



# FOSTER CARE PROVIDER POLICY AND STANDARD REVIEW

NORTH DAKOTA DEPT HUMAN SERVICES

FOSTER CARE

SFN 1038 (3-2022)

**Introduction:** Foster care providers will review this list with the assigned Licensing Specialist initially and annually thereafter in efforts to ensure understanding of high-level topics that impact licensing while offering education and clarification on specific law, rule or policy.

## Policy, Procedure and Guidelines

- Foster Parent Handbook <https://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/docs/cfs/foster-parent-handbook.pdf>
- North Dakota State Forms <https://www.nd.gov/eforms>
- Chapter 622-05. Licensing <https://www.nd.gov/dhs/policymanuals/62205/62205.htm>
- Chapter 623-05. Reimbursement <https://www.nd.gov/dhs/policymanuals/62305/62305.htm>
- Chapter 624-05. Permanency <https://www.nd.gov/dhs/policymanuals/62405/62405.htm>
- NDAC 75-03-14. Foster Home Licensing <https://www.ndlegis.gov/information/acdata/pdf/75-03-14.pdf>
- NDCC 50-11. Foster Care <https://www.ndlegis.gov/cencode/t50c11.pdf>
- Importance of Least Restrictive Settings       Safety Framework Practice Model Settings

## Roles and Responsibilities (See Handbook for details)

- Foster Care Provider (You!)       Custodial Agency       Licensing Agency
- Training Centers (CFSTC and NATI)       Juvenile Court

## Licensing Home Study

- Initial Process       Difference Between Foster Care and Adoption
- Renewal Process       Reasons for the Foster Care Home Study

## Changes in the Foster Home

- Household Members (marriage, person moves into home, etc.)
- What to do if you move to a new home
- Licensed foster care provider cannot accept other children to live in the home without consultation with licensing agency (exchange students, niece/nephew, etc.)

## Child Protective Services (CPS)

- Mandated reporting <https://mandatedreporter.pcand.org/>
- CPS Report against a foster parent

## Reasons for Children Needing Foster Care

- Types of care (long term, short term, respite, shelter, emergency, 18 +, on call)
- Circumstance leading to youth entering foster care
- Types of children served (age, needs, cultures)
- Resources and services (Health Tracks, Early Intervention, IEP, individual and family therapy, etc.)

## Potential Circumstances/Needs/Behaviors Children May Present

- Lying       Food allergies/restrictions/ picky       Drug use       Smoking/Vaping       Bedwetting
- Stealing       Destructive/Assaultive       ADHD       Alcohol use       Runaway
- Swearing       Eating disorders       FAS/FAE       Masturbation       Anger
- Poor school participation       Physical/mental disabilities       Emotional disturbances
- Newborn with drug exposure       History of sexual abuse       Medically needy/fragile
- Pregnant/teen parenting       Sexually acting out       Delinquent behaviors
- Assistive communication device       Argumentative       Quiet and Withdrawn
- Developmental Disabilities       Aggressive behaviors       Depression
- LGBTQ or identification as a sexual identity other than birth gender

### Meeting the Needs of Children in Foster Care

- Willingness and ability to work with a child and his/her family on reunification
- Confidentiality
- Understanding of the custodial agency involvement and supervision of children in foster care
- Social media and photography including a child in foster care
- Offer a consistent stable placement setting to avoid unnecessary disruption
- Ongoing communication and consult with the custodial agency, especially when:
  - a. Illness or Injury
  - b. Incident
  - c. Sentinel Event
  - d. High Risk Activities
  - e. Normalcy policy specific to the custodial agency
  - f. Authorization for out-of-state travel
  - g. Authorization for expenditures
  - h. Inability to maintain placement stability for the foster child
- Appropriate Discipline
- Runaway Status
  - a. Reporting if/when a child foster care runs
  - b. Willingness to accept the child back into your home upon location
- Medical
  - a. Physical and Mental Health
  - b. Health Tracks
  - c. Medical Appointments
  - d. Child's medication distribution
  - e. Child's immunizations
- Educational Needs
  - a. School of origin
  - b. IEP if applicable

### Maintaining Child's Family Connections

- Permanency Goal – Reunification or Fit and Willing Relative
- Parent – Child Visits (phone calls, visits, child updates, sending pictures, making a Lifebook)
- Mentoring of Parents
- Relative Search
- Relative Engagement
- Transitioning from your home to a parent/relative
- Maintaining contact with friends or cousins from their home neighborhood
- Making and preserving memories
- Grief and Loss in child's perspective
- Grief and Loss from foster parent's perspective when reunification/plan occurs

### Reimbursements & Irregular Payments

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Reimbursement | <input type="checkbox"/> Daycare                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irregular Payments    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Fees/Activities         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing              | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation to Visit Family |

**Recruitment and Retention**

- Statewide Coalitions
- Respite Care
- Shelter Care/ Safe Bed
- Foster Parents are the best recruiters!!! Do you know others that may be interested in providing foster care to children?

**Acknowledgment**

Foster Care Provider Signature	Date
Foster Care Provider Signature	Date

**Licensing Agency Use Only**

- Licensing Specialist reviewed the document with the foster parent and answered questions as part of the initial or renewal home study visit.

Licensing Specialist Signature	Date
--------------------------------	------