

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: September 29, 2022
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Teleconference

Due to COVID-19 precautions this meeting will be held by teleconference. If you would like to submit oral testimony, please call in at the above date and time to 1-614-721-2972. Then enter the meeting I.D. which is 671 534 913#. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to rules@jfs.ohio.gov.

Pursuant to sections 5103.03, 5103.0316 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. These rules are proposed for amendment as a result of the five year review process and recent legislative changes.

OAC 5101:2-5-28 entitled Agency Cause for Denial of Initial Certification, Denial or Recertification or Revocation of a Foster Home Certificate provides guides to agencies on the process for recommending denial or revocation of a foster home. Paragraph (A) was updated for clarity. No substantive changes were made.

OAC 5101:2-5-33 entitled "Foster Caregiver Preplacement and Continuing Training" provides guidance on the training requirements of a foster caregiver. Paragraph (C)(2)(a) was amended to reduce the number of preplacement training hours for a family foster caregiver to twenty-four. The paragraph was also amended to allow up to thirty-six hours. Childhood trauma was also added as a new subject to the paragraph. A new paragraph (C)(2)(b) was added to provide guidance on which topics are required if a caregiver chooses to take twenty-four hours of preplacement training. Paragraph (C)(2)(c) was amended to change preplacement training language regarding independent living for a child who is at least fourteen years of age. Paragraph (C)(2)(d) was amended to reduce the number of continuing training hours for a caregiver from forty hours to thirty hours. The paragraph was also amended to add the required training topics if a caregiver has chosen to complete twenty-four hours of preplacement training and did not complete all topics. These topics must be completed during the first certification period. Paragraph (C)(2)(f) was amended to change continuing training language regarding independent living for a child who is at least fourteen years of age. Paragraph (C)(3)(a) was amended to lower the required preplacement training hours for a specialized foster caregiver from thirty-six to twenty-four. Paragraph (C)(3)(b) was amended to reduce the number of continuing training hours for a caregiver from sixty hours to forty-five hours. The paragraph was also amended to add the required training topics if a caregiver has chosen to complete twenty-four hours of preplacement training and did not complete all topics. These topics must be completed during the first certification period. Paragraph (H) was amended to allow a caregiver and an agency to agree on up to fifteen hours of ongoing training that is provided outside of an approved training program.

OAC 5101:2-5-38 entitled "Payment of foster caregiver training stipends; reimbursement of training allowances to recommending agencies" provides guidance to agencies on agency payment and reimbursement for foster caregiver stipends and training allowances. Paragraph (C)(2) was amended to clarify the number of reimbursable training hours for training stipends.

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. Written testimony may also be submitted electronically to rules@jfs.ohio.gov.

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.