

5101:2-48-19

Soliciting and releasing adoptive homestudies and related material for consideration of placement.

- (A) A public children services agency (PCSA) or private child placing agency (PCPA) shall only consider approved homestudies that have been forwarded by a PCSA, PCPA, private non-custodial (PNA) or comparable agency of another state. The PCSA or PCPA shall not require additional documentation for the homestudy beyond that which is required by the Administrative Code.
- (B) When approved homestudies are forwarded to a PCSA or PCPA for a specific child, the PCSA or PCPA must consider those homestudies in the same manner in which the agency considers its own homestudies approved within the agency.
- (C) A PCSA and PCPA shall not solicit homestudies from other PCSAs, PCPAs or PNAs for the purpose of locating a family of a specific race, color or national origin.
- (D) A PCSA, PCPA and PNA shall make its homestudies of all families approved to adopt, who are awaiting placement of a special needs child available to any other agency which requests a copy of the homestudy.
- (E) Upon request of the approved adoptive applicant and the execution of an authorization for release of information form, the PCSA, PCPA, or PNA shall release all information contained in the adoption homestudy requested by another agency. Information shall be released within fifteen days after an authorization for such release has been submitted to the PCSA, PCPA or PNA or a request has been made to release the homestudy.
- (F) When an incomplete homestudy is received from an Ohio agency, the sending PCSA shall be notified in writing within ten days from the date of receipt of the incomplete homestudy. The written notification shall indicate what type of information is needed in order for the homestudy to be considered complete and additional information may be requested. Response to the request shall be received within fifteen days from the date of written notification.
- (G) Homestudies from other agencies shall be regularly considered for potential adoption matches until the family is no longer available for adoption, a child has been matched with the family or the homestudy has expired.
- (H) The homestudy, not including reference letters, may be released to the adoptive applicant pursuant to the agency policy.
- (I) The PCSA, PCPA, or PNA may charge reasonable fees for the release of the homestudy and related documents. The PCSA shall not charge any other PCSA a fee for the release of the homestudy and related documents.
- (J) The PCSA, PCPA, or PNA shall integrate all homestudy materials and related documents received from other PCSAs, PCPAs or PNAs into the receiving agency's files of approved homestudies.

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Certification

Date

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