

Summary of Child Foster Care Responsible Agency Requirements

A county or tribal agency must have placement responsibility for a child's foster care placement. This may be a court order or a voluntary placement agreement. The responsible agency's role and responsibility is determined in law and tribal code, and is reviewed in court. The following applies to most placements:

1. Consider foster care a temporary living situation for a child. The responsible agency's staff concurrently plan for a child to be safely reunited with their parent(s) and at the same time seek other families, first considering relatives and kin, to permanently care for a child if they cannot return home because of safety concerns.
2. Diligently search and notify a child's maternal and paternal relatives and kin of their need for foster parents. The agency will search for and notify relatives until the court is satisfied with agency efforts.
3. Place a child with their siblings. If siblings cannot be placed together safely, the agency must ensure that they have regular visitation and contact.
4. Provide foster parents with information about a child before placement as part of the out-of-home placement plan (OHPP), or as information becomes available, including:
 - The reason(s) foster care is needed.
 - The permanency plan for a child
 - A child's medical history, immunization record, or any other medical or dental needs
 - A child's educational needs and school enrollment.
5. Include foster parents in development and implementation of the OHPP, assessing and including services needed in the foster home to ensure a child's well-being, and supporting placement stability. Foster parents must be provided with a copy of the OHPP.
6. Send foster parents written notice of all administrative review and/or court hearings, and ensure that they are aware of their right to attend court hearings and their right to be heard.
7. Visit a child monthly, with a majority of those visits to take place in the family foster home. These visits support placement stability and help a child and their foster parents address any problems they may be having. These visits should:
 - Assess a child's daily needs and foster parent concerns about a child's behavior and development to ensure their needs are safely being met in the home, as well as the need for additional services.
 - Ensure a child's health needs are met.
 - Ensure that child is attending school.
8. Review the case plan, including a child's participation in age-appropriate social, extracurricular and cultural enrichment activities.
 - Engage foster family in an ongoing discussion and evaluation about their roles and responsibilities, and their need for support during a child's placement.
 - Report any concerns about a child's care to child protection and the licensing agency.
9. Explain the importance of family visitation to develop or preserve a child's bond with their parents and siblings, and establish a visitation plan that schedules visits so child's parent(s), foster parents and child can plan accordingly. Help foster parents understand that visitation may affect a child's behavior, and assist them to develop strategies that will support a child to maintain relationships with their parent(s) and siblings.
10. Inform foster parents about Northstar Care for Children. The agency assesses every child entering foster care for a basic and supplemental payment using the Minnesota Assessment of Parenting for Children and Youth (MAPCY). Provide a copy of "What is the MAPCY assessment?" (DHS 7060A).
11. Ensure that a child's educational and health care needs are assessed and issues identified are appropriately addressed, including physical, mental, chemical, developmental, dental and visual health needs, as follows:
 - Provide clear instructions to foster parents in the OHPP about their role and responsibility in meeting a child's health care needs while in their care.
 - Involve a child's parent(s) in planning for their education and health care. The parents make educational and treatment decisions unless parental rights have been terminated, or the court has restricted parents' involvement in planning and providing for their child's well-being.
 - Provide foster parents with information necessary to enroll child in school, as well as in the free and reduced lunch program, and similar programs.
12. If a foster parent asks the responsible agency to remove a child from their home, prior to removal they and agency staff will work together to determine if additional supports or services can safely maintain a child in the home. A foster child experiences an unplanned move only when an agency is concerned about their health or safety, or when all resources to support placement stability have been exhausted. Unless agency staff determines that there is an issue that affects a child's health or safety, it will remove a child from the foster home within 45 days of a request.

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កំណត់សំគាល់ ។ បើអ្នកត្រូវការជំនួយក្នុងការបកប្រែឯកសារនេះដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ សូមហៅទូរស័ព្ទតាមលេខខាងលើ ។

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