

**STANDARDS FOR FOSTER HOMES
(Sections 400 Through 499)**

400. STANDARDS FOR FOSTER HOMES.

The standards for licensing foster homes are intended to insure that children of the state who must live away from their parents shall receive adequate substitute parental care to address their need for safety, health, and well being, that the persons providing this care are capable and suitable to meet the protection needs of children living in foster homes, and the physical environment in which these children reside is a safe setting. (3-30-01)

401. LICENSING PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT. These rules do not supercede the licensing authority of Indian tribes pursuant to the Indian Child Welfare Act. (3-30-01)

402. FOSTER PARENT QUALIFICATIONS AND SUITABILITY.

Foster parents must be physically and emotionally suited to care for children and to deal with the problems presented by children placed away from their own parents, family and homes. An applicant for licensure as a foster parent shall meet all of the following qualifications: (3-30-01)

01. Minimum Age. Be twenty-one (21) years of age or older. (3-30-01)

02. Character. Be of good character. (3-30-01)

03. Personal Attributes and Experiences. Have the maturity, interpersonal qualities, temperament and life experiences that prepare the foster parent to provide foster care. (3-30-01)

04. Availability for Child Placement. Express a willingness to provide care for the kind of children the children's agency has available for placement. (3-30-01)

05. Knowledge and Skill. Demonstrate an understanding of the care that must be provided to the children served by the children's agency or express a willingness to learn how to provide that care. (3-30-01)

06. Child Care and Supervision. Have adequate time to provide care and supervision for children. (3-30-01)

07. Income and Resources. Have a defined and sufficient source of income and be capable of managing that income to meet the needs of the foster family without relying on the payment made for the care of a foster child. (3-30-01)

08. Health. Have the physical, mental, and emotional health to assure appropriate care of children. (3-30-01)

09. Harmonious Home Life. Establish and maintain a harmonious home life to give children the emotional stability they need. No marital or personal problems shall exist within the family that would result in undue emotional strain in the home or be harmful to the interest of children placed in the home. (3-30-01)

10. Acceptance of Foster Children. Express a willingness and demonstrate the ability to accept a child into the home as a member of the family. (3-30-01)

11. Family Supports. Express willingness, and demonstrate the ability, to work with a foster child's legal family, future family, or Indian tribe. (3-30-01)

12. Compliance with Licensing Rules. Demonstrate a willingness and ability to comply with the licensing rules for foster homes. (3-30-01)

403. MEMBER OF HOUSEHOLD QUALIFICATIONS AND SUITABILITY.

To assure the safety and well-being of children, a member of the household shall be in compliance with the requirements specified in these rules. (3-30-01)

404. CRIMINAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR FOSTER CARE LICENSE.

All applicants for a foster care license and other adult members of the household must comply with the provisions in IDAPA 16.05.06, "Rules Governing Mandatory Criminal History Checks," and the following requirements: (3-30-07)

01. Required Procedures. Each applicant for a foster home license, and any other adult member of the household, must participate in a criminal history and background check as required by Section 39-1211(4), Idaho Code. (3-30-07)

02. Change in Household Membership. By the next working day after another adult begins residing in a licensed foster home, a foster parent must notify the children's agency of the change in household membership and assure that the new adult member of the household will participate in a criminal history and background check as required by Section 39-1211(4), Idaho Code. (3-30-07)

03. Foster Parent's Child Turns Eighteen. A foster parent's child who turns eighteen (18) and continues to live in the home is not required to have a criminal history and background check. (3-30-07)

a. If the adult child moves out of the foster parent's home for longer than ninety (90) days and returns to live in the licensed foster home as a permanent resident, he must complete a criminal history and background check within fifteen (15) days of his return. (3-30-07)

b. If the adult child leaves the foster home for the purpose of higher education or military service, and returns for less than ninety (90) days, he is not considered to reside in the licensed foster home and is not required to complete a criminal history and background check. He cannot have any unsupervised direct care responsibilities for any foster children in the home. Should he remain in the foster home for ninety (90) days or longer, he must complete a criminal history and background check within fifteen (15) days. (3-30-07)

c. If the adult child continues to live in his parent's licensed foster home or on the same property, he must complete a criminal history and background check within fifteen (15) days of turning twenty-one (21). This requirement is not necessary if the adult child has completed a criminal history and background check between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-one (21). (3-30-07)

04. Criminal History and Background Check at Any Time. The Department retains the authority to require a criminal history and background check at any time on individuals who are permanent residents of a licensed foster home. (3-30-07)

405. INITIAL EVALUATION.

An applicant shall participate in the process and tasks to complete an initial evaluation for foster care licensure. (3-30-01)

01. Applicant Participation. The applicant shall do all of the following: (3-30-01)

a. Cooperate with and allow the children's agency to determine compliance with these rules to conduct an initial foster home study; (3-30-01)

b. Inform the children's agency if the applicant is currently licensed or has been previously licensed as a foster parent or the applicant has been involved in the care and supervision of children or adults; (3-30-01)

c. Provide a medical statement for each applicant, signed by a qualified medical professional, within the twelve (12) month period prior to initial licensure for family foster care, indicating the applicant is in such physical and mental health so as to not adversely affect either the health or quality of care for children placed in the home; (3-30-01)

d. Provide the name of, and a signed release to obtain the following information about, each member of the household: (3-30-01)

i. Admission to or release from a facility, hospital, or institution for the treatment of an emotional, mental, or substance abuse issue; (3-30-01)

ii. Outpatient counseling, treatment, or therapy for an emotional, mental, or substance abuse issue; and (3-30-01)

e. Provide three (3) satisfactory references, one (1) of which may be from a person related to the applicant(s). An applicant shall provide additional references upon the request of the children's agency. (3-30-01)

02. Members of the Household Physical and Mental Health. All members of the household shall be in such physical and mental health that the health, safety, or well-being of a foster child will not be adversely affected. A report of the member of the household's physical and mental health status may be required from a qualified medical professional if this appears advisable to the children's agency. (3-30-01)

03. Disclosure of Information. An applicant shall provide the children's agency with the following information and any other information the children's agency deems necessary to complete the initial family home study: (3-30-01)

a. The names, including maiden or other names used, and ages of the applicant(s); (3-30-01)

b. Social security number; (3-30-01)

c. Education; (3-30-01)

d. Verification of marriages and divorces; (3-30-01)

e. Religious and cultural practices of the applicant including their willingness and ability to accommodate or provide care to a foster child of a different race, religion, or culture; (3-30-01)

f. A statement of income and financial resources and the family's management of these resources; (3-30-01)

g. Marital relationship, if applicable, including decision making, communication, and roles within the family; (3-30-01)

h. Individual and family functioning and inter-relationships with each member of the household; (3-30-01)

i. Any current family problems, including mental illness, drug and alcohol abuse, and medical conditions; (3-30-01)

j. Previous criminal convictions and valid incidents of child abuse and neglect; (3-30-01)

- k.** Family history, including childhood experiences and the applicant's parents' methods of discipline and problem solving; (3-30-01)
- l.** Child care and parenting skills; (3-30-01)
- m.** Current methods of discipline; (3-30-01)
- n.** The names, ages, and addresses of all biological and adopted children currently residing in or outside the home; (3-30-01)
- o.** Adjustment and special needs of the applicant's children; (3-30-01)
- p.** Interests and hobbies; (3-30-01)
- q.** Reasons for applying to be a foster parent; (3-30-01)
- r.** Understanding of the purpose and goals of foster care; (3-30-01)
- s.** Prior and current experiences with foster care; (3-30-01)
- t.** Emotional stability and maturity in dealing with the needs, challenges, and related issues associated with the placement of a child into applicant(s) home; (3-30-01)
- u.** The attitudes toward foster care by immediate and extended members of the family and other persons who reside in the home; (3-30-01)
- v.** The applicant's attitudes about a foster child's family and the applicant's willingness to work with the child's family and tribe; (3-30-01)
- w.** Specifications of the children preferred by the family that include the number of children, age, gender, race, ethnic background, social, emotional and educational characteristics of children preferred; (3-30-01)
- x.** Adequacy of the applicant's house, property, and neighborhood for the purpose of providing foster care as determined by on-site observations; (3-30-01)
- y.** The applicant(s) willingness to abide by the children's agency policies and procedures for discipline; (3-30-01)
- z.** Three (3) personal references, at least two (2) of which shall be from persons not related to the applicants, reflecting the applicants to be of good character and habits; 3-30-01
- aa.** Training needs of the applicant(s); and (3-30-01)
- bb.** The capacity and willingness to transport a foster child in a motor vehicle. (3-30-01)

406. SUBSEQUENT EVALUATIONS.

A foster parent shall comply with the following requirements for the subsequent evaluation required for a foster care license: (3-30-01)

01. Reasonable Access. A foster parent shall allow the children's agency reasonable access to the foster home, including interviewing each foster parent, each foster child and any member of the household to determine continued compliance with licensing standards, for child supervision purposes, and to conduct a recertification study. (3-30-01)

02. Update Information. Provide all changes to the information contained in the initial evaluation and subsequent evaluations. (3-30-01)

03. Family Functioning. Provide information on any changes in family functioning and interrelationships. (3-30-01)

04. Other Circumstances. Provide the children's agency with any information regarding circumstances within the family that may adversely impact the foster child. (3-30-01)

05. Written Plan of Correction. Cooperate with the children's agency in developing and carrying out a written plan required to correct any rule non-compliance identified by any evaluation conducted by the children's agency. (3-30-01)

407. FOSTER PARENT DUTIES.

A foster parent shall carry out the following functions: (3-30-01)

01. Service Plan Implementation. Cooperate with, and assist the children's agency in, the implementation of the service plan for children and their families. (3-30-01)

02. Reporting Progress and Problems. Promptly and fully disclose to the children's agency information concerning a child's progress and problems. (3-30-01)

03. Termination of Placement by the Foster Family. Provide notification to the children's agency of the need for a child to be moved from the foster home not less than fourteen (14) calendar days before the move, except when a delay would jeopardize the child's care or safety or the safety of members of the foster family. (3-30-01)

04. Written Policies and Procedures for Foster Families. Maintain a copy of, be familiar with, and follow these rules and any other rules, policies, or procedures which an agency may require for foster parents and foster care. (3-30-01)

408. FOSTER PARENT TRAINING.

Each foster parent shall comply with the following training requirements: (3-30-01)

01. Orientation. Each applicant for a foster home license shall receive an orientation related to the children's agency foster care program and services. (3-30-01)

02. Initial Training. Complete not less than ten (10) hours of training no later than one (1) year following the issuance of an initial foster care license. (3-30-01)

03. Annual Training. Complete not less than ten (10) hours of training on an annual basis following the initial training specified in these rules. (3-30-01)

04. Individualized Training. Complete training identified by the children's agency as meeting the individual needs of the foster parent(s). (3-30-01)

05. Required Training. Complete any additional training as required by the children's agency foster parent training plan. (3-30-01)

409. -- 429. (RESERVED).

430. CHILD CARE AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

The property, structure, premises, and furnishings of a foster home must be constructed and maintained in good repair, in a clean condition, free from safety hazards and dangerous machinery and equipment. Areas and equipment that present a hazard to children must not be accessible by children. (3-30-07)

01. Pools, Hot Tubs, Ponds, and Other Bodies of Water. Any licensed foster home with a body of water on or adjacent to their property must provide the following safeguards: (3-30-07)

a. Around any body of water, a foster child must have appropriate adult supervision consistent with the child's age, physical ability, and developmental level; (3-30-07)

b. The area surrounding a body of water must be fenced and locked in a manner that prevents access by children; or (3-30-07)

c. If the area surrounding a body of water is not fenced and locked, there must be a secured protective covering that will not allow access by a child; (3-30-07)

i. Pool or hot tub covers must be completely removed when in use; (3-30-07)

ii. When the pool or hot tub cover is in place, the cover must be free from standing water; (3-30-07)

iii. Covers must be kept locked at all times when the pool or hot tub is not in use; and (3-30-07)

d. Exterior ladders on above ground pools must be removed when the pool is not in use. (3-30-07)

02. Access by Children Five Years of Age and Under. Any licensed foster home that cares for children five (5) years of age and under and chooses to prevent access to a body of water by fencing must provide a fence that meets the following requirements: (3-30-07)

a. The fence must be at least four (4) feet high with no vertical opening more than four (4) inches wide, be designed so that a young child cannot climb or squeeze under or through the fence, and surround all sides of the pool or pond; (3-30-07)

b. The gate must be self-closing and have a self-latching mechanism in proper working order out of the reach of young children; (3-30-07)

c. If the house forms one (1) side of the barrier for the pool, doors that provide unrestricted access to the pool must have alarms that produce an audible sound when the doors are opened; and (3-30-07)

d. Furniture or other large objects must not be left near the fence that would enable a child to climb on the furniture and gain access to the pool. (3-30-07)

03. Irrigation Canals or Similar Body of Water. A licensed foster home caring for a child five (5) years of age and under or a child who is physically or developmentally vulnerable, whose property adjoins an irrigation canal or similar body of water, must have fencing that prevents access to the canal or similar body of water by the child. (3-30-07)

04. Other Safety Water Precautions. (3-30-07)

a. Wading pools must be empty when not being used; (3-30-07)

b. Children must be under direct supervision of an adult while using a wading pool; (3-30-07)

c. Toys that attract young children to the pool area must be kept picked up and away for the pool area when not in use; and (3-30-07)

d. A child who does not know how to swim must use an approved lifesaving personal flotation device. (3-30-07)

431. INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF FLAME AND HEAT PRODUCING EQUIPMENT.

A foster parent shall assure: (3-30-01)

01. Installation and Maintenance of Flame and Heat-Producing Equipment. A furnace, fireplace, wood-burning stove, water heater and other flame or heat-producing equipment shall be installed and maintained as recommended by the manufacturer. Fireplaces shall be protected by screens or other means. (3-30-01)

02. Portable Heating Devices. Portable heating devices shall not be used during sleeping hours. (3-30-01)

03. Fire Inspections. An inspection by a certified fire inspector may be required at the discretion of the children's agency. (3-30-01)

432. SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTING DEVICES.

Each foster home shall meet the following standards: (3-30-01)

01. Smoke Detecting Devices. There shall be at least one (1) single-station smoke detector, approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, which shall be installed and maintained as recommended by the manufacturer and as follows: (3-30-01)

a. One (1) smoke detector on each floor of the home, including the basement; (3-30-01)

b. One (1) smoke detector in each bedroom used by a foster child; and (3-30-01)

c. One (1) smoke detector in areas of the home that contain flame or heat-producing equipment other than domestic stoves and clothes dryers. (3-30-01)

02. Carbon Monoxide Detecting Devices. There shall be at least one (1) carbon monoxide detecting device that is approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory which shall be installed and maintained as recommended by the manufacturer. A house that does not have equipment which produces carbon monoxide or does not have an attached garage is exempt from this requirement. (3-30-01)

433. EXITS.

There shall be at least two (2) exits from each floor level used by a family member that are remote from each other, one (1) of which provides a direct safe means of unobstructed travel to the outside at street or ground level. A window may be used as a second exit if it is in compliance with these rules. (3-30-01)

434. DANGEROUS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

Dangerous and hazardous materials, objects or equipment, including but not limited to poisonous, explosive or flammable substances that could present a risk to a child placed in a foster home, shall be stored securely and out of reach of a child, as appropriate for the age and functioning level of the child. (3-30-01)

435. FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION.

Firearms at a foster home shall be stored:

01. Trigger Locks. Unloaded and equipped with a trigger lock; or (3-30-01)

02. Unassembled and Inoperable. Unloaded, fully inoperable and incapable of being assembled and fired; or (3-30-01)

03. Locked Cabinet or Container. Unloaded and locked in a cabinet or storage container that is inaccessible to children; or (3-30-01)

04. Gun Safe. Locked in a gun safe that is inaccessible to children. (3-30-01)

436. PETS AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

Any pet or domestic animal that is suspected or known to be dangerous shall be kept in an area inaccessible to children. (3-30-01)

437. ADEQUATE HEAT, LIGHT, AND VENTILATION.

A foster home shall have adequate heat, light, and ventilation. Window and doors shall be screened if used for ventilation. (3-30-01)

438. BATHROOMS, WATER SUPPLY, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

A foster home shall meet the following standards: (3-30-01)

01. Toilet Facilities. A foster home shall have a minimum of one (1) flush toilet, one (1) washbasin that has warm and cold running water, and one (1) bathtub or shower that has warm and cold running water, all of which shall be in good working order. (3-30-01)

02. Water Supply. The water supply shall meet one (1) of the following requirements: (3-30-01)

a. Shall be from a source that is approved for a private home by the health authority according to IDAPA 58.01.08, "Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems," at the time of application and for annual renewal of such licenses; or (3-30-01)

b. Water used for consumption at a foster home shall be from an acceptable source, bottled water from an acceptable source, or boiled for a period specified by the local health authority according to IDAPA 58.01.08, "Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems." (3-30-01)

03. Sewage Disposal. Sewage shall be disposed of through a public system, or in the absence of a public system, in a manner approved by the local health authority, according to IDAPA 58.01.03 "Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal Rules." (3-30-01)

439. TRANSPORTATION.

A foster parent shall comply with the requirements related to child transportation that include: (3-30-01)

01. Legal Requirements for Transporting Children. A foster parent, or any person acting on behalf of a foster parent, that transports a child, shall possess a valid Idaho driver's license, be insured in accordance with Idaho Law, and abide by all traffic laws including the requirement that all children are in proper safety restraints while being transported. (3-30-01)

02. Reliable Transportation. A foster parent shall have or arrange for safe, reliable transportation of any foster child in their care to assure the child has access to school, community services, and the children's agency. (3-30-01)

03. Prohibitions of Foster Child Transportation. A foster parent shall not transport a foster child while impaired by any substance including alcohol, prescription medication, or any illegal substances. (3-30-01)

440. TELEPHONE.

Unless previously approved by the licensing agency, there shall be an operating telephone in a foster home. (3-30-01)

441. WHEELCHAIR ACCESS.

A foster home that provides care to a child who regularly requires the use of a wheelchair, shall be wheelchair accessible. (3-30-01)

442. CHILD PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

A foster family shall accept the placement of children into the home within the terms of the foster home license or certification and the children's agency placement agreement. In determining placement of foster children, the following provisions shall be considered: (3-30-01)

01. Determining Factors. The number and the age group of children placed in a foster home shall be determined by all of the following: (3-30-01)

a. The accommodations and the space in the home; (3-30-01)

b. The interest of the foster family; and (3-30-01)

c. The experience or skill of the foster family. (3-30-01)

02. Maximum Number of Children. Except as specified, the maximum number of children in care at any time, including the foster family's own children, or day care children, shall be limited to not more than six (6) children. (3-30-01)

03. Children Under Two Years of Age. Except as specified in Subsection 442.04 of these rules, the maximum number of children under two (2) years of age, including those of the foster family, shall be limited to not more than two (2) children. (3-30-01)

04. Special Circumstances Regarding Maximum Numbers of Children. The maximum number of children in care at any time may be increased to not more than two (2) additional children, based on any of the following: (3-30-01)

a. The increased capacity would allow for siblings to remain together; or (3-30-01)

b. The increased capacity would allow a family to provide care to a child who has an established, meaningful relationship with the family; or (3-30-01)

c. The foster home offers unusual space, skill, or experience. (3-30-01)

05. Continued Care. A foster child who reaches the age of eighteen (18) years may continue in foster care placement until the age of twenty-one (21) years if the safety, health and well-being of other foster children residing in the home are not jeopardized. Not more than two (2) such individuals receiving continued care may reside in the foster home at the same time. (3-30-01)

443. INTERAGENCY PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN.

A foster family shall only accept for placement children referred from the children's agency that licenses or certifies the foster home. A foster family may accept for placement a foster child from another children's agency only if that children's agency and the foster family have received prior approval for the placement of a child from the children's agency that licensed or certified the home. (3-30-01)

444. SUBSTITUTE CARE PLACEMENT AND CHILDREN'S AGENCY NOTIFICATION.

A foster parent shall: (3-30-01)

01. Substitute Care. Place a child in substitute care only with the prior knowledge and consent of the children's agency. (3-30-01)

02. Notification to Agency. Notify the children's agency before the beginning of any planned absence that requires substitute care of a child for a period of twenty-four (24) hours or more. (3-30-01)

445. BEDROOMS.

A foster parent shall comply with the following rules: (3-30-01)

01. Sleeping Arrangements. A bedroom occupied by a foster child shall: (3-30-01)

- a. Provide an adequate opportunity for both rest and privacy for each child; (3-30-01)
- b. Be readily accessible to adult supervision as appropriate for the age and functioning level of each child; (3-30-01)
- c. Have sufficient floor space to provide two (2) feet of space between beds; (3-30-01)
- d. Have sufficient space for the storage of clothing and personal belongings; (3-30-01)
- e. Have a finished ceiling, permanently affixed floor-to-ceiling walls, and finished flooring; (3-30-01)
- f. Have a latchable door that leads to an exit from the foster home; (3-30-01)
- g. Have at least one (1) outside window that complies with the following: (3-30-01)
 - i. Is readily accessible to children and the foster parent; (3-30-01)
 - ii. Is readily opened from the inside of the room; and (3-30-01)
 - iii. Is of sufficient size and design to allow for the evacuation of children and caregivers. (3-30-01)
- h. Is free of all of the following: (3-30-01)
 - i. Household heating equipment excluding baseboard heating systems; (3-30-01)
 - ii. Water heater; and (3-30-01)
 - iii. Clothes washer and dryer. (3-30-01)

02. Non-Ambulatory Child. A child who is non-ambulatory and cannot readily be carried by one (1) member of the household shall sleep in a bedroom located at ground level. (3-30-01)

03. Sharing Bedroom with a Non-Parent Adult. A child shall not share a bedroom with a non-parent adult unless the child and adult are of the same gender and there is not more than four (4) years difference in age between the adult and the youngest child in the bedroom. (3-30-01)

04. Sharing a Bedroom with a Foster Parent. A child three (3) years of age or older shall not routinely share the bedroom with a foster parent unless the child has special health or emotional needs that require the attention of the foster parent(s) during sleeping hours. (3-30-01)

05. Maximum Number of Children in a Bedroom. No more than four (4) children shall occupy a bedroom. The placement of more than any one (1) child in a bedroom shall be based on the age, behavior, functioning, individual needs of each child, and sufficient available space. (3-30-01)

06. Children of the Opposite Gender. Children of the opposite gender, any of whom are more than five (5) years of age, shall not share the same bedroom. (3-30-01)

07. Number of Children in a Bed. Each child shall have an individual bed, except that two (2) brothers or two (2) sisters of comparable age may share a bed if they have previously shared a bed or when there are no health, behavioral or other factors indicating this is undesirable. (3-30-01)

08. Restrictions on Sleeping Arrangements. The following shall not be used for sleeping purposes: (3-30-01)

- a. A room or area of the foster home that is primarily used for purposes other than sleeping; (3-30-01)

b. A room or space, including an attic, that is accessible only by a ladder, folding stairway, or through a trapdoor; or (3-30-01)

c. A detached building, except in the case of an older child preparing for emancipation when it can be documented that the child's needs can best be met by that arrangement. (3-30-01)

09. Appropriate Bedding. A child shall have a bed that is appropriate for the age and development of the child. Beds shall be equipped with a clean and comfortable mattress, pillow, linens and blankets appropriate for the weather. (3-30-01)

446. BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT AND DISCIPLINE.

Methods of behavior management and discipline for children shall be positive and consistent. These methods shall be based on each child's needs, stage of development, and behavior. Discipline shall promote self-control, self-esteem, and independence. (3-30-01)

01. Prohibitions. All of the following types of punishment of a foster child are prohibited: (3-30-01)

a. Physical force or any kind of punishment inflicted on the body, including spanking; (3-30-01)

b. Cruel and unusual physical exercise or forcing a child to take an uncomfortable position; (3-30-01)

c. Use of excessive physical labor with no benefit other than for punishment; (3-30-01)

d. Mechanical, medical, or chemical restraint; (3-30-01)

e. Locking a child in a room or area of the home; (3-30-01)

f. Denying necessary food, clothing, bedding, rest, toilet use, bathing facilities, or entrance to the foster home; (3-30-01)

g. Mental or emotional cruelty; (3-30-01)

h. Verbal abuse, ridicule, humiliation, profanity, threats or other forms of degradation directed at a child or a child's family; (3-30-01)

i. Threats of removal from the foster home; (3-30-01)

j. Denial of visits or communication with a child's family unless authorized by a children's agency in its service plan for the child and family; and (3-30-01)

k. Denial of necessary educational, medical, counseling, or social services. (3-30-01)

02. Restraint. A foster parent who has received specific training in the use of child restraint may use reasonable restraint methods, approved by the children's agency, to prevent a child from harming himself, other persons or property, or to allow a child to gain control of himself. (3-30-01)

03. Authority. The authority for the discipline of a foster child shall not be delegated by a foster parent to other members of the household. (3-30-01)

04. Agency Consultation. A foster parent shall consult with the children's agency prior to using any behavior management or discipline technique that exceeds the scope of these rules. (3-30-01)

447. MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE.

01. Health Care Services. A foster parent shall follow and carry out the health or dental care plan for a child as directed by a qualified medical professional. (3-30-01)

02. Child Injury and Illness. Follow the children's agency approved policies for medical care of a child who is injured or ill. (3-30-01)

03. Dispensing of Medications. Provide prescription medication as directed by a qualified medical professional. A foster parent shall not discontinue or in any way change the medication provided to a child unless directed to do so by a qualified medical professional. (3-30-01)

04. Storage of Medication. A foster parent shall store medications in an area that is inaccessible to a child. (3-30-01)

448. PERSONAL CARE AND HYGIENE.

A foster parent shall instruct the child in personal care, hygiene and grooming. A foster parent shall provide the child with necessary personal care, hygiene and grooming products appropriate to the age, gender and needs of the child. The foster parent shall seek approval from the children's agency before altering a child's physical appearance including haircuts, body piercing and tattooing. (3-30-01)

449. FOOD AND NUTRITION.

A foster parent shall provide a foster child with meals that are nutritious, well-balanced, and of sufficient quantity. The child shall be served the same meals as other members of the household unless a special diet has been prescribed by a medical professional, or unless otherwise dictated by differing needs based on a child's age, medical condition, or cultural or religious beliefs. A foster child shall eat with other members of the family; unless the child's medical condition dictates a different arrangement. Perishable foods shall be refrigerated. Milk provided to foster children shall be pasteurized, from a licensed dairy or come from an animal that is documented to be free from tuberculosis, brucellosis, or other conditions that could be injurious to a child's health. (3-30-01)

450. NECESSARY CLOTHING.

A foster parent shall provide a child with sufficient, clean, properly fitting clothing appropriate for the child's age, gender, individual needs, and season. Clothing shall reflect cultural and community standards. (3-30-01)

451. PERSONAL POSSESSIONS, ALLOWANCES, AND MONEY.

A foster parent shall follow the children's agency policy regarding a child's personal possessions, allowance, and money. When a child moves from a foster home, the foster parent shall provide the child or the children's agency with all of the child's possessions, including money. (3-30-01)

452. CHILD TASKS.

A parent shall permit a child to perform only those routine tasks that are within the child's ability, are reasonable, and are similar to the routine tasks expected of other members of the household of similar age and ability. (3-30-01)

453. EDUCATION.

A foster parent shall cooperate with the children's agency and applicable educational organizations to implement the education and training plan for each child. (3-30-01)

454. RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL PRACTICES.

A foster parent shall provide a child in care with opportunity for spiritual development and cultural practices in accordance with the wishes of the child and the child's parent or tribe. (3-30-01)

455. RECREATION.

A foster parent shall provide or arrange access to a variety of indoor and outdoor recreational activities and shall encourage a child to participate in recreational activities that are appropriate for the child's age, interests and ability. (3-30-01)

456. MAIL. A foster parent shall permit a child to send and receive mail in accordance with the mail policy of the children's agency. (3-30-01)

457. -- 469. (RESERVED).

470. RECORD MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

A foster parent shall maintain a record for each child in the home that will include all written material provided to the foster home by the children's agency and additional information gathered by the foster parent. This shall include: (3-30-01)

01. Personal Data. The child's name, gender, date of birth, religion, race and tribe, if applicable; (3-30-01)

02. History of Abuse and Neglect. Any known history of abuse or neglect of the child; (3-30-01)

03. Emotional and Psychological Needs. Any known emotional and psychological needs of the child; (3-30-01)

04. Health. Any information known about the child's health; and (3-30-01)

05. Behavioral Problems. Any known behavioral problems of the child; (3-30-01)

471. REPORTING FOSTER HOME CHANGES.

A foster parent shall report to the children's agency any significant change in the foster home by the next working day from the time a foster parent becomes aware of a change, including the following: (3-30-01)

01. Illness, Injury, or Death. Serious illness, injury, or death of a foster parent or a member of the household. (3-30-01)

02. Arrests, Citations, Withheld Judgments or Criminal Convictions. Any arrests, citations, withheld judgments, or criminal convictions of a foster parent or member of the household. (3-30-01)

03. Parole and Probation. Initiation of court-ordered parole or probation of a foster parent or member of the household. (3-30-01)

04. Admission or Release From Facilities. Admission to, or release from, a correctional facility, a hospital, or an institution for the treatment of an emotional, mental health, or substance abuse issue of a foster parent or member of the household. (3-30-01)

05. Employment. A change of employment status of a foster parent. (3-30-01)

06. Counseling, Treatment or Therapy. Counseling or other methods of therapeutic treatment on an outpatient basis for an emotional, mental, or substance abuse issue of a foster parent or member of the household. (3-30-01)

07. Change of Residence. A foster parent shall inform the children's agency of any planned change in residence and submit an application for licensure at the new address not less than two (2) weeks prior to a change in residence. (3-30-01)

08. Additional Licensing Application. A foster parent shall notify the children's agency within five (5) calendar days after filing an application for a certified family home, day care, or group day care license. (3-30-01)

472. CONFIDENTIALITY.

A foster parent shall maintain the confidentiality of any information and records regarding a foster child and the child's parents and relatives. A foster parent shall release information about the foster child only to persons authorized by the children's agency responsible for the foster child. (3-30-01)

473. UNUSUAL INCIDENT NOTIFICATION.

The foster parent shall immediately notify the responsible children's agency of any of the following incidents: (3-30-01)

01. Death. Death of a child in care. (3-30-01)

02. Suicide. Suicidal ideation, threats, or attempts to commit suicide by the foster child. (3-30-01)

03. Missing. When a foster child is missing from a foster home. (3-30-01)

04. Illness. Any illness or injury that requires hospitalization of a foster child. (3-30-01)

05. Law Enforcement Authorities. A foster child's detainment, arrest, or other involvement with law enforcement authorities. (3-30-01)

06. Removal of Child. Attempted removal or removal of a foster child from the foster home by any person who is not authorized by the children's agency. (3-30-01)

474. -- 499. (RESERVED).