

FCASMTL 268

Effective Date: April 1, 2010

Most Current Prior Effective Date: August 14, 2008

- (A) A foster caregiver or applicant shall be at least twenty-one years of age at the time of initial certification.
- (B) At least one foster caregiver or applicant in the home shall be able to read, write, and speak in English or be able to effectively communicate with any child placed in their home and with the recommending agency.
- (C) A foster caregiver or applicant may be a legally married couple, a single person or co-parent(s).
- (D) A foster caregiver or applicant shall have an income sufficient to meet the basic needs of the household and to make timely payment of shelter costs, utility bills, and other debts. To show the household has an income sufficient to meet the basic needs of the household and makes timely payment of shelter costs, utility bills, and other debts, a foster ~~care~~ caregiver or applicant shall provide at a minimum:
 - ~~(1) A completed JFS 01681 "Applicant Financial Statement" (rev. 10/2000).~~
 - ~~(2) Proof of income for the household for the most recent tax year prior to the date of application.~~
 - ~~(3) Proof of income for the household for the two most recent months prior to the date of application.~~
 - ~~(4) At least one utility bill for each utility the household utilizes. The bill or bills shall not be older than the date of application.~~
 - (1) For a foster care applicant:
 - (a) A completed JFS 01681 "Applicant Financial Statement" (rev. 10/2000).
 - (b) Proof of income for the household for the most recent tax year prior to the date of application.
 - (c) Proof of income for the household for a two month period. The verification of income shall not be dated more than six months prior to the agency's recommendation for initial certification.
 - (d) At least one utility bill for each utility necessary to maintain the household. The bill or bills shall not be dated more than six months prior to the agency's recommendation for initial certification.
 - (2) For a certified foster caregiver a completed JFS 01681 "Applicant Financial Statement" (rev. 10/2000) if there are any substantial changes to a caregiver's financial situation.
- (E) A foster caregiver or applicant and all members of the foster caregiver's or applicant's household shall be free of any physical, emotional, or mental condition which would endanger a child or seriously impair the ability of the foster caregiver or applicant to care for a foster child.
- (F) An applicant shall have a JFS 01653 "Medical Statement for Foster Care/Adoptive Applicant and All Household Members" ~~(rev. 1/2002)~~ (rev. 6/2009) completed for the applicant and all household members by a licensed physician, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner, or certified nurse-midwife within six months prior to the agency's initial recommendation for certification. Any written documentation of the physical examination shall be completed by the individual who conducted the examination.
- (G) An applicant may be required to secure and provide a report in addition to the JFS 01653 of an examination of any member of the household by a licensed physician, psychologist, or other certified or licensed professional if either of the following are applicable:

- (1) An applicant or any person residing within the household has suffered a serious illness or injury within the past year.
 - (2) The recommending agency determines it to be necessary to ensure the safety, health, or care of any foster child who may be placed in the home.
- (H) Except as provided in paragraph (I) of this rule, a foster caregiver or applicant and all other persons eighteen years of age or older who reside with the foster caregiver or applicant shall not have been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the offenses listed in paragraph (J) of this rule.
- (I) No person who has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense listed in paragraph (J) of this rule shall be certified as a foster caregiver or be an adult resident of the foster caregiver's household unless the recommending agency finds and documents that person has met all of the following conditions:
- (1) Except as provided in paragraph (I)(3) of this rule, ~~Where~~where the offense was a misdemeanor, or would have been a misdemeanor if conviction had occurred under the current criminal code, at least three years have elapsed from the date the person was fully discharged from any imprisonment or probation arising from the conviction. A person who has had his record of misdemeanor conviction sealed by a court pursuant to section 2953.32 of the Revised Code shall be considered to have met this condition.
 - (2) Except as provided in paragraph (I)(3) of this rule, ~~Where~~where the offense was a felony, at least ten years have elapsed since the person was fully discharged from imprisonment or probation.
 - (3) Where an offense was committed by a foster child under the age of twenty-one who remains in the custody of a PCSA or PCPA, the recommending agency may determine the person need not meet the elapsed time period requirements of paragraphs (I)(1) and (I)(2) of this rule.
- ~~(3)~~(4) The victim of the offense was not one of the following:
- (a) A person under the age of eighteen.
 - (b) A functionally impaired person as defined in section 2903.10 of the Revised Code.
 - (c) A mentally retarded person as defined in section 5123.01 of the Revised Code.
 - (d) A developmentally disabled person as defined in section 5123.01 of the Revised Code.
 - (e) A person with a mental illness as defined in section 5122.01 of the Revised Code.
 - (f) A person sixty years of age or older.
- ~~(4)~~(5) The person's certification as a foster caregiver or the person's residency in the foster caregiver's household will not jeopardize in any way the health, safety or welfare of the children the agency serves. The following factors shall be considered in determining the person's certification as a foster caregiver or the person's residency in the foster caregiver's household.
- (a) The person's age at the time of the offense.
 - (b) The nature and seriousness of the offense.
 - (c) The circumstances under which the offense was committed.
 - (d) The degree of participation of the person involved in the offense.
 - (e) The time elapsed since the person was fully discharged from imprisonment or probation.
 - (f) The likelihood that the circumstance leading to the offense will recur.
 - (g) Whether the person is a repeat offender.
 - (h) The person's employment record.
 - (i) The person's efforts at rehabilitation and the results of those efforts.
 - (j) Whether any criminal proceedings are pending against the person.

- (k) Whether the person has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony contained in the Revised Code that is not listed in paragraph (J) of this rule, if the felony bears a direct and substantial relationship to being a foster caregiver or adult member of the caregiver's household.
- (l) Any other factors the agency considers relevant.

(J) Except as provided in paragraph (l) of this rule, a foster caregiver, applicant or other adult resident of the foster caregiver's household shall not have been convicted of or pleaded guilty to, any of the following offenses:

- (1) A violation of section 959.13, 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.15, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.211, 2903.22, 2903.34, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321 (2907.32.1), 2907.322 (2907.32.2), 2907.323 (2907.32.3), 2909.02, 2909.22, 2909.23, 2909.24, 2909.03, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2919.12, 2913.49, 2917.01, 2917.02, 2919.22, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161 (2923.16.1), 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.05, 2925.06, 2927.12, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code that would have been a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, had the violation been committed prior to that date, a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that is not a minor drug possession offense, two or more violations of section 4511.19 of the Revised Code or the equivalent violation from any other state committed within the three years immediately preceding the submission of the application or petition that is the basis of the request, or felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code as listed in appendix A to this rule.
- (2) A violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in paragraphs (J)(1) and (J)(2) of this rule.

(K) If any of the following have a felony conviction for spousal abuse, rape, sexual assault, or homicide, the foster home shall not be certified and no rehabilitation standards exist for:

- (1) An adult resident in the household of a foster caregiver or applicant.
- (2) A foster caregiver.
- (3) A foster care applicant.

~~(K)~~(L) The applicant or foster caregiver shall provide verification to the recommending agency that the conditions specified in paragraph (l) of this rule are met for that person and for all adult members of the household. If the applicant or foster caregiver fails to provide such proof or if the agency determines that the proof offered by the person is inconclusive or insufficient, the applicant shall be denied certification and a foster caregiver's certificate shall be recommended for denial or revocation pursuant to rule [5101:2-5-26](#) of the Administrative Code.

~~(L)~~(M) In accordance with rule [5101:2-5-09.1](#) of the Administrative Code, ~~the agency shall request the conducting of a criminal records check and review the results~~ a criminal records check shall be requested:

- (1) For the foster care applicant and each adult who resides with the foster care applicant in accordance with paragraph (J) of this rule. The results shall be reviewed prior to the agency's recommendation for certification to ODJFS.
- (2) For a certified foster caregiver and each adult who resides with the foster caregiver every four years within six months prior to the upcoming recertification of the caregiver.
- ~~(3) For a household member who reaches the age of eighteen while residing in a certified foster home within ten days of reaching their eighteenth birthday.~~

~~(M)~~(N) For foster caregivers who were certified prior to ~~the effective date of this rule~~ August 14, 2008, a criminal records check pursuant to rule 5101:2-5-09.1 of the Administrative Code for the foster

caregiver and each adult member of the household shall be conducted ~~upon the next scheduled recertification of the caregiver and every four years thereafter upon recertification.~~ in accordance with the following:

- (1) Upon recertification, if it has been four years since the most recent criminal records check and the foster home will be recertified on or before August 14, 2010, the criminal records check shall be requested prior to recertification.
- (2) For currently certified foster caregivers who will be recertified after August 14, 2010, the requirements of paragraph (M) of this rule shall apply.

~~(N)~~(O) Prior to certification or recertification, the foster care applicant subject to a criminal records check shall notify the recommending agency of the revocation of any foster home license, certificate, or other similar authorization in another state occurring within the five years prior to the date of application to become a foster caregiver in this state.

- (1) The failure of a foster care applicant to notify the recommending agency of any revocation of that type in another state that occurred within that five-year period shall be grounds for denial of the person's foster home application or the revocation of the person's foster home certification, whichever is applicable.
- (2) If a person has had a revocation in another state within the five years prior to the date of the application, the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS) shall not issue a foster home certificate to a prospective foster caregiver.

~~(O)~~ ~~An agency shall not approve a foster care applicant on a conditional basis awaiting the results of the criminal records check required by paragraph (L) of this rule. The required criminal records check must be completed prior to an agency recommending a prospective foster caregiver for certification.~~

(P) The provisions of paragraph (I) of this rule must be considered for any applicant or foster caregiver and any other person eighteen years of age or older who resides with the applicant or foster caregiver and who has been convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, one or more of the offenses listed in paragraph (J) of this rule, even if the person's record has been sealed by a court pursuant to section 2953.32 of the Revised Code because the information contained in the sealed record bears a direct and substantial relationship to the care to be provided to any foster child who may be placed in the home.

(Q) A conviction of, or plea of guilty to, an offense listed in paragraph (J) of this rule shall not prevent a person's certification as a foster caregiver or being an adult household member of the home if the person has been granted an unconditional pardon for the offense pursuant to Chapter 2967. of the Revised Code or the conviction or guilty plea has been set aside pursuant to law. "Unconditional pardon" includes a conditional pardon with respect to which all conditions have been performed or transpired.

(R) A foster care applicant shall notify the recommending agency in writing if a person at least twelve years of age, but less than eighteen years of age, residing with the foster care applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the offenses listed in appendix A of this rule, or has been adjudicated to be a delinquent child for committing an act that if committed by an adult would have constituted such a violation.

- (1) If a foster care applicant fails to notify the recommending agency, the recommending agency shall recommend denial of the foster home application to ODJFS.
- (2) ODJFS shall deny a foster home application on the grounds that a person at least twelve years of age but less than eighteen years of age residing with the foster caregiver or foster care applicant has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense listed in appendix A to this rule or has been adjudicated to be a delinquent child for committing an act that if committed by an adult would have constituted such an offense, unless the agency establishes that the delinquent child meets the rehabilitation provisions of paragraphs (I)(3) and (I)(4) of this rule.
- (3) In considering the provisions of paragraphs (I)(3) and (I)(4) of this rule, the agency shall view these provisions considering the age of the delinquent child involved and the age and sex of children that are or would be placed in the foster home.

- (S) A foster caregiver shall not operate a foster home as an adult boarding or rooming house.
- (T) A foster caregiver shall obtain written approval from the recommending agency prior to conducting any business, or allowing any business to operate, including public or private babysitting services, in a foster home.
- (U) A foster caregiver shall not provide or allow public or private babysitting services in a foster home when more than ten children, including foster, natural or adoptive children are present and under the supervision of the foster caregiver at any one time. Any foster caregiver that is an approved or certified type B family day care home provider shall follow the requirements for approval or certification as a type B family day care home.
- (V) A foster caregiver or applicant shall not apply for licensure as a type A family day care home.
- (W) A specialized foster caregiver or specialized foster care applicant shall not apply for certification as a type B family day care home.
- (X) A foster caregiver or applicant shall obtain an approved inspection by a state certified fire safety inspector or the state fire marshal's office certifying that the foster home is free from conditions hazardous to the safety of foster children. The approval must have occurred within six months prior to the initial recommendation for certification of the applicant's home by the agency and within ninety days of any change of address of the foster home.
- (Y) If the applicant or foster caregiver is unable to obtain an inspection as required by paragraph ~~(T)~~ (X) of this rule due to the unavailability of a state certified fire safety inspector or the state fire marshal's office, they shall notify the agency.
- (Z) A foster caregiver or applicant shall complete all preplacement and continuing training as required by rule [5101:2-5-33](#) of the Administrative Code and any additional hours of training required by the recommending agency's written training plan.
- (AA) A foster caregiver or applicant shall comply with all agency policies or instructions including cooperating fully with the agency during the certification or recertification process.

Appendix 1: Offenses Listed In Paragraph (J) (1) of Rule 5101:2-7-02 of the Administrative Code

[Click here to view the Offenses Listed In Paragraph \(J\) \(1\) of Rule 5101:2-7-02 of the Administrative Code](#)

Effective: 04/01/2010

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 05/01/2011

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 02/26/2010

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 2151.86, 5103.03, 5103.0319, 5103.0327

Rule Amplifies: 2151.86, 5103.02, 5103.03, 5103.0319

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 7/1/00, 1/1/03, 12/11/06, 8/14/08

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: January 1, 2003

- (A) A foster caregiver shall work cooperatively with agency representatives as a member of a care and treatment team responsible for planning, providing and discussing the care and services provided to a foster child and shall fully disclose all information related to a foster child's problems or progress to agency representatives.
- (B) As a member of the care and treatment team, a foster caregiver shall participate in ~~an annual~~ review with the recommending agency once every two years to evaluate the strengths and growth areas of the foster home and of the support services of agency representatives to the foster caregiver.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall work cooperatively with agency representatives in the conduct of an independent living skills assessment on an age appropriate foster child, and, as requested, provide instruction to a foster child on independent living skills.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 1/1/03.

[FCASMTL 236](#)

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: [January 1, 2003](#)

- (A) A foster caregiver shall maintain a record on each foster child which shall include:
- (1) A copy of the current child care agreement between the agency and the foster home and any written case plan provided by the agency;
 - (2) Reports of scholastic performance that must include: ~~including report cards, diplomas, and certificates of achievement or merit;~~
 - (a) Report cards.
 - (b) Diplomas.
 - (c) Certificates of achievement or merit.
 - (3) Medical information provided by a foster child's physician and by the placing agency, and current instructions regarding a foster child's health care;
 - (4) The name and telephone number of the recommending agency contact person or the custody holding person or agency as applicable;
 - (5) Data which is pertinent to the foster child's life-book as referenced in rule [5101:2-42-67](#) of the Administrative Code.
- (B) A foster caregiver shall give a foster child's record and all other official documents regarding the foster child to the agency when the foster child leaves the home.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall not disclose or knowingly allow the disclosure of any information regarding a foster child or the foster child's family to persons not directly involved in the foster child's care and treatment on an official basis.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5102.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 1/1/03.

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: January 1, 2003

- (A) The presence of a foster child in a foster home shall not cause any other resident of the home to be deprived of a bed or bedroom.
- (B) A bedroom for foster children shall:
- (1) Have at least one outside wall window that should be screened and capable of opening and closing, unless the room is provided with a ventilation system which provides fresh air;₂
 - (2) Accommodate no more than four children;₂
 - (3) Include storage space for personal belongings and closet or dresser space for clothing;₂
 - (4) Provide a safe and comfortable sleeping area ensuring reasonable privacy and access to adult supervision, as appropriate to the age and functioning level of each foster child. ~~A foster home recommended for initial certification after July 1, 2000 shall not have the entry to a foster child's bedroom located so as to require the foster child to pass through another bedroom or a bathroom in order to enter his bedroom or to require another person to pass through the foster child's bedroom to enter another room;~~
 - (5) Not have the entry to a foster child's bedroom located so as to require the foster child to pass through another bedroom or a bathroom in order to enter his or her bedroom or to require another person to pass through the foster child's bedroom to enter another room if the foster home was recommended for initial certification after July 1, 2000.
 - ~~(5)(6)~~ Have floor-to-ceiling walls and a standard door;₂
 - ~~(6)(7)~~ Be provided with reasonable access to an emergency exit;₂
 - ~~(7)(8)~~ Not be on a floor higher than the second floor or in a basement unless approved in writing by a fire safety inspector. ~~In addition, all bedrooms for foster children shall be comparable in appearance in terms of wall coverings, floor coverings, and general decor to other bedrooms used by other children residing in the foster home;~~
 - (9) Be comparable in appearance in terms of wall coverings, floor coverings, and general decor to other bedrooms used by other children residing in the foster home.
 - ~~(8)(10)~~ Approved by the agency prior to placement.
- (C) A foster child shall not share a bedroom with a child of the opposite sex, except when all children sharing the room are under the age of five years, or when a foster child who is also a parent is sharing a bedroom with his or her own child.
- (D) A foster child over one year of age shall not share a sleeping room with an adult without prior approval of the recommending agency.
- (E) Each foster child shall be provided with a clean, comfortable, permanent bed and mattress of his or her own. A permanent bed is one that cannot be converted to any other form.
- (F) A bunk bed in use shall be equipped with safety rails on the upper tier for a child under the age of ten or for any child whose physical, mental, or emotional condition indicates the need for such protection. A bed shall not be bunked higher than two tiers. A child under six years of age shall not sleep on the upper bunk of a bunk bed.
- (G) A foster caregiver shall provide each foster child with clean bed linen at least once per week or more frequently if needed. A foster child shall not be required to sleep on a bed soiled by urine or excrement.

(H) Unless there is a documented medical reason for a foster child over two years of age or thirty-five inches in height to continue to sleep in a crib, the child shall be provided with a toddler bed or standard bed.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03.

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03.

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 7/1/00, 1/1/03, 12/11/06.

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: January 1, 2003

- (A) A foster home shall comply with the following meal requirements: ~~Each foster child shall be provided with three meals a day served at regular intervals and conforming to any religious dietary restrictions or other dietary restrictions or special instructions imposed by the foster child's physician. Food provided to a foster child shall be nutritious, well-balanced, and available in sufficient quantity.~~
- (1) Each foster child shall be provided with three meals a day.
 - (2) Each meal shall be served at regular intervals.
 - (3) Each meal shall conform to any religious dietary restrictions or any other dietary restrictions.
 - (4) Each meal shall be provided in accordance with any special instructions prescribed by the foster child's physician.
 - (5) Food provided to a foster child shall be nutritious, well-balanced, and available in sufficient quantity.
- (B) A foster child shall eat with other members of the foster home.
- (C) Each foster home shall use milk that meets the requirements of state laws and local ordinances or regulations for pasteurized or certified milk.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 1/1/03.

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: January 1, 2003

- (A) A foster caregiver shall be responsible for following instructions of the agency which placed the child for providing health care services to each foster child.
- (B) A foster caregiver shall adhere to the following instructions surrounding medications for a foster child: administer or supervise the administration of prescription drugs to a foster child only for whom the medication was prescribed and according to the prescribing physician's instruction.
- (1) A foster caregiver shall administer or supervise the administration of prescription drugs to a foster child only for whom the medication was prescribed and according to the prescribing physician's instruction.
- ~~(4)~~(2) Prescription drugs shall be kept in a container, labeled with the foster child's name, the correct dosage and relevant instructions.
- (3) All prescription drugs in a foster home shall be stored in a locked cabinet or storage area except that an inhaler or medication may be available to a person with a special health condition, who may need these for an emergency.
- ~~(2)~~(4) Prescribed drugs shall be disposed of in a safe manner when the prescription is no longer current.
- ~~(3)~~(5) Any side effects of prescription drugs shall be reported immediately to the prescribing physician and the recommending agency.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.02, 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 1/1/03

FCASMTL 204

Effective Date: October 8, 2007

Most Current Prior Effective Date: September 1, 2002

- (A) A foster caregiver shall be responsible for the full-time care of a foster child. This does not ~~both~~ prohibit both foster caregivers in the case of a couple, co-parents or a single foster caregiver from working outside the home.
- (B) Alternative arrangements for the care of a foster child by someone other than the foster caregiver shall be approved by the recommending agency.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall have prior written approval by the recommending agency of a plan for the care of a foster child in emergency situations.
- (D) A foster caregiver shall have prior written approval by the recommending agency of a statement for each foster child specifying whether or not the foster child may be left unattended and, if so, for what period of time.
- (E) When a foster caregiver arranges for a foster child to be cared for in a ~~day-care~~ child care center or by a type A or type B family day-care home child care provider that is required to be certified according to Chapter 5101:2-12, 5101:2-13, or 5101:2-14 of the Administrative Code, as applicable, the foster caregiver shall provide documentation to the recommending agency that the ~~day-care~~ child care center or type A or type B ~~family day-care home~~ child care provider is currently licensed or certified.
- (F) When a foster caregiver of a specialized foster home requests respite care, it shall be provided in accordance with paragraph (A)(16) of rule **5101:2-5-13** of the Administrative Code.

Effective: 10/08/2007

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 06/29/2007 and 06/30/2012

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 09/04/2007

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 9/1/02

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: December 11, 2006

- (A) A foster caregiver shall treat each foster child with kindness, consistency, and respect.
- (B) A foster caregiver shall not discriminate in providing care and supervision to foster children on the basis of race, sex, religion, color or national origin.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall provide humane, instructive discipline appropriate to the age and functioning level of a foster child.
 - (1) Disciplinary methods shall stress praise and encouragement for desired behavior rather than punishment;.
 - (2) All rules and expectations made by a foster caregiver shall be explained to a foster child in a manner appropriate to the child's age and understanding during the child's initial orientation and prior to any disciplinary action for violations of such rules;.
 - (3) A foster child shall not be punished for actions over which the child has no control;.
 - (4) A foster child shall not be punished for bed-wetting or in the course of toilet training activities.
- (D) A foster caregiver shall not subject a foster child to verbal abuse or swearing; to derogatory remarks about foster children, their families, their races, their sex, their religion, their color or their national origin; or to threats of physical violence or removal from the foster home.
- (E) A foster caregiver shall not use any of the following practices for a foster child:
 - (1) Physical hitting or any type of physical punishment inflicted in any manner upon the body such as spanking, paddling, punching, shaking, biting, hair pulling, pinching, or rough handling;.
 - (2) Physically strenuous work or exercises, when used as a means of punishment;.
 - (3) Requiring or forcing a foster child to take an uncomfortable position, such as squatting or bending, or requiring a foster child to repeat physical movements when used as a means of punishment;.
 - (4) Denial of social or recreational activities for excessive or prolonged periods of time, as defined by the agency;.
 - (5) Denial of social or casework services, medical treatment, or educational services;.
 - (6) Deprivation of meals;.
 - (7) Denial of visitation or communication rights with the family of the foster child as a means of punishment;.
 - (8) Denial of sleep;.
 - (9) Denial of shelter, clothing, bedding or restroom facilities.
- (F) Physical restraint of a foster child shall only be utilized by a caregiver who has received specific training and annual review in acceptable methods of restraint. Documentation of such training shall be contained in the foster home record.
- (G) Physical restraint may be used by a caregiver:
 - (1) For self protection.
 - (2) For protection of the child from self-destructive behavior.
 - (3) To protect another person from a foster child.

- (H) A foster caregiver shall use only the least restrictive physical restraint necessary to control a situation. A foster caregiver shall not use any device to prevent or restrict movement as punishment or for staff convenience.
- ~~(I) The recommending agency shall be notified by the caregiver immediately following the use of physical restraint. A detailed written report of the incident shall be submitted by the caregiver to the recommending agency within twenty-four hours following the use of physical restraint. The recommending agency shall notify the placing agency (if different) immediately upon receipt of the detailed written report from the caregiver. A copy of the written report shall be placed in the foster child's record and in the foster caregiver's record.~~
- (I) If physical restraint is used, a foster caregiver shall:
- (1) Notify the recommending agency immediately following the use of physical restraint.
 - (2) Submit a detailed written report to the recommending agency within twenty-four hours following the use of physical restraint.
- (J) If the foster caregiver notifies the recommending agency that the caregiver used physical restraint, the recommending agency shall:
- (1) Notify the placing agency (if different) within twenty-four hours of the receipt of the detailed written report of the use of physical restraint from the caregiver.
 - (2) Place a copy of the written report of the use of physical restraint from the caregiver in the foster child's record and in the foster caregiver's record.
- ~~(K) A foster caregiver shall not use any form of chemical or mechanical restraint on a foster child.~~
- ~~(L) Any act of omission or commission by a foster caregiver or other member of the household which results in any of the following toward a foster child shall be grounds for the denial or revocation of a foster home certificate: the death, injury, illness, abuse, neglect or exploitation of a foster child shall be grounds for the denial or revocation of a foster home certificate. This may be a recommendation of the agency supervising a foster home or the Ohio department of job and family services.~~
- (1) Death.
 - (2) Injury.
 - (3) Illness.
 - (4) Abuse.
 - (5) Neglect.
 - (6) Exploitation.
- (M) Any recommendation to revoke the certificate of a foster caregiver may be made by the recommending agency supervising a foster home or the Ohio department of job and family services.
- ~~(N) A foster caregiver shall ensure that each foster child placed in the foster home who is not capable of meeting their own personal hygiene needs is clean and groomed daily. A foster child's clothing and footwear shall be clean, well-fitting, seasonal and appropriate to the child's age and sex. Foster children capable of meeting their own personal hygiene needs shall be provided with adequate personal toiletry supplies appropriate to the child's age, sex, race and national origin. A foster caregiver shall provide each foster child instruction on good habits of personal care, hygiene, and grooming appropriate to the child's age, sex, race, national origin and need for training. Concerning the hygiene needs of a foster child, the foster caregiver shall:~~
- (1) Ensure that:
 - (a) Each foster child's clothing and footwear shall be clean, well-fitting, seasonal and appropriate to the child's age and sex.

(b) Each foster child capable of meeting their own personal hygiene needs shall be provided with adequate personal toiletry supplies appropriate to the child's age, sex, race and national origin.

(2) Provide each foster child instruction on good habits of personal care, hygiene, and grooming appropriate to the child's age, sex, race, national origin and need for training.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.02, 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 7/1/00, 1/1/03, 12/11/06.

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: December 11, 2006

- (A) A foster child ~~who is~~ under two years of age or under thirty-five inches in height shall be provided with a full-sized crib which meets the following requirements:
- (1) Crib slats shall be no more than two and three-eighths inches apart.
 - (2) Decorative cutout areas on crib end panels which could entrap the head of a child ~~shall not be~~ are not permitted.
 - (3) Locks and latches on the drop side of a crib shall be safe and secure from accidental release or release by the child inside the crib.
 - (4) Each crib shall have a firm mattress which is at least one and one-half inches thick and covered with a waterproof material not dangerous to a child. The mattress shall fit close enough in the frame so that there is no more than one inch between the mattress and the sides of the crib.
- (B) A bassinet or cradle may be used only for infants ~~under three months of age or~~ less than fifteen pounds in weight.
- (C) A foster child under two years of age shall be provided with the following: ~~given regular opportunities for individual attention and physical contact with a caring adult. A foster child under two years of age shall be given consistent and regular opportunities for safe and comfortable participation in developmental activities such as sitting, crawling, walking and playing as appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability.~~
- (1) Regular opportunities for individual attention and physical contact with a caring adult.
 - (2) Consistent and regular opportunities for safe and comfortable participation in developmental activities, as appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability, such as:
 - (a) Sitting.
 - (b) Crawling.
 - (c) Walking.
 - (d) Playing.
- (D) A foster child under two years of age shall be supplied with safe play items appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability.
- (E) A foster child under two years of age shall be fed according to instructions from the child's physician or the recommending agency as required by the individual child care agreement. A foster caregiver shall comply with the following requirements when feeding a child under the age of two: ~~For feeding, a foster child under two years of age shall either be placed in a highchair, infant seat, or held, as appropriate to age. No foster child shall be placed in a crib or bassinet for feeding. At no time shall a bottle be propped for feeding.~~
- (1) A caregiver shall ensure the child is placed in one of the following:
 - (a) High chair.
 - (b) Infant seat.
 - (c) Held.
 - (2) No foster child shall be placed in a crib or bassinet for feeding.
 - (3) A bottle shall not be propped for feeding at any time.

~~(F) If a foster child under two years of age continually creates a danger to him or her self by climbing out of his/her crib and the foster caregiver, the custodial agency, and the recommending agency, if different, agree that the child should not continue to sleep safely in a crib, the child may use a toddler bed or other type of standard bed for sleeping, except that the child may not use the upper bunk of a bunk bed. Written documentation of any such agreement shall be signed by a custodial agency representative and maintained in the foster caregiver's record.~~

(F) Under both of the following conditions, a foster child under the age of two years may use a toddler bed or standard bed for sleeping:

(1) The foster caregiver, the custodial agency, and the recommending agency agree that the child continually creates a danger to him or her self by climbing out of his or her crib. Written documentation of any agreement shall be signed by a custodial agency representative and maintained in the foster caregiver's record.

(2) The child shall not use the upper bunk of a bunk bed.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 9/1/02, 12/11/06.

FCASMTL 204

Effective Date: October 8, 2007

Most Current Prior Effective Date: September 1, 2002

- (A) A foster caregiver shall allow privileges and assign responsibilities to a foster child similar to those which would be assigned to a family member of the foster caregiver who is of similar age and functioning level.
- (B) A foster caregiver shall make arrangements with the placing agency for each school-age foster child to attend a school which complies with the minimum standards as prescribed by the state board of education and shall ensure that the foster child attends school in accordance with the child care agreement. A foster caregiver that provides home schooling for a foster child shall do so only with the approval of the child's custodial agency. Any home schooling program used by a foster caregiver shall be approved by the public school district in which the caregiver resides.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall encourage a foster child to participate in community, school, recreational, and cultural heritage activities which are appropriate to ~~his~~ the child's age and functioning level and shall, as is necessary and reasonable, arrange appropriate transportation for the foster child to and from such activities.
- (D) A foster caregiver shall permit a foster child to practice the chosen religious faith of the foster child or ~~his~~ the foster child's parents, unless it is determined and documented in the child's case plan by the custodial agency that it is not in the child's best interests; and a foster caregiver shall not subject a foster child to any form of religious coercion.
- (E) A foster child shall not be baptized or submitted to any religious procedures without prior consent of the child according to their age and functioning level and prior approval of the foster child's parent, guardian or custodian.
- (F) A foster caregiver shall, as appropriate, teach a foster child tasks and skills required for life in the community.

Effective: 10/08/2007

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 06/29/2007 and 06/30/2012

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 09/04/2007

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/191, 9/1/02

FCASMTL 262

Effective Date: March 1, 2010

Most Current Prior Effective Date: August 1, 2009

- (A) A foster home and all structures on the grounds of the home shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition and in a reasonable state of repair.
- (B) Outdoor recreation equipment on the grounds of a foster home shall be maintained in a safe state of repair.
- (C) Outdoor areas on the grounds of or immediately adjacent to a foster home which are potentially hazardous to a foster child placed in the home shall be reasonably safeguarded, considering the age and functioning level of the foster child. Such areas include, but are not limited to:
 - (1) Water areas, including lakes, ponds, rivers, quarries and swimming pools.
 - (2) Open pits and wells.
 - (3) Cliffs and caves.
 - (4) High-speed or heavily traveled roads.
- (D) A foster home shall be adequately heated, lighted and ventilated.
- (E) The following shall be stored in a safe manner:
 - (1) Bleach.
 - (2) Cleaning materials.
 - (3) Poisonous or corrosive household chemicals.
 - (4) Flammable and combustible materials.
 - (5) Potentially dangerous tools or utensils.
 - (6) Electrical equipment in or on the grounds of a foster home.
 - (7) Machinery in or on the grounds of a foster home.
- (F) A foster home shall comply with the following requirements regarding weapons:
 - (1) The following weapons kept on the grounds of or in a foster home shall be stored in an inoperative condition in a locked area inaccessible to children:
 - (a) Firearms.
 - (b) Air rifles.
 - (c) Hunting slingshots.
 - (d) Any other projectile weapon.
 - (2) All ammunition, arrows or projectiles for such weapons shall be stored in a separate locked space.
 - (3) Any foster caregiver who is also a law enforcement official and can document that their jurisdiction requires them to have ready and immediate access to their weapon shall be exempt from the requirements of this paragraph.
- (G) A foster home shall have a working telephone or be able to demonstrate to the recommending agency reasonable access to a working telephone for emergency situations.
- (H) Appropriate emergency telephone numbers including fire, police, ambulance, poison control, the recommending agency, and each agency with a foster child placed in the home shall be posted in a prominent place in a foster home.

- (I) All locks to at least one door to any room or storage area inside a foster home in which a person could become confined, and from which the only other means of exit requires the use of a key, shall be able to be unlocked from either side. Locking of the children's bedroom doors while children are sleeping is prohibited. Locking of outside doors and fencing around a yard or outside play area is permitted.
- (J) A foster home shall have a continuous supply of safe drinking water. Well water used for drinking and cooking shall be tested and approved by the health department prior to initial certification and annually thereafter.
- (K) A foster home shall have working bathroom and toilet facilities located within the home and connected to an indoor plumbing system.
- (L) Garbage shall be disposed of on a regular basis. Garbage stored outside shall be in covered containers or closed bags.
- (M) A foster home shall have a working smoke alarm approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory" on each level of occupancy of the home.
- (N) A foster caregiver shall have a written evacuation plan for evacuating the home or seeking shelter in the event of fire, tornado or other disaster. This evacuation plan shall contain a primary and alternate escape route for each floor. A foster caregiver shall provide initial orientation and ongoing instruction on the contents of this plan to each foster child in accordance with the foster child's age and functioning level.
- (O) All escape routes shall be kept free of clutter and other obstructions.
- (P) Household heating equipment used in a foster home shall be equipped with appropriate safeguards in accordance with the age and functioning level of any foster child in the home.
- (Q) Unvented kerosene heaters may be used, if the heater has been approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory," and they are not prohibited by any local zoning ordinances.
- (R) A foster home shall have an "Underwriter's Laboratory" approved portable fire extinguisher in working order in or near the cooking area of the home.
- (S) Pets or domestic animals in or on the premises of a foster home shall be kept in a safe and sanitary manner in accordance with state and local laws.
- (T) A foster child shall be protected from animals potentially dangerous to the child's health and safety in or on the premises of a foster home.
- (U) Interior and exterior stairways accessible to children shall be protected by child safety gates or doors according to the child's age and functioning level.
- (V) A foster home shall provide a smoke free environment for foster children.
 - (1) No smoking shall be permitted in the living area of a foster home or in a vehicle used to transport a foster child when a foster child is present. ~~Smoking on the grounds of a foster home shall be permitted only if all of the following requirements are met:~~
 - ~~(a) Smoking shall not occur in the home or attached building areas.~~
 - ~~(b) All smoking shall be conducted out of the sight of foster children.~~
 - ~~(c) The area where smoking is occurring is so far removed from the foster children that the children cannot inhale any smoke.~~
 - (2) Smoking may be permitted in the home or vehicles used for transporting foster children only when no foster child is present.

Effective: 03/01/2010

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 01/08/2010

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 7/1/00, 1/1/03, 12/11/06, 08/01/09

FCASMTL 236

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: December 11, 2006

- ~~(A)~~ ~~A foster caregiver must terminate the certificate within thirty days of his/her residence being licensed, regulated, approved, operated under the direction of, or otherwise certified by, the department of mental health, the department of alcohol and drug addiction services, a community alcohol, drug addiction and mental health board, the department of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, a county board of mental retardation and developmental disabilities, the health department, or a juvenile court.~~
- ~~(B)~~(A) A foster home shall be recommended for certification by only one recommending agency at a time.
- ~~(C)~~(B) The determination of the specific number, age, and sex of children to be placed in a particular foster home is a joint responsibility of the foster caregiver and the recommending agency based on the agency's assessment of the foster caregiver's capability and physical facilities as required ~~by this chapter~~ in Chapter 5101:2-7 of the Administrative Code.
- ~~(D)~~(C) Nothing in ~~this chapter~~ Chapter 5101:2-7 of the Administrative Code shall be construed as requiring an agency to make or to continue the placement of any child with any foster caregiver solely because of the presence of a current certificate.
- ~~(E)~~(D) A foster home shall not accept a child into care directly from a parent, another certified agency or other legally approved placement source without the participation and agreement of the recommending agency.
- ~~(F)~~(E) If the applicants are married to each other, the foster home certificate shall be in the legal names of both spouses residing in the home.
- ~~(G)~~(F) A transfer of a foster home certificate from one agency to another shall be completed in accordance with rule 5101:2-5-31 of the Administrative Code.
- (G) A foster caregiver shall terminate the certificate within thirty days of his/her residence being licensed, regulated, approved, operated under the direction of, or otherwise certified by any of the following:
- (1) The department of mental health.
 - (2) The department of alcohol and drug addiction services.
 - (3) A community alcohol, drug addiction and mental health board.
 - (4) The department of mental retardation and developmental disabilities.
 - (5) A county board of mental retardation and developmental disabilities.
 - (6) The health department.
 - (7) A juvenile court.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 1/1/03, 12/11/06

FCASMTL 224

Effective Date: August 14, 2008

Most Current Prior Effective Date: December 11, 2006

- (A) A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency in writing prior to allowing any person to reside for more than two weeks in the foster home.
- (B) A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within ~~twenty-four hours in~~ one hour of the caregiver gaining the knowledge of any of the following circumstances involving a foster child:
 - (1) A serious injury or illness involving medical treatment of a foster child~~;~~
 - (2) The death of a foster child~~;~~
 - (3) Unauthorized absence of a foster child from the home~~;~~
 - (4) Removal of a foster child from the home by any person or agency other than the placing agency, or attempts at such removal~~;~~
 - (5) Any involvement of a foster child with law enforcement authorities.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours or the next working day when any fire requiring the services of a fire department occurs within the home.
- (D) A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency and any agency which has placed a foster child in the foster home within twenty-four hours when the foster home becomes uninhabitable for any reason.
- (E) A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours or the next working day of any of the other following circumstances:
 - (1) Any impending change in the marital status of the foster caregiver or in the household occupancy of the home~~;~~
 - (2) Any serious illness or death in the household.
- (F) A foster caregiver shall inform the recommending agency at least four weeks prior to a planned move of the foster caregiver.
- (G) A foster caregiver shall inform the recommending agency within thirty days in writing if the foster caregiver is certified to operate a type B family day care home.
- ~~(G)~~(H) A foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours of any charge of any criminal offense brought against the caregiver or any resident of his home. If the charges result in a conviction, the foster caregiver shall notify the recommending agency within twenty-four hours of the conviction. Failure to notify the agency in either of these circumstances shall result in the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS) seeking an order to revoke the caregiver's certification to operate a foster home.
- ~~(H)~~(I) Pursuant to section 5103.0319 of the Revised Code, a foster caregiver shall also notify the recommending agency in writing within twenty-four hours if a resident of the foster caregiver's home is at least twelve years of age, but less than eighteen years of age, and has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the offenses listed in appendix A to this rule, or has been adjudicated to be a delinquent child for committing an act that if committed by an adult would have constituted such a violation. The notification is also required for any conviction or adjudication of delinquency resulting from a violation of an existing or former law of this state, any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed in appendix A to this rule. If the recommending agency learns that a foster caregiver has failed to comply with this paragraph, it shall notify ODJFS and ODJFS shall revoke the foster caregiver's certification to operate a foster home.

- ~~(H)~~(J) Prior to the expiration date of a foster home certificate, a caregiver shall submit JFS 01331, "Notice of Expiration and Reapplication for a Foster Home Certificate" (rev. ~~4/2003~~12/2006), to the recommending agency.
- ~~(J)~~(K) Failure of a foster caregiver to submit the reapplication form prior to the expiration date of the current foster home certificate shall cause the foster home certificate to expire.
- ~~(K)~~(L) A foster caregiver may voluntarily terminate a foster home certificate for any reason by providing written notice of intent to terminate and the effective date of termination to the recommending agency.

Appendix 1: Offenses Listed in Paragraph (I) of Rule 5101:2-7-14 of the Administrative Code

[Click here to view the Offenses Listed in Paragraph \(I\) of Rule 5101:2-7-14 of the Administrative Code](#)

Effective: 08/14/2008

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 05/30/2008 and 05/01/2011

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 08/04/2008

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 2151.86, 5103.03, 5103.0319

Rule Amplifies: 2151.86, 5103.02, 5103.03, 5103.0319

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 1/1/91, 9/18/96, 7/1/00, 1/1/03, 12/11/06

FCASMTL 261

Effective Date: February 1, 2010

Most Current Prior Effective Date: October 8, 2007

- (A) Any vehicle owned or leased by a foster caregiver and used to transport a foster child shall be maintained in a safe condition and in compliance with all motor vehicle laws. Such vehicles shall be covered by liability insurance in accordance with current state laws.
- (B) A foster caregiver shall ensure that any person transporting a foster child in a motor vehicle shall be licensed to drive that class of vehicle and that such vehicle is maintained in a safe condition according to state laws.
- (C) A foster caregiver shall ensure that a foster child transported in a motor vehicle shall at all times be restrained by a seat belt including both a lap belt and a shoulder belt in vehicles that are so equipped.
- (D) ~~When~~ If the foster child is less than four years old or forty pounds in weight, a child restraint seat secured by a seat belt or the lower anchors and tethers for children (LATCH) system shall be used. The child restraint seat shall be placed in the back seat of any motor vehicle that has a back seat.
- (1) An infant less than one year of age or twenty pounds in weight shall be restrained only in a rear-facing position and whenever possible shall not be placed in the front seat of a motor vehicle equipped with passenger air bags.
- (2) Children at least one year old and between twenty pounds and forty pounds in weight shall be restrained in a forward-facing position.
- (E) If the foster child is less than eight years of age and less than four feet nine inches in height, the child shall be properly restrained in a booster seat if paragraph (D) of this rule does not apply. The booster seat shall be placed in the back of any motor vehicle that has a back seat.
- ~~(E)(F)~~ If paragraph (D) of this rule does not apply and ~~When~~ the foster child is at least ~~four~~ eight years ~~old~~ of age but not older than fifteen years of age and forty pounds in weight and less than eighty pounds or shorter than four feet, nine inches in height, the child shall be restrained in a belt positioning booster seat in a forward-facing position or in a seat belt including both a lap belt and a shoulder belt in vehicles that are so equipped. ~~The booster seat shall be placed in the back seat of any motor vehicle that has a back seat.~~
- ~~(F)(G)~~ All children age twelve and under shall ride in the back seat of a motor vehicle that has a back seat and shall not ride in the front seat of the vehicle unless the vehicle does not have a back seat. If a foster child rides in the front seat of a vehicle as allowed by this rule, the foster caregiver must disable the passenger side airbag if the vehicle is so equipped.
- (H) Paragraphs (C), (D), (E), and (F) of this rule do not apply to the foster caregiver who has a signed affidavit by a licensed physician in Ohio or a licensed chiropractor in Ohio. The affidavit shall state that the child who otherwise would be required to be restrained, has a physical impairment that makes use of a child restraint system, booster seat, or an occupant restraining device impossible or impractical, provided the person operating the vehicle has safely and appropriately restrained the child in accordance with any recommendation of the physician or chiropractor as noted on the affidavit.

Effective: 02/01/2010

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 06/30/2012

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 12/22/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 12/30/66, 10/1/86, 2/1/88, 1/1/91, 9/1/02, 10/8/07.

FCASMTL 224

Effective Date: August 21, 2008

Most Current Prior Effective Date: August 22, 2005

~~In addition to the requirements found in rules 5101:2-7-02 to 5101:2-7-15 of the Administrative Code, a treatment foster home shall meet the following requirements:~~

- (A) A treatment foster caregiver initially certified after the effective date of this rule shall meet at least one of the following requirements: ~~have at least two years of experience as a certified foster caregiver or the equivalent child care experience, education or training as determined by the recommending agency. This requirement shall not apply to a foster caregiver certified prior to January 1, 2003.~~
- (1) A minimum of three hundred sixty-five days of caring for a foster child in placement as a certified foster caregiver.
 - (2) A minimum of sixty hours of training in a classroom setting that complies with the following:
 - (a) For an applicant the training shall be completed within twenty-four months prior to the date of application for initial certification as a specialized caregiver.
 - (b) For a certified caregiver the training shall be completed within twenty-four months of the certified caregiver's written intent to upgrade their certification if the caregiver does not meet the requirement in paragraph (A)(1) of this rule.
 - (c) The training shall relate to children with special or exceptional needs as defined in rule [5101:2-47-18](#) of the Administrative Code.
 - (3) A minimum of five years cumulative experience caring for a child in the home of the foster caregiver or applicant on a daily basis.
 - (4) A minimum of one year of cumulative experience caring for a child who has special or exceptional needs as defined in rule 5101:2-47-18 of the Administrative Code in the home of the foster caregiver or applicant on a daily basis.
- (B) Training requirements for a treatment foster caregiver.
- (1) Each treatment foster caregiver shall successfully complete the number of hours of preplacement and continuing training specified in the recommending agency's training policy required pursuant to rule [5101:2-5-13](#) of the Administrative Code. ~~No fewer than thirty-six hours of preplacement training and no fewer than sixty hours of continuing training during each two year certification period is required for each treatment foster caregiver. A waiver for some continuing training requirements may be approved by a recommending agency if the conditions of paragraph (H) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code are met. All preplacement and continuing training received by a treatment foster caregiver shall be subject to the requirements specified in paragraphs (C)(7) and (C)(8) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code.~~
 - (a) A treatment foster caregiver shall complete at least thirty-six hours of preplacement training and sixty hours of continuing training during each two year certification period.
 - (b) A waiver for some continuing training requirements may be approved by a recommending agency if the waiver meets the conditions of paragraph (J) of rule [5101:2-5-33](#) of the Administrative Code.
 - (c) All preplacement and continuing training received by a treatment foster caregiver shall be subject to the requirements specified in paragraphs (C)(7) and (C)(8) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code.
 - (2) Prior to receiving a child in placement, each treatment foster caregiver shall successfully complete an American red cross or American heart association first aid and adult and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification training program or the equivalent. ~~If foster~~

~~children under the age of three will be placed in the treatment foster home, infant CPR shall be included in the CPR certification. This training may be counted towards the training required by paragraphs (C)(7) and (C)(8) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code. First aid and CPR certification shall be kept current at all times.~~

(a) If foster children under the age of one will be placed in the treatment foster home, infant CPR shall be included in the CPR certification.

(b) This training may be counted towards the training required by paragraphs (C)(7) and (C)(8) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code.

(c) First aid and CPR certification shall be kept current at all times.

(C) Each treatment foster caregiver is a member of the treatment team and shall implement the service plan for each child as prescribed by the recommending agency.

(D) Occupancy limitations for a treatment foster home.

(1) ~~With the exception of the provisions of paragraph (D)(2) of this rule, a~~ A treatment foster caregiver may provide foster care for not more than five foster children, two of whom have exceptional needs requiring their placement in a treatment foster home. Any exceptions to the number of children with exceptional needs to be served, must have specific justification in accordance with the agency's policy for matching foster children and treatment foster caregivers pursuant to rule 5101:2-5-13 of the Administrative Code. Such justification, which may include the need to place a sibling group, or the abilities of a particular family in relation to the special or exceptional needs of a particular child, shall be documented in the child's case record and in the treatment foster home record. If more than two children with exceptional needs are placed in a treatment foster home, all agencies holding custody of any other children placed in the home shall be notified by the treatment foster care program within seventy-two hours of placement.

(2) A treatment foster caregiver who is also an appropriately trained and licensed professional may provide care for not more than five children with special or exceptional needs placed in the caregiver's home if both of the following apply: ~~such as a social worker, professional counselor, psychologist or teacher, or who has a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a child development or social services field and five years of child care experience and training related to serving children in foster care, and whose primary means of support is from reimbursement as a treatment foster caregiver may provide care for not more than five children with special or exceptional needs placed in the caregiver's home.~~

(a) The caregiver has five years of child care experience and training related to serving children in foster care.

(b) The caregiver's primary means of support is from reimbursement as a treatment foster caregiver.

(3) The following shall be considered an appropriately trained and licensed professional as required in paragraph (D)(2) of this rule:

(a) A social worker.

(b) A professional counselor.

(c) A psychologist.

(d) A teacher.

(e) A person who has a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a child development or social services field.

~~(3)~~(4) Children placed in a foster home on or prior to March 31, 2005 shall not be moved to another placement solely to meet the requirements of paragraph (D)(1) or (D)(2) of this rule.

(E) A treatment foster caregiver or at least one member of a treatment foster caregiver couple or co-parent shall have weekly consultation and face-to-face contact at least every two weeks with the

recommending agency's professional treatment staff. At least one of the face-to-face contacts each month shall be in the treatment foster home.

- (F) A treatment foster caregiver shall prepare, and keep current, a written record of the behavior and progress of the child towards achieving the treatment goals as identified in the service plan of each foster child placed in the home as required by the agency.
- (G) Under the direction of the treatment team leader, a treatment foster caregiver shall assume primary responsibility for implementing the in-home treatment strategies specified in the child's service plan and any revisions thereto.
- (H) A treatment foster caregiver shall work cooperatively with the family of the child according to the child's service plan and case plan.
- (I) A treatment foster caregiver shall perform any additional written responsibilities and duties established by the recommending agency for a treatment foster caregiver.
- (J) A treatment foster caregiver shall attend and participate in the treatment team meetings for each child placed in his home. If the treatment foster home certificate is in the name of a couple or co-parents, only one caregiver is required to attend the treatment team meetings unless otherwise specified by the recommending agency.

Effective:

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 05/30/2008

Certification

Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03, 5103.0316

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03, 5103.031, 5103.032, 5103.039

Prior Effective Dates: 1/1/03, 8/22/05

[FCASMTL 236](#)

Effective Date: August 1, 2009

Most Current Prior Effective Date: [August 22, 2005](#)

~~In addition to the requirements found in rules 5101:2-7-02 to 5101:2-7-15 of the Administrative Code, a medically fragile foster home shall meet the following requirements:~~

- (A) A medically fragile foster caregiver ~~initially certified after the effective date of this rule~~ shall have at least two years of experience caring for medically fragile children or the equivalent medically fragile child care experience, education or training as determined by the recommending agency. This requirement shall not apply to a foster caregiver certified prior to January 1, 2003.
- (B) Training requirements for a medically fragile foster caregiver.
- (1) Each medically fragile foster caregiver shall successfully complete the number of hours of preplacement and continuing training specified in the recommending agency's training policy required pursuant to rule [5101:2-5-13](#) of the Administrative Code. ~~No fewer than thirty-six hours of preplacement training and no fewer than sixty hours of continuing training during each two year certification period is required for each medically fragile foster caregiver unless a waiver is approved by the recommending agency pursuant to paragraph (H) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code. All preplacement and continuing training received by a medically fragile foster caregiver shall be subject to the requirements specified in paragraphs (C)(7) and (C)(8) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code.~~
- (a) At least thirty-six hours of preplacement training and sixty hours of continuing training during each two year certification period is required for each medically fragile foster caregiver unless a waiver is approved by the recommending agency pursuant to paragraph (H) of rule [5101:2-5-33](#) of the Administrative Code.
- (b) All preplacement and continuing training received by a medically fragile foster caregiver shall be subject to the requirements specified in paragraphs (C)(8) and (C)(9) of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code.
- (2) Prior to receiving a child in placement, each medically fragile foster caregiver shall successfully complete an American red cross or American heart association first aid and adult and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification training program or the equivalent. If foster children under the age of three will be placed in the medically fragile foster home, infant CPR shall be included in the CPR certification. This training may be counted ~~towards~~ toward the training required by paragraphs ~~(C)(7) and (C)(8) and (C)(9)~~ of rule 5101:2-5-33 of the Administrative Code. First aid and CPR certification shall be kept current at all times.
- (C) Each medically fragile foster caregiver is a member of the treatment team and shall help develop and implement the service plan for each child as prescribed by the recommending agency.
- (D) Occupancy limitations for a medically fragile foster home.
- (1) With the exception of the provisions of paragraph ~~(E)~~(D)(2) of this rule, a medically fragile foster caregiver may provide foster care for not more than five foster children, two of whom may have intensive needs requiring their placement in a medically fragile foster home. ~~Any exceptions to the number of medically fragile foster children to be served, must have specific justification in accordance with the agency's policy for matching foster children and medically fragile foster caregivers pursuant to rule 5101:2-5-13 of the Administrative Code. Such justification, which may include the need to place a sibling group, or the abilities of a particular family in relation to the intensive needs of a particular child, shall be documented in the child's case record and in the medically fragile foster home record. If more than two medically fragile foster children are placed in a medically fragile foster home, all agencies holding custody of any other children~~

~~placed in the home shall be notified by the foster care program within seventy-two hours of placement.~~

- (a) Any exceptions to the number of medically fragile foster children to be served, must have specific justification in accordance with the agency's policy for matching foster children and medically fragile foster caregivers pursuant to rule 5101:2-5-13 of the Administrative Code.
- (b) The justification, which may include the need to place a sibling group, or the abilities of a particular family in relation to the intensive needs of a particular child, shall be documented in the child's case record and in the medically fragile foster home record.
- (c) If more than two medically fragile foster children are placed in a medically fragile foster home, all agencies holding custody of any other children placed in the home shall be notified by the recommending agency of the foster home within seventy-two hours of placement.

(2) A medically fragile foster caregiver who is also an appropriately trained and licensed professional may provide care for not more than five medically fragile foster children placed in the caregiver's home. An appropriately trained and licensed professional is considered one of the following: ~~such as a registered nurse, social worker, professional counselor, psychologist or teacher, or who has a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a child development or social services field and five years of child care experience and training related to serving children in foster care, and whose primary means of support is from reimbursement as a medically fragile foster caregiver, may provide care for not more than five medically fragile foster children placed in the caregiver's home.~~

- (a) A registered nurse.
- (b) A licensed social worker.
- (c) A licensed professional counselor.
- (d) A licensed psychologist.
- (e) A licensed teacher.
- (f) A person who has a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a child development or social services field and five years of child care experience and training related to serving children in foster care.

(3) Children placed in a foster home on or prior to March 31, 2005 shall not be moved to another placement solely to meet the requirements of paragraph (D)(1) or (D)(2) of this rule.

(E) A medically fragile foster caregiver or at least one member of a medically fragile foster caregiver couple or co-parent shall have consultation at least every two weeks and at least monthly face-to-face contact with the recommending agency's professional staff. At least one of the face-to-face contacts every two months shall be in the medically fragile foster home.

(F) A medically fragile foster caregiver shall prepare, and keep current, a written record of each medically fragile child's emotional response to treatment and progress towards achieving the treatment goals as identified in the child's service plan. ~~The written record shall include signed documents of treatment provided by any health care professional, as well as records of any hospitalizations and hospital emergency room or urgent medical care visits. All documentation shall be maintained current and kept in the manner prescribed by the medically fragile foster care program.~~

- (1) The written record shall include signed documents of treatment provided by any health care professional, as well as records of any hospitalizations and hospital emergency room or urgent medical care visits.
- (2) All documentation shall be maintained current and kept in the manner prescribed by the medically fragile foster care program.

- (G) Under the direction of the treatment team leader, a medically fragile foster caregiver shall assume primary responsibility for implementing the in-home treatment strategies specified in the child's service plan and any revisions ~~thereto~~.
- (H) A medically fragile foster caregiver shall work cooperatively with the family of the child according to the child's service plan and case plan.
- (I) A medically fragile foster caregiver shall perform any additional responsibilities and duties established by the recommending agency in writing for a medically fragile foster caregiver.
- (J) A medically fragile foster caregiver shall attend and participate in the treatment team meetings for each child placed in the home. If the foster home for medically fragile children certificate is in the name of a couple or co-parents, only one caregiver is required to attend the treatment team meetings unless otherwise specified by the recommending agency.

Effective: 08/01/2009

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 02/10/2009 and 08/01/2013

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 06/11/2009

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5103.02, 5103.03

Prior Effective Dates: 1/1/03