

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

DATE: May 2, 2017
TIME: 10:00 am
LOCATION: Room 3110B, Rhodes State Office Tower
30 East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Pursuant to sections 2151.86, 3107.032, 3107.033, 5103.03, 5103.0316, 5103.54, 5153.16, 5153.166 and Chapter 119. of the 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.

OAC 5101:2-5-13 Required agency policies, plans and procedures sets forth requirements for the policies and practices agencies are required to have in place. Paragraphs (A) and (B) were amended to allow agencies ninety days to submit any revised plans or policies to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). The reference to the Multiethnic Placement Act in paragraph (A)(2) was updated. Paragraph (A)(7) was revised to more accurately describe the notification requirements. Paragraph (E) was added to align with the language in the adoption policy rule.

OAC 5101:2-48-05 Agency adoption policy and recruitment plan sets forth requirements for the policies and practices agencies are required to have in place. A new section was added to paragraph (B)(3) regarding notification requirements. This requirement was previously only in the foster care policy rule, and was added to this rule for clarity. Paragraph (B)(14) was amended to add and clarify policy requirements in relation to state and federal adoption assistance. Paragraph (B)(18) was removed as it was not consistent with current law. The reference to the Multiethnic Placement Act in paragraph (C) was updated. Paragraphs (E) and (H) were amended to allow agencies ninety days to submit any revised plans or policies to ODJFS. Paragraph (I) was amended to state that the fee schedule must not discriminate against adoptive applicants as well as approved adoptive parents. Paragraph (J) was amended to align with the child-specific recruitment requirements in rule 5101:2-48-16.

OAC 5101:2-48-09 Application process and preservice training sets forth requirements for agencies to follow regarding application and training for those interested in adopting. The reference to the Multiethnic Placement Act in paragraph (N) was updated.

OAC 5101:2-48-12 Completion of the adoption homestudy sets forth requirements for assessors and agencies to follow in completing an adoption homestudy. The reference to the Multiethnic Placement Act in paragraph (F) was updated.

OAC 5101:2-48-13 Non-discrimination requirements for adoptive placements sets forth requirements for agencies regarding the actions they can and cannot take in making

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a decision for an adoptive placement. The reference to the Multiethnic Placement Act in paragraph (B) was revised. Paragraph (I) was revised for clarity.

OAC 5101:2-48-24 Agency adoption review procedures sets forth requirements for agencies regarding the procedures for reviewing complaints from adoptive applicants and adoptive families. Paragraph (E) was removed because it was an inaccurate directive. Adoptive families do not have a right to a state hearing if they believe they were denied a placement due to geographic location, however they may request an agency review.

A copy of the proposed rules are 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 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.

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