

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
DATE: MARCH 30, 2020
TIME: 10:00AM
LOCATION: Rhodes State Office Tower, Room 3110B,
30 East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Pursuant to sections, 2151.421, 5153.16 and Chapter 119. of the Ohio Amended 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 following rules are subject to five year review.

OAC 5101:2-37-01, "PCSA requirements for completing the safety assessment," sets forth the PCSA requirements in assessing the safety of children when responding to abuse, neglect, and dependency reports. A clarification has been made that the completion of an initial safety assessment does not apply to children in the permanent custody of a PCSA. The form JFS 1401 is not up to date and does not reflect the current CAPMIS safety assessment. The form number has been removed from the rule to encourage PCSAs to utilize the SACWIS system. Requirements addressing the completion of the safety assessment have been streamlined. Time frames to complete the safety assessment have remained the same but additional time to have them approved by a Supervisor and recorded in SACWIS have been developed. Grammatical changes, restructuring the order of paragraphs, and amendments to requirements for consistent understanding have occurred throughout the rule.

OAC 5101:2-37-02, "PCSA requirements for completing the safety plan," sets forth the PCSA requirements in developing a safety plan for a child determined to be in immediate danger of serious harm. The requirements regarding obtaining signatures and monitoring a safety plan have been amended for clarity. A provision has been added to comply with federal CARA requirements. Requirements addressing absent parent situations (primarily due to the increase in substance abuse involved cases), verbal authorizations, extension to obtain a signature, and waiving a signature have been included. Monitoring requirements have been amended to allow Caseworkers more time to spend with the family assessing safety. Monitoring requirements have been amended to clarify when a PCSA should consider alternative safety interventions. Two extra days were allotted to record the safety plan in SACWIS to make it consistent with other rules in this section. Grammatical changes, restructuring the order of paragraphs, and consistency addressing the requirements and expectations have occurred throughout.

OAC 5101:2-37-03, "PCSA requirements for completing the family assessment," sets forth the PCSA requirements in assessing safety and risk of families when responding to intra-familial abuse, neglect, and dependency reports. Alternative response language has been removed from this rule as one family assessment is completed for both alternative and traditional response cases. Requirements to complete assessments involving an individual residing in the home that has regular contact with the child were included. A paragraph was included to clarify the expectation that plans of safe care on CARA involved cases will be documented upon case

closure in the family assessment. Grammatical changes, restructuring the order of paragraphs, and amendments to requirements for consistent understanding have occurred throughout the rule. References to obsolete form numbers have been removed and replaced with the proper name of each tool.

OAC 5101:2-37-04, "PCSA requirements for completing the reunification assessment," sets forth the PCSA requirements in reassessing safety and risk of children who were determined to be in immediate danger of serious harm. Requirements were amended to simplify when a reunification assessment is required to be completed. The criteria that require the completion of a reunification assessment have been removed as it was outlining the existing CAPMIS tool contained in SACWIS. Grammatical changes, restructuring the order of paragraphs, and amendments to requirements for consistent understanding have occurred throughout the rule.

A copy of the proposed rules is available, without charge, to any person affected by the rules at the address listed below. The rules are also available on the internet at <http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us/>. A public hearing on the proposed rules 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 rules or comments on the rules should be submitted by mail to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Legal 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.