

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 Chapter 5101:2-48 of 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 approved families, who have signed the authorization for release of information form, to any other agency which requests a copy of the homestudy. The homestudy shall be released within fifteen days after a request has been made as long as the authorization for such release has been submitted to the PCSA, PCPA or PNA and any agency policy requirements pursuant to paragraph (I) of this rule have been met.
- (E) Upon request of the approved adoptive applicant to release their homestudy to a specific agency 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 to the designated agency. Information shall be released within fifteen days after a request has been made as long as the authorization for such release has been submitted to the PCSA, PCPA or PNA and any agency policy requirements pursuant to paragraph (I) of this rule have been met.
- (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 as required by Chapter 5101:2-48 of the Administrative Code. 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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