

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: April 17, 2014
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: 1st Floor Lobby Hearing Room, Rhodes State Office Tower
30 East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Pursuant to sections 2151.86, 5103.02, 5103.03, 5103.0316, 5103.0319, 5103.0327 and Chapter 119. of the Ohio Revised Code, the director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services gives notice of the department's intent to consider the amendment of the rules as identified below and of a public hearing thereon. The rules are proposed for amendment as a result of the five year review process.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-02, entitled "General requirements for foster caregivers and applicants" provides guidance to foster caregivers on the requirements needed to be a foster caregiver. Paragraph (V) was amended for clarity. No substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-03, entitled "The care and treatment team" provides guidance to foster caregivers to participate in providing and discussing the care and services provided to a foster child. A new paragraph (D) was added to ensure the foster caregiver does not prohibit the foster child from participating in independent living services. No other substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-04, entitled "Records and confidentiality" provides guidance to foster caregivers regarding the records the caregiver is required to keep. No substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-05, entitled "Sleeping arrangements" provides guidance to foster caregivers about sleeping arrangements in the home of the care giver. No substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-06, entitled "Meals" provides guidance to foster caregivers about meals to be provided to children in care. A new paragraph (A)(6) was added to ensure that if more than four hours elapse between any two meals or if fourteen hours elapse between the evening meal and breakfast, a nutritious snack must be available.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-07, entitled "Health services" provides guidance to foster caregivers regarding health care for children in foster care. Paragraph (B)(2) was amended to clarify that medication for children in care must be kept in the original container.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-09, entitled "Care, supervision and care" provides guidance to foster caregivers on the treatment and supervision required to be provided to a child in care. Paragraphs (D), (E) and (N) were amended to include gender, sexual identity, sexual orientation in the list of discriminatory descriptions.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-10, entitled "Care of a foster child under age two" provides guidance to foster caregivers for the care of a foster child under age two. Paragraph (A) was amended to clarify that the only cribs that can be used in a foster home must be compliant with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-12, entitled "Site and safety requirements for a foster home" provides guidance to foster caregivers on the proper safety items and procedures in a foster home. Paragraph (I) was amended to clarify that storage areas where a child might be confined must be large enough to walk in. Paragraph (Q) was amended to state that all unvented heaters that burn kerosene, gas or oil shall not be used. A new paragraph (W) was added to state that all prescription drugs in a foster home must be stored in a locked cabinet or storage area except that an inhaler or medication may be left unlocked if a person has a special health condition that requires the inhaler or medication to be immediately available.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-13, entitled "Foster home certificate" provides guidance to foster caregivers on the certificate for a foster home. No substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-14, entitled "Required notification" provides guidance to foster caregivers on when to notify the agency in case of certain events. Some items were amended for clarity. No substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-16, entitled "Additional requirements for a treatment foster caregiver and a treatment foster home" provides guidance to foster caregivers about what is needed to provide services to treatment level foster children. No substantive changes were made.

OAC rule 5101:2-7-17, entitled "Additional requirements for a medically fragile foster caregiver and a medically fragile foster home" provides guidance to foster caregivers what is needed to provide services to medically fragile children. Paragraph (D)(2) was amended to add additional types of professionals to the list to be able to house five medically fragile foster children. Other non-substantive changes were made throughout the rule.

A copy of the proposed rule(s) is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rule(s) at the address listed below. The rule(s) is also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. A public hearing on the proposed rule(s) will be held at the date, time, and location listed at the top of this notice. Either written or oral testimony will be taken at the public hearing. Additionally, written comments submitted or postmarked no later than the date of the public hearing will be treated as testimony.

Requests for a copy of the proposed rule(s) or comments on the rule(s) should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Legal and Acquisition Services, 30 East Broad Street, 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414, by fax at (614) 752-8298, or by e-mail at rules@jfs.ohio.gov.