a complaint shall use the JFS 02333 "Discrimination Complaint Form". A copy of the JFS 02333 is attached to this policy.
- The complaint shall be filed within two years of the date of occurrence of the alleged discriminatory act or two years from the date upon which the complainant learned or should have known of a discriminatory act, policy or practice.
- The complaint may be filed with any private noncustodial agency (PNA) including NOAS, public children services agency (PCSA), private child placing agency (PCPA), ODJFS, or the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office for Civil Rights (OCR).
- When a complaint alleging discrimination involving RCNO in the foster care process is received by a PNA, PCSA or PCPA, the agency shall forward the complaint to ODJFS within three working days of the receipt of the complaint.
- ODJFS shall notify the PNA, PCSA or PCPA that is the subject of the complaint within three days of their receipt of the complaint.

If NOAS is the subject of the complaint, it will not initiate, conduct, or run concurrent investigations surrounding the complaint or take any further action regarding the complainant or the subject of the complaint until the issuance of the final investigation report by ODJFS, unless approved by ODJFS. If NOAS is the subject of the complaint, it will cooperate fully with ODJFS during the course of the investigation and will submit any information requested by ODJFS not later than fourteen days from the date of the request, unless otherwise agreed upon. No person who has filed a complaint alleging a discriminatory act, policy or practice involving RCNO in the foster care process of NOAS or who has testified, assisted or participated in any manner in the investigation of a complaint will be intimidated, threatened, coerced, or retaliated against by any employee or contractor of NOAS or ODJFS.

NOAS will provide a written notice of the procedures for any of the complaints of discrimination in the foster care process that involve RCNO within thirty days of the effective date to all foster caregivers certified or in the process of certification on the effective date of this rule.

Forms

NOAS uses the most current version of all ODJFS forms that are mentioned in this policy.

JH/cb/3/18/03

Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 3/20/03

Revised: 6/10/04; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 6/10/04

Revised: 2/8/05; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 2/10/05

Revised: 5/11/06; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 5/11/06

Revised: 7/13/06; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 7/13/06

Revised: 1/8/07; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 1/11/07

Revised: 8/21/08; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 8/21/08

Revised: 7/16/09; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 7/16/09

Revised: 10/24/11; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 11/17/11

Revised: 6/21/12; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 6/21/12

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Revised: 11/19/15; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 11/19/15

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Revised: 6/15/20; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 6/18/20

Revised; 1/17/2022; Approved: Board of Trustees Meeting, 1/20/2022

ODJFS CRIMINAL OFFENSE REGULATIONS

If a foster care/adoption applicant or adult household member has been convicted of any of the felony offenses listed below, the family will never be eligible to apply for foster care or adoption in Ohio.

R.C. 2903.01 – Aggravated murder
 R.C. 2903.02 – Murder
 R.C. 2903.03 – Voluntary manslaughter
 R.C. 2903.04 – Involuntary manslaughter
 R.C. 2903.041– Reckless homicide
 R.C. 2903.06 - Aggravated vehicle homicide
 R.C. 2905.32 – Trafficking in persons
 R.C. 2907.02 – Rape
 R.C. 2907.03 – Sexual battery
 R.C. 2907.04 – Unlawful sexual conduct with a minor
 R.C. 2907.05 – Gross sexual imposition
 R.C. 2907.12 – Felonious sexual penetration
 R.C. 2907.19 – Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor
 R.C.-2907.21 – Compelling prostitution
 R.C.-2907.321- Pandering obscenity involving a minor
 R.C.-2907.322- Pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor
 R.C.-2907.323- Illegal use of a minor in nudity-oriented material or performance
 R.C.-2909.03 – Voluntary manslaughter
 R.C.-2919.22- Endangering children
 R.C.-2919.25 –Domestic violence

If a foster care/adoption applicant or adult household member has been convicted of any of the felony offenses listed below, a period of five years since the date of conviction must have passed before the family can apply for foster care or adoption in Ohio.

R.C.- 2903.08 – Aggravated vehicular assault; vehicular assault
 R.C.- 2903.11 – Felonious assault
 R.C.- 2903.12 – Aggravated assault
 R.C.- 2903.13 – Assault
 R.C.- 2925.02 – Corrupting another with drugs
 R.C.- 2925.03 – Trafficking, aggravated trafficking in drugs
 R.C.- 2925.04 – Illegal manufacture of drugs or cultivation of marijuana
 R.C.- 2925.041- Illegal assemble or possession of chemicals for manufacture of drugs
 R.C.- 2925.05 – Funding of drug or marijuana trafficking
 R.C.- 2925.06 – Illegal administration or distribution of anabolic steroids
 R.C.- 2925.11 – Possession of controlled substances
 R.C.- 2925.13 – Permitting drug abuse
 R.C.- 2925.22 – Deception to obtain a dangerous drug
 R.C.- 2925.23 – Illegal processing of drug documents
 R.C.- 2925.24 – Tampering with drugs
 R.C.- 2825.31 – Abusing harmful intoxicants
 R.C.- 2925.32 – Trafficking in harmful intoxicants – improperly dispensing or distributing nitrous oxide
 R.C.- 2925.36 – Illegal dispensing of drug samples
 R.C.- 2925.37 – Counterfeit controlled substance offenses

If a foster care/adoption applicant or adult household member has been convicted of any of the offenses listed below, there is not a rehabilitation period required. The assessor will evaluate the circumstances surrounding the offense to determine if the applicant/home will be a suitable

placement for a child:

- **Victim profile: if the victim is a child, the applicant *will not* be approved**
- **If victim is elderly or developmentally delayed, assessor must assess situation:**
 - Offender's age at the time of the offense**
 - Nature, severity and circumstances of the offense**
 - Whether person is a repeat offender**
 - The degree of participation involved in the offense**
 - Length of time that has elapsed since fully discharged from imprisonment or parole**
 - Likelihood of recurrence**
 - Employment record & life stability**
 - Rehabilitation efforts & results**
 - Other pending criminal proceedings**
 - Other factors relevant to child safety**
 - Whether person has been convicted or plead guilty to a felony per the Revised Code not listed in this rule, bears a direct & substantial relationship to being a foster caregiver or adult member of the household**

R.C.- 959.13 – Cruelty to animals
 R.C.- 2903.15 - Permitting child abuse
 R.C.- 2903.16 – Failing to provide for a functionally impaired person
 R.C.- 2903.21 – Aggravated menacing
 R.C.- 2903.211- Menacing by stalking
 R.C.- 2903.22 – Menacing
 R.C.- 2903.34 – Patient abuse, neglect
 R.C.- 2905.01 – Kidnapping
 R.C.- 2905.02 – Abduction
 R.C.- 2905.05 – Criminal child enticement
 R.C.- 2905.11 – Extortion
 R.C.- 2907.06 – Sexual imposition
 R.C.- 2907.07 – Importuning
 R.C.- 2907.08 – Voyeurism
 R.C.- 2907.09- Public indecency
 R.C.- 2907.22 – Promoting prostitution
 R.C.- 2907.23 – Enticement or solicitation to patronize a prostitute; procurement of a prostitute for another
 R.C.- 2907.25 – Prostitution- after positive HIV test
 R.C.- 2907.31 – Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles
 R.C.- 2907.32 – Pandering obscenity
 R.C.- 2909.02 – Aggravated arson
 R.C.- 2909.03 – Arson
 R.C.- 2909.22 – Soliciting or providing support for an act of terrorism
 R.C.- 2909.23 – Making terroristic threat
 R.C.- 2909.24 – Terrorism – *If original charge was one of the non-rehabilitative crimes listed above, this could be a disqualifying offense*
 R.C.- 2911.01 – Aggravated robbery
 R.C.- 2911.02 – Robbery
 R.C.- 2911.11 – Aggravated burglary
 R.C.- 2911.12 – Burglary
 R.C.- 2913.49 – Identity fraud
 R.C.- 2917.01 – Inciting to violence
 R.C.- 2917.02 – Aggravated riot
 R.C.- 2919.12 – Unlawful abortion
 R.C.- 2919.23 – Interference with custody (that would have been a violation of

R.C. 2905.04 as it existed prior to 7/1/96 if violation had been committed prior to that date)

R.C.- 2919.24 – Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child

R.C.- 2923.12 – Having weapons while under disability

R.C.- 2923.161- Improperly discharging firearm at or into a habitation, in a school safety zone or with intent to cause harm or panic to persons in a school building or at a school function

R.C.- 2923.17 - Unlawful possession of dangerous ordinance- illegally manufacturing or Processing explosives

R.C.- 2923.21 – Improperly furnishing firearms to minor

R.C.- 2923.42 – Participating in criminal gang

R.C.- 2927-12 – Ethnic intimidation

R.C.- 4511.19 – Operating vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs – OVI or OVUAC

Disqualifying offense if applicant or adult household member has had two or more violations within the past three (3) yrs.

(KS 6/1/20)