

5101:2-48-11.1 **Foster caregiver adoption of a foster child who has resided with the caregiver for at least twelve consecutive months.**

- (A) When a foster caregiver expresses the desire to adopt a foster child who is and has been resided residing with the foster caregiver for at least twelve consecutive months, ~~prior to the date the foster caregiver submits the application to adopt to the agency, the PCSA, PCPA or PNA~~ the public children services agency (PCSA), private child placing agency (PCPA) or private noncustodial agency (PNA) shall provide the foster caregiver with a JFS 01692, "~~Ohio Department of Job and Family Services~~ "Application For Adoption of a Foster Child." A completed JFS 01692, with supporting documentation, shall serve as a shortened homestudy, replacing the JFS 01673, "~~Ohio Department of Job and Family Services assessment~~ "Assessment for Child Placement (Homestudy)" required by rule 5101:2-48-12 of the Administrative Code.
- (B) The PCSA, PCPA, or PNA shall inform the foster caregiver that consideration will be given to their application provided that the placement is in the best interest interests of the child pursuant to rule 5101:2-48-16 of the Administrative Code. ~~A child shall only be placed into an adoptive home which meets the child's best interest and special needs, based on, but not limited to, the information contained in the child study inventory, child's case plan, adoptive family homestudy, and the JFS 01689 "Documentation of the Placement Decision Making Process." Regardless of geographic location, the following preferential order shall be given when considering a child for adoptive placement:~~
- ~~(1) All adult relatives of the child who have expressed an interest in adopting the child and meet all relevant state child protection standards unless the agency determines that the placement is not in the child's best interest.~~
  - ~~(2) The child's foster caregiver who has expressed an interest in adopting the child unless the agency determines that the placement is not in the best interest of the child.~~
  - ~~(3) Approved adoptive families.~~
  - ~~(4) Placing siblings together, unless it is not in the best interest of one or more members of the sibling group.~~
- (C) Upon receipt of a completed JFS 01692, the PCSA, PCPA, or PNA shall review the application with the foster caregiver. A PCSA, PCPA, or PNA shall not require the foster caregiver to undergo a BCII check as a condition of acceptance or approval of the application for adoption of a foster child; however, the agency shall inform the foster caregiver that a criminal records check is required before a court ~~may~~ issues a final decree of adoption ~~of or an~~ interlocutory order of adoption.
- (D) A PCSA, PCPA, or PNA that receives a completed JFS 01692; "Application for

Adoption of a Foster Child" shall provide the foster caregiver with both of the following information:

- (1) ~~The Information about the~~ requirement for adoption training as outlined in rule 5101:2-48-09 of the Administrative Code; ~~and~~
  - (2) ~~The Information about the~~ application process and eligibility requirements of Title IV-E adoption assistance, state adoption maintenance, ~~state special services subsidy~~, post adoption special services subsidy, and non-recurring adoption expenses.
- (E) ~~The~~ Prior to the approval of the adoption homestudy, the PCSA, PCPA or PNA shall document in the case file that the foster caregiver has fulfilled the required adoption training as outlined in rule 5101:2-48-09 of the Administrative Code.
- (F) The PCSA, PCPA or PNA shall compile and review all of the following information to determine the appropriateness of the foster caregiver for adoptive placement:
- (1) JFS 01653; "Medical Statement for Foster Care/Adoptive Applicant and All Household Members";
  - (2) JFS 01349; "~~Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Foster Home Homestudy~~" or the JFS 01673; "~~Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Assessment for Child Placement (Homestudy)~~" as applicable;
  - (3) All JFS 01385; "~~Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Assessment for Child Placement Update,~~" if applicable;
  - (4) Foster home record;
  - (5) BCII and/or FBI criminal record check; ~~and~~
  - (6) Case record information documented by the placement worker's visits to the foster home.
- (G) ~~The PCSA, PCPA, or PNA shall process the completed JFS 01692 and follow the approval or denial procedures found in paragraphs (G) to (I) of rule 5101:2-48-12 of the Administrative Code.~~
- (G) The PCSA, PCPA or PNA shall process the completed JFS 01692 and the assessor shall arrive at one of the following recommendations:

- (1) Approve the applicant as an adoptive parent for the child who has resided in the applicant's home for at least twelve consecutive months.
  - (2) Deny the application.
- (H) If the decision of the assessor is to approve the applicant as an adoptive parent, the written notification shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:
- (1) Date of approval of the JFS 01692 including the date the approved homestudy will expire.
  - (2) A description of the characteristics of the child or children for whom the applicant is being approved.
- (I) If the decision of the assessor is to deny the applicant for adoption or updated adoptive homestudy, the written notification shall contain both of the following:
- (1) A detailed explanation of the reason for the denial which sets forth all of the reasons upon which it was based.
  - (2) A description of procedures for an agency review pursuant to rule 5101:2-48-24 of the Administrative Code.
- (J) The JFS 01692 shall only be used as an approval for the adoptive placement for the child(ren) for whom the homestudy was conducted. A separate JFS 01692 or JFS 01673, as applicable, shall be used for any other child(ren) that the family is interested in adopting.
- ~~(H)~~(K) Upon approval of the foster caregiver for the adoptive placement, the agency shall follow the adoptive placement procedures as outlined in rule 5101:2-48-16 of the Administrative Code.

Effective:

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Certification

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Date

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