

Title of Proposed Rule: Revisions to Section 7.500 County Department Resource Development

CDHS Tracking #: 21-06-25-01

Office, Division, & Program:
Office of Children, Youth, &
Families

Rule Author: Mary Griffin

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RULEMAKING PACKET

Type of Rule: (complete a and b, below)

- a. Board Executive Director
- b. Regular Emergency

This package is submitted to State Board Administration as: (check all that apply)

- AG Initial Review Initial Board Reading AG 2nd Review Second Board Reading / Adoption

This package contains the following types of rules: (check all that apply)

- Number
- 38 Amended Rules
- 6 New Rules
- 7 Repealed Rules
- X Reviewed Rules - entire section

What month is being requested for this rule to first go before the State Board?	April 2023
What date is being requested for this rule to be effective?	June 30, 2023
Is this date legislatively required?	Yes

I hereby certify that I am aware of this rule-making and that any necessary consultation with the Executive Director's Office, Budget and Policy Unit, and Office of Information Technology has occurred.

Office Director Approval: _____ **Date:** _____

REVIEW TO BE COMPLETED BY STATE BOARD ADMINISTRATION

Comments:

Estimated Dates:	1st Board _____	2nd Board _____	Effective Date _____
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STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE

Summary of the basis and purpose for new rule or rule change.

Explain why the rule or rule change is necessary and what the program hopes to accomplish through this rule.

This rule packet contains proposed revisions for the entire section of the county department of human/social services (herein county department) resource development (12 CCR 2509-6). The 7.500 section contains foster care recruitment, training certification and recertification requirements, specialized group facility requirements, adoption application and services specifically for foster homes that are certified by county department of human services. The rule packet is specific to the administration of procedures completed by the county department. This rule packet is intended to update, revise, and repeal language to reflect current practice.

The Department strives to align county department and child placement agency rules regarding relevant procedures. There is language in the foster care subsection that needs to be updated and revised, such as the time frame for interviews when completing the home study. In addition the specialized group facilities subsection is being repealed because it is duplicative. The need for these facilities is limited and county departments should follow the requirements in Section 7.709 (12 CCR 2509-8).

The county foster care/adoption application and services section was revised to reflect current practice and requirements. Several subsections must be repealed because they are no longer relevant. Finally, the Department established a home study model statewide in 2006 and the home study is used for foster care and adoption. A subsection was developed specifically to address qualifications needed to complete home studies. The subsection also addresses supervision of the person completing the home study.

An emergency rule-making (which waives the initial Administrative Procedure Act noticing requirements) is necessary:

- to comply with state/federal law and/or
- to preserve public health, safety and welfare

Justification for emergency:

N/A

State Board Authority for Rule:

Code	Description
26-1-107(5)(a),(b), C.R.S. (2022)	State Board to promulgate rules.
26-1-109(3), C.R.S. (2022)	State department rules to coordinate with federal programs.
26-1-111, C.R.S. (2022)	State department to promulgate rules for public assistance and welfare activities.

Program Authority for Rule: Give federal and/or state citations and a summary of the language authorizing the rule-making function AND authority.

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Code	Description
26-6-909(1), C.R.S. (2022)	The department shall prescribe and publish standards for facilities, including child placement agencies and foster care homes.
19-1-130, C.R.S. (2022)	Access to services related to out-of-home placement.
19-7-104, C.R.S. (2022)	State Department must promulgate rules that prescribe specified subjects in training for foster care parents.
42 U.S.C. § 671 (a)(10)	The state plan for foster care and adoption assistance must provide for the establishment and maintenance of standards for foster homes and child care institutions that are in accord with recommended standards of national organizations.

Does the rule incorporate material by reference? Yes

Yes

No

Does this rule repeat language found in statute? Yes

Yes

No

If yes, please explain.

Colorado Revised Statute, 19-1-130 requires access to services for all children/youth and families without discrimination.

Section 19-5-207, C.R.S. discusses reasons for adoption denial

REGULATORY ANALYSIS

1. List of groups impacted by this rule.

Which groups of persons will benefit, bear the burdens or be adversely impacted by this rule?

County foster and adoptive parents, county departments, child placement agency staff, home study contractors, and the public will benefit. County department staff and some individuals on the home study vendor list will bear the burden in learning the revisions in rule.

2. Describe the qualitative and quantitative impact.

How will this rule-making impact those groups listed above? How many people will be impacted? What are the short-term and long-term consequences of this rule?

For the long-term, the proposed changes in rules in Section 7.500 will be consistent and current for anyone reviewing or seeking information on county department procedures for foster care, qualifications of individuals completing home studies, for adoption or foster care. Those benefiting are county department staff, child placement agency staff, foster and adoptive parents, and the public. County department staff that recruit, train, certify, and recertify foster care homes will have accurate information regarding expectations to complete their responsibilities. For the short-term, these staff will need to learn about any changes in procedures to better support county foster homes. For the long-term, the rules will align with Section 7.710 regarding the recruitment, training, certification, and recertification of foster parents who are certified by child placement agencies and county departments where currently there are discrepancies. Any new rules promulgated in Section 7.500 that are not yet in Section 7.710, will be updated in the Section 7.710 at a later date. Individuals that previously did not require supervision when contracting to complete home studies for county departments or child placement agencies will need to seek supervision. For the long-term, children and youth will benefit from additional supervision of the

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home study. The Division of Child Welfare will be responsible for completing an operation memo to inform Colorado Counties of these changes and will complete a webinar through the foster care quarterly meeting to train counties regarding these changes. As always if there is additional information or training needed the Division of Child Welfare will coordinate with Colorado Counties to complete this.

3. Fiscal Impact

For each of the categories listed below explain the distribution of dollars; please identify the costs, revenues, matches or any changes in the distribution of funds even if such change has a total zero effect for any entity that falls within the category. If this rule-making requires one of the categories listed below to devote resources without receiving additional funding, please explain why the rule-making is required and what consultation has occurred with those who will need to devote resources.

State Fiscal Impact (Identify all state agencies with a fiscal impact, including any Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) change request costs required to implement this rule change)

There are no fiscal impacts because these rules reflect county department processes for their foster care program and adoption application and services. There is no financial impact to the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS - Trails) other than adding explanation of the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). There are no other changes in service authorizations. No other state agencies are impacted because these rules relate to internal procedures for foster care and adoption.

County Fiscal Impact

County department staff may have an initial workload impact when analyzing the rules to determine if there is an impact on their foster care or adoption program, including training.

Federal Fiscal Impact

There is no impact on federal funding eligibility or claiming.

Other Fiscal Impact (such as providers, local governments, etc.)

There is no fiscal impact for foster care providers. There could be a fiscal impact for up to 30 individuals that previously did not require supervision of their contracted home studies. This home study supervisor training, however, is offered through the Child Welfare training system free of charge. The contractors can develop a co-op or make other arrangements to obtain supervision with those who are already approved, including child placement agencies and county departments.

4. Data Description

List and explain any data, such as studies, federal announcements, or questionnaires, which were relied upon when developing this rule?

Item 42 of systemic factors in the Federal Tool Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) provided by the Children's Bureau (Federal partners) requires that foster care and adoptive parent licensing "standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes ... receiving title IV-E or IV-B funds." Similar processes used by county departments and child placement agencies for the certification of foster care homes and adoptive parent approvals will promote consistency and compliance with this systemic factor.

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5. Alternatives to this Rule-making

Describe any alternatives that were seriously considered. Are there any less costly or less intrusive ways to accomplish the purpose(s) of this rule? Explain why the program chose this rule-making rather than taking no action or using another alternative.

An alternative considered was to make no changes. This is not in the best interest of Colorado county departments, child placement agencies, foster and adoptive parents, and the public because some rules are inconsistent or obsolete, and therefore do not reflect current practice.

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED RULE

Compare and/or contrast the content of the current regulation and the proposed change.

Rule section Number	Issue	Old Language	New Language or Response	Reason / Example / Best Practice	Public Comment No / Detail
7.000	<i>Incorrect Statutory Reference</i>	<i>Section 26.5.103 C.R.S.</i>	<i>Section 26.5-101(3) C.R.S.</i>		
7.500.1		<p>Mission Statement</p> <p>To develop and coordinate the external resources necessary to fulfill the objectives of the social services programs.</p>	<p>Mission Statement</p> <p>To develop and coordinate the external resources necessary to fulfill the objectives of the COUNTY HUMAN/ social services programs.</p>	Technical changes	
7.500.11		<p>Target Groups [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]</p> <p>Target groups served by this program area are the individuals who will be serving the department's clients in such roles as foster or kinship foster parents for children or adults or day care providers or adoptive parents.</p>	<p>Target Groups [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]</p> <p>Target groups served by this program area are the individuals who will be serving the department's clients in such roles as foster or kinship foster parents for children/YOUTH or adults or day CHILD care providers or adoptive parents.</p>	Technical changes	
7.500.2		<p>ASSESSMENT OF FOSTER HOMES AND ADOPTIVE HOMES</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT OF FOSTER CARE HOMES AND ADOPTIVE HOMES</p>	Technical change - add CARE to title	
7.500.2.A		<p>A. The family assessment must be complete using the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) homes study format. The SAFE home study tool assessment must be completed by using all tools and processes required by the SAFE format. Persons completing the home studies must be qualified, as a minimum, as a placement worker, with a Bachelor's degree in the social or behavioral sciences, and must complete the Department-required training prior to performing the home studies.</p>	<p>A. The family assessment must be completed using the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE™) homes study format. The SAFE™ home study tool assessment must be completed by using all tools and processes required by the SAFE™ format PROTOCOL INCLUDING THE SAFE™ USER'S DESK GUIDE. Persons completing the home studies must be qualified, as a minimum, as a placement caseworker, with a Bachelor's degree in the social or behavioral sciences, and must complete the Department-required SAFE™ TWO (2) DAY training prior to performing COMPLETING the home studies ASSESSMENT. THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION OF A FOSTER PARENT OR ADOPTIVE PARENT.</p>	Technical changes, new, language struck and additional guidance	

			A SAFE™ REFRESHER TRAINING IS REQUIRED EVERY THREE (3) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE INITIAL SAFE™ TRAINING RECEIVED OR PREVIOUS REFRESHER TRAINING. THIS INCLUDES HOME STUDY PRACTITIONERS AND THEIR SUPERVISORS.		
7.500.2.A .1.a-c		<p>1. As part of the assessment, the home study worker must:</p> <p>a. Conduct a minimum of one joint interview with a couple, one individual interview with each adult member of the household and an [age]/developmentally appropriate interview with all children residing in the home. For single applicants, a minimum of two (2) interviews will be required.</p> <p>b. Conduct at least one (1) interview in the applicant's home.</p> <p>c. Ensure the second interview, and any subsequent interviews, of the adults shall not be performed until at least three (3) calendar days after the previous interview.</p>	<p>1. As part of Tthe assessment the home study worker SAFE™ PRACTITIONER must CONDUCT A MINIMUM OF ONE (1) JOINT INTERVIEW WITH A COUPLE, ONE (1) INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW WITH ALL CHILDREN/YOUTH RESIDING IN THE HOME. FOR SINGLE APPLICANTS, A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) INTERVIEWS IS REQUIRED WITH A SINGLE APPLICANT</p> <p>a. Conduct a minimum of one (1) joint interview with a couple, one (1) individual interview with each adult member of the household and an [age]/developmentally appropriate interview with all children residing in the home. For single applicants, a minimum of two (2) interviews will be required.</p> <p>b. Conduct at least one (1) interview in the applicant's home.</p> <p>c. Ensure the second interview, and any subsequent interviews, of the adults shall not be performed until at least three (3) calendar days after the previous interview.</p>	Technical changes	

7.500.2.A .2.a-b		<p>2. Relationship with the County Department</p> <p>Discuss the applicant's ability to work with the child welfare system, court, birth parents, and others in the child's life, including willingness to obtain help from professionals involved.</p>	<p>2. Relationship with the County Department</p> <p>Discuss the applicant's ability to work with the child welfare system, court, birth parents, and others in the child's life, including willingness to obtain help from professionals involved.</p> <p>2. INTERVIEW REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST INCLUDE THE DATE, PERSON INTERVIEWED, LENGTH OF INTERVIEW (HOURS AND MINUTES), LOCATION OF EACH INTERVIEW, AND MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE SAFE ASSESSMENT. IF THE CERTIFYING AGENCY PROPOSES HAVING INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED OUTSIDE OF THE RESIDENCE, AN APPLICANT MUST BE CONSULTED AND BE IN AGREEMENT. THE CONVERSATION MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT.</p> <p>a. A MINIMUM OF TWO INTERVIEWS MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE APPLICANT'S HOME ON SEPARATE DAYS. QUESTIONNAIRE II MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE HOME.</p> <p>b. ENSURE THE SECOND INTERVIEW, AND ANY SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS, OF THE ADULTS IS NOT COMPLETED UNTIL AT LEAST THREE (3) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE PREVIOUS INTERVIEW.</p>	<p>New language clarifies expectations for home study procedure</p>	
7.500.2.A .3.a-d		<p>3. Post-Adoptive Services</p> <p>The applicant's ability to assist with possible post-adoptive</p>	<p>3. Post-Adoptive Services</p> <p>The applicant's ability to assist with possible</p>	<p>Renumber and moves language</p>	

		<p>issues of the child/youth, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Questions about the birth family. b. Locating and obtaining non identifying information about the birth family. c. Search and possible reunification of the adopted child/youth with the birth family. d. Willingness to assist adopted child/youth with counseling, if needed, related to adoption issues. 	<p>post adoptive issues of the child/youth, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Questions about the birth family. b. Locating and obtaining non identifying information about the birth family. c. Search and possible reunification of the adopted child/youth with the birth family. d. Willingness to assist adopted child/youth with counseling, if needed, related to adoption issues. <p>3. THE SAFE™ PRACTITIONER MUST DOCUMENT THE APPLICANT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES, INCLUDING A DISCUSSION OF THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM, COURT, GUARDIAN AD LITEM (GAL), LEGAL PARENT/LEGAL CUSTODIAN, AND OTHERS IN THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S LIFE.</p>		
7.500.2.A .4		<p>4. Kinship Foster Care The applicant's ability to provide a permanent home through adoption, guardianship or permanent custody. The ability to meet the individualized needs of the specified child(ren)/youth, and assessment of the relationship with birth parents and extended family members as they impact capacity of the applicants to care for the child(ren). The ability to set boundaries with birth parents to maintain safety for the child(ren)</p>	<p>4. Kinship Foster Care</p> <p>The applicant's ability to provide a permanent home through adoption, guardianship or permanent custody. The ability to meet the individualized needs of the specified child(ren)/youth, and assessment of the relationship with birth parents and extended family members as they impact capacity of the applicants to care for the child(ren). The ability to set boundaries with birth parents to maintain safety for the child(ren) in care. When completing the assessment, Section 7.708, "Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes" shall also apply.</p>	Renumber and new language to clarify home study procedure	

		<p>in care. When completing the assessment, Section 7.708, "Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes" shall also apply.</p>	<p>4. THE SIGNATURE PAGE OF THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED BY THE PERSON COMPLETING THE ASSESSMENT AND SUPERVISOR/DESIGNEE. THE APPLICANT MUST SIGN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT /UPDATE SECTION INDICATING THE INDIVIDUAL READ AND REVIEWED THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE ASSESSMENT. ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE DATED PRIOR TO OR ON THE DATE OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME CERTIFICATE.</p>		
<p>7.500.2.A .5.a</p>		<p>5. State Automated Case Management System, Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Colorado State Courts Data Access</p> <p>a. Prior to full certification of a foster home, there shall be a review and documentation in the provider record of:</p> <p>i. Complete a background check for each adult living in the home for the following:</p> <p>1. Child abuse/neglect records check in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application for each adult (18 years and</p>	<p>5. State Automated Case Management System, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST COMPLETE A SEARCH OF THE COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CCWIS), Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Colorado State Courts Data Access COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT THE STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.</p> <p>a. Prior to full certification of a foster CARE home, there shall be a review and documentation in the APPLICANT'S provider record of:</p> <p>1.) Complete a background check for each adult living in the home for the following:</p> <p>4-a) Child abuse/neglect records check in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years immediately</p>	<p>Renumber</p>	

		<p>older) living in the home.</p> <p>2. A fingerprint-based , criminal history record information check of CBI and FBI records; and,</p> <p>3. A comparison search on the court case management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. This search must be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history confirms or does not confirm a criminal history.</p> <p>4. The CBI sex offender registry and national sex offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice by:</p> <p>a. Known names and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and,</p> <p>b. Address only of the home.</p>	<p>preceding the date of application for each adult (EIGHTEEN (18) years and older) living in the home.</p> <p>2.b) A fingerprint-based criminal history record information check of CBI and FBI records, and:</p> <p>i. A NEW FBI FINGERPRINT - BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION RECORD MUST BE COMPLETED EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS FROM THE ORIGINAL FINGERPRINT DATE AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 7.701.33.D.5.</p> <p>3.c) A comparison search on the court case management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. This search must be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. THESE CHECKS ARE VALID FOR ONE YEAR PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION.</p> <p>4.d) The CBI sex offender registry and national sex offender public website (NSOPW) operated by</p>	<p>New language</p>	
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			<p>the United States Department of Justice by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a.i. Known names, NICKNAMES, ALSO KNOWN AS (AKA), and addresses of each adult residing in the FOSTER CARE home; and. CHECKS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO EACH RECERTIFICATION. b.ii. Address only of the FOSTER CARE home, INCLUDING A COPY OF THE MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASE TO CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME HAS BEEN CHECKED. iii. SEX OFFENDER CHECKS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO EACH RECERTIFICATION. 		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Written statements from references; iii. Health information; iv. The review of existing agency case records, including the automated system, for prior foster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) COMPLETE SAFE™ REFERENCE LETTERS WITH SIGNATURES; Written statements from references; iii-3) Health information INCLUDING A HEALTH ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY A PHYSICIAN, DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR A 	Renumber	

		<p>home certifications or denials; and,</p> <p>v. Investigations of any concerns raised from the application and/or aforementioned sources of information.</p> <p>vi. The results of the face-to-face interview on all members of the household.</p>	<p>NURSE PRACTITIONER FOR INDIVIDUAL LIVING IN THE HOME;</p> <p>iv-4) The review of existing agency case records, including the CCWIS, automated system, for prior foster CARE home certifications or denials; and,</p> <p>v-5) Investigations ASSESSMENTS of any concerns raised from the application and/or aforementioned OTHER sources of information.</p> <p>vi-6) The results of the face-to-face interviews WITH all members of the household.</p>		
7.500.2.A .5.b-e		<p>b. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) fingerprint-based criminal history record information checks shall be initiated for all prospective foster and adoptive parents and each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The FBI reports shall be made available to the county department of human or social services submitting the request for information.</p> <p>c. All CBI and FBI fingerprint-based criminal record information reports, including court dispositions, if applicable, and results from</p>	<p>b. THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES ORIGINAL APPLICATION TO CARE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPIRES ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF APPLICANT(S) SIGNATURE(S) IF THE FOSTER CARE HOME IS NOT CERTIFIED.</p> <p>bc. FBI fingerprint-based criminal history record information checks shall be initiated for all prospective foster and adoptive parents and each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the FOSTER CARE home. The FBI reports shall be made available to the county department of human/or social services submitting the request for information.</p> <p>1) FOLLOWING REVIEW OF FBI INFORMATION, THE FINDINGS MAY ONLY BE IDENTIFIED IN THE HOME</p>	Renumber and new language to clarify changes	

		<p>the five-year child abuse and/or neglect checks shall remain confidential in the county department records, except as provided in Section 7.500.2, C, 3.</p> <p>d. A county department of human or social services shall not place a child and/or youth in the home if the foster parent or any adult eighteen (18) years of age or older who resides in the home is a registered sex offender, or has a finding of child abuse and/or neglect in the state automated case management system or another state's child abuse and neglect registry, unless it is determined following a review of the finding that the placement is safe.</p>	<p>STUDY AS ELIGIBLE, NOT ELIGIBLE, MEETS CRITERIA, DOES NOT MEET CRITERIA, OR INCONCLUSIVE.</p> <p>ed. All CBI and FBI fingerprint-based criminal HISTORY record information reports, including court dispositions, if applicable, and results from the five-year child abuse and/or neglect checks shall remain confidential in the county department records, except as provided in Section 7.500.2, C, 3.</p> <p>de. A county department of human or social services shall not place a child and/or youth in the FOSTER CARE home if the foster parent or any adult eighteen (18) years of age or older who resides in the home:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) is a registered sex offender, or, 2) Hhas a finding of child abuse and/or neglect in the state automated case management system CCWIS or another state's child abuse and neglect registry, unless it is determined following a review of the finding that the placement is safe. 	<p>Renumbered for clarity</p> <p>Renumbered for clarity</p>	
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7.500.2.A .6.a-b		<p>6. Other Requirements</p> <p>a. Assessment of the ability of the applicant(s) to foster or adopt a child/youth and to preserve continuity of the child's/youth's identity in a positive manner. Factors should include, but are not limited to, consideration of the child's/youth's family, community, neighborhood, faith or religious beliefs, school activities, friends, and child's/youth's and family's primary language. Documentation of the assessment of this requirement shall be in the case file.</p> <p>b. Assessment of the ability of the applicant(s) to foster or adopt a child/youth and to preserve continuity of the child's/youth's identity in a positive manner. Factors should include, but are not limited to, consideration of the child's/youth's family,</p>	<p>6. Other Requirements</p> <p>a. Assessment of the ability of the applicant(s) to foster or adopt a child/youth and to preserve continuity of the child's/youth's identity in a positive manner. Factors should include, but are not limited to, consideration of the child's/youth's family, community, neighborhood, faith or religious beliefs, school activities, friends, and child's/youth's and family's primary language. Documentation of the assessment of this requirement shall be in the case file.</p> <p>b. Assessment of the ability of the applicant(s) to foster or adopt a child/youth and to preserve continuity of the child's/youth's identity in a positive manner. Factors should include, but are not limited to, consideration of the child's/youth's family, community, neighborhood, faith or religious beliefs, school activities, friends, and child's/youth's and family's primary language. Documentation of the assessment of this requirement shall be in the case file.</p>	Renumber	

		<p>community, neighborhood, faith or religious beliefs, school activities, friends, and child's/youth's and family's primary language. Documentation of the assessment of this requirement shall be in the case file.</p>			
7.500.2.A .6.c		<p>c. For the purposes of conducting an adoptive home study, the county department, qualified individual, and child placement agencies shall be required to report to the court the results of a fingerprint-based criminal history records check when it reveals that the prospective adoptive parent was convicted of a felony or misdemeanor of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Child abuse or neglect; ii. Any crime against a child, including child pornography; iii. Any crime, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on the record to include an act of domestic violence, as specified in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; 	<p>c. For the purposes of conducting an adoptive home study, the county department, qualified individual, and child placement agencies shall be required to report to the court the results of a fingerprint-based criminal history records check when it reveals that the prospective adoptive parent was convicted of a felony or misdemeanor of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Child abuse or neglect; ii. Any crime against a child, including child pornography; iii. Any crime, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on the record to include an act of domestic violence, as specified in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; iv. Violation of a protective order, as described in Section 18-6-803.5, C.R.S.; v. Any crime involving violence, rape, sexual assault, or homicide; vi. Any felony drug related conviction within, at a minimum, the past five (5) years. No person convicted of a felony offense shall be allowed to adopt a child/youth, except 	Renumber	

		<p>iv. Violation of a protective order, as described in Section 18-6-803.5, C.R.S.;</p> <p>v. Any crime involving violence, rape, sexual assault, or homicide;</p> <p>vi. Any felony drug-related conviction within, at a minimum, the past five (5) years. No person convicted of a felony offense shall be allowed to adopt a child/youth, except a person may be allowed to adopt a child/youth if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant has had no further arrests or convictions subsequent to the original conviction; 2. The applicant has not been convicted of a pattern of misdemeanors, as defined by rule of the State Board of Human Services at Section 7.500.312, D, 4, a-c; and, 3. The court enters a finding consistent with Section 19-5-210(2)(d), C.R.S., 	<p>a person may be allowed to adopt a child/youth if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The applicant has had no further arrests or convictions subsequent to the original conviction; 2. The applicant has not been convicted of a pattern of misdemeanors, as defined by rule of the State Board of Human Services at Section 7.500.312, D, 4, a-c; and, 3. The court enters a finding consistent with Section 19-5-210(2)(d), C.R.S., that the adoption is in the best interest of the child/youth. 		
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		that the adoption is in the best interest of the child/youth.		
7.500.2.A .6.d		<p>d. As part of the assessment, the agency must:</p> <p>i. Conduct a minimum of one joint face-to-face interview with a couple, one individual face-to-face interview with each adult member of the household, and, if applicable, one individual face-to-face interview with any person considering a second parent adoption of the child(ren)/youth, and an age/developmental appropriate face-to-face interview with all children residing in the home. For single applicants, a minimum of two interviews will be required.</p> <p>ii. Conduct at least one face-to-face interview in the applicant's home.</p> <p>iii. Perform an on-site inspection for foster homes to determine compliance with the Rules and Regulations for Foster Homes, Section 7.708. Approval</p>	<p>d. As part of the assessment, the agency must:</p> <p>i. Conduct a minimum of one joint face to face interview with a couple, one individual face to face interview with each adult member of the household, and, if applicable, one individual face to face interview with any person considering a second parent adoption of the child(ren)/youth, and an age/developmental appropriate face to face interview with all children residing in the home. For single applicants, a minimum of two interviews will be required.</p> <p>ii. Conduct at least one face to face interview in the applicant's home.</p> <p>iii. Perform an on-site inspection for foster homes to determine compliance with the Rules and Regulations for Foster Homes, Section 7.708. Approval of local zoning, health, or fire departments must be documented in the foster home file when the situation warrants.</p> <p>iv. Spread out interviews over a period of not less than seven (7) consecutive days.</p> <p>v. Complete an annual SAFE update. This shall include at least one home visit and a review of the current medical status. Applicants shall be questioned regarding any child abuse investigations during the previous year.</p>	<p>Renumber and new language to clarify when a new or updated home study</p>

		<p>of local zoning, health, or fire departments must be documented in the foster home file when the situation warrants.</p> <p>iv. Spread out interviews over a period of not less than seven (7) consecutive days.</p> <p>v. Complete an annual SAFE update. This shall include at least one home visit and a review of the current medical status. Applicants shall be questioned regarding any child abuse investigations during the previous year.</p> <p>If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency the medical exams for the foster parent(s), other children, and other adults residing in the home cannot be completed for the child/youth in the required time frame, the medical exam(s) must be completed as soon</p>	<p>If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency the medical exams for the foster parent(s), other children, and other adults residing in the home cannot be completed for the child/youth in the required time frame, the medical exam(s) must be completed as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency</p>		
		<p>as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared</p>			

		conclusion of the disaster or emergency.			
7.500.2.A .6.e		e. The application and medical records will be reviewed; any issues that are identified will be discussed with the applicants. No physical examination shall be required of any person who in good faith relies upon spiritual means or prayer in the free exercise of religion to prevent or cure a disease unless there is a reason to believe such person's physical condition is such that he/she would be unable to care for a child, or such person has a communicable illness.	e. The application and medical records will be reviewed; any issues that are identified will be discussed with the applicants. No physical examination shall be required of any person who in good faith relies upon spiritual means or prayer in the free exercise of religion to prevent or cure a disease unless there is a reason to believe such person's physical condition is such that he/she would be unable to care for a child, or such person has a communicable illness.		
7.500.2.A .6.f		f. The county department shall not perform a foster home or adoptive home assessment on a member of its own staff. The worker should check with the supervisor for county policies and procedures regarding completing assessments on county staff.	f. The county department shall not perform a foster home or adoptive home assessment on a member of its own staff. The worker should check with the supervisor for county policies and procedures regarding completing assessments on county staff.		
7.500.2.A .6.g		g. Water, if from any source other than a regular municipal water supply, shall be tested for compliance with water quality requirements.	g. Water, if from any source other than a regular municipal water supply, shall be tested for compliance with water quality requirements.		
7.500.2.A .6.h		h. A current photograph of the family shall be requested and maintained in the file.	h. A current photograph of the family shall be requested and maintained in the file.		
7.500.2.A .6.i		i. For the purposes of conducting an adoptive home study, the home study is to be completed ninety (90)	i. For the purposes of conducting an adoptive home study, the home study is to be completed ninety (90) working days from		

		working days from receiving the completed background checks.	receiving the completed background checks.		
7.500.2.A .6.j		j. The county department shall not deny to any person the opportunity to become an adoptive or foster parent on the basis of race, color, or national origin of the person, or of the child involved.	j. The county department shall not deny to any person the opportunity to become an adoptive or foster parent on the basis of race, color, or national origin of the person, or of the child involved. 6. KINSHIP FOSTER CARE a. ASSESSMENT INCLUDES THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE A PERMANENT HOME THROUGH ADOPTION, GUARDIANSHIP, OR PERMANENT CUSTODY. ALSO INCLUDED ARE THE ABILITY TO MEET THE INDIVIDUALIZED NEEDS OF THE SPECIFIED CHILD(REN)/YOUTH, THE RELATIONSHIP WITH BIRTH PARENTS/LEGAL CUSTODIANS AND EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS AS IT IMPACTS THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO CARE FOR THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH, AND THEIR ABILITY TO SET BOUNDARIES WITH THE BIRTH PARENTS/LEGAL CUSTODIAN TO MAINTAIN SAFETY FOR THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH. b. APPLICANTS ARE NOT PREVENTED FROM FOSTERING IF THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE A PERMANENT HOME, WHEN COMPLETING THE ASSESSMENT. SECTION 7.708, RULES REGULATING FOSTER CARE HOMES SHALL APPLY TO ALL APPLICANTS.	Renumber and home study requirements	

<p>7.500.2.A .7</p>		<p>7. Additional Requirements</p> <p>List characteristics of child(ren) the home is approved for: age, sex, race, legal risk, and special needs (such as medical, physical, emotional). Following the completion of the assessment, a narrative report that summarizes and evaluates the information obtained must be completed. It shall be attached to the SAFE questionnaires 1 and 2.</p>	<p>7. Additional Requirements</p> <p>List characteristics of child(ren) the home is approved for: age, sex, race, legal risk, and special needs (such as medical, physical, emotional). Following the completion of the assessment, a narrative report that summarizes and evaluates the information obtained must be completed. It shall be attached to the SAFE questionnaires 1 and 2.</p> <p>7. WHEN THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AN UPDATE MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE UPDATE TEMPLATE OR WRITTEN IN A WORD DOCUMENT. THE UPDATE MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 45 CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT BECOMES AWARE OF THE CHANGE. EXPECTATIONS FOR TIME FRAMES FOR COMPLETING BACKGROUND CHECKS IS LOCATED IN 7.500.2 A.11. b.5)</p> <p>WHEN THE CHANGE OCCURS 45 CALENDAR DAYS OR LESS FROM THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE CERTIFICATE, THE CHANGE MAY BE ADDRESSED IN THE SAFE™ UPDATE. THE ADDENDUM NEEDS TO BE SIGNED BY ALL PARTIES. THESE CHANGES MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:</p> <p>a. NEW INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE EIGHTEEN 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, LIVING IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME (INCLUDING RESULTS OF THE BACKGROUND CHECKS);</p> <p>b. WHEN A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER MOVES OUT OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME;</p>	<p>Renumber and move previous language</p>	
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. THE AGE, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITY, AND/OR SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE FOSTER CARE HOME. A RE-EVALUATION OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME WILL BE COMPLETED AND THE ASSESSMENT REVISED; d. NEW LOCATION OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME; e. MARITAL/DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP; OR, f. HEALTH ISSUES, INCAPACITATION, OR DEATH OF A FOSTER PARENT OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER. 		
7.500.2.A .8.a		<p>8. Assessment Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If there are changes in the age, sex, and special characteristics of the child(ren) which will be considered for the family, a re-evaluation of the family will be completed and the assessment revised. 	<p>8. Assessment Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. If there are changes in the age, sex, and special characteristics of the child(ren) which will be considered for the family, a re-evaluation of the family will be completed and the assessment revised. 	Renumber	
7.500.2.A .8.b		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. For any individual eighteen (18) years of age or older entering the home with the intent of residing in the home or providing caretaker services in the home, there shall be a review and documentation in the provider record of the following: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. For any individual eighteen (18) years of age or older entering the home with the intent of residing in the home or providing caretaker services in the home, there shall be a review and documentation in the provider record of the following: i. Child abuse or neglect records check in every state where the adult has resided in the previous five (5) years. 	Moved previous language	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Child abuse or neglect records check in every state where the adult has resided in the previous five (5) years. ii. A fingerprint-based criminal history check completed for the CBI and FBI, and, iii. A comparison search in the Colorado State Courts Data Access, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older entering the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which the adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search must be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. A fingerprint based criminal history check completed for the CBI and FBI, and, iii. A comparison search in the Colorado State Courts Data Access, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older entering the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which the adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search must be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. <p>8. SAFE™ REQUIREMENTS WHEN CERTIFICATION STATUS CHANGES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED WHEN A FOSTER CARE HOME WAS CLOSED LONGER THAN 365 DAYS. THIS INCLUDES ADMINISTRATION OF QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II, PSYCHOSOCIAL INVENTORY, AND PERSONAL REFERENCES. b. WHEN THE FOSTER CARE HOME WAS CLOSED LESS THAN 365 DAYS, A COMPREHENSIVE UPDATE, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION OF THE SAFE™ UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRE, IS REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY NEW RELEVANT INFORMATION. ALL RELEVANT DOMAINS AND/OR ANY GAPS IN CONTENT FROM THE ORIGINAL HOME STUDY AND SUBSEQUENT UPDATES, AS WELL AS THE COMPLETION OF THE NEW UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRES, MUST BE INCLUDED. 		
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			<p>1) WHEN ALL HISTORIC SAFE™ DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING ORIGINAL SAFE™, QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II, UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRES, SAFE™ UPDATES, REFERENCES, AND PSYCHOSOCIAL INVENTORIES, ARE NOT AVAILABLE, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED.</p>		
7.500.2.A .9		<p>9. At any time after the placement of a child, the placing agency may review the written family assessment, home study, and background checks of the foster parents.</p>	<p>9. At any time after the placement of a child, the placing agency may review the written family assessment, home study, and background checks of the foster parents.</p> <p>9. OTHER REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>a. ASSESSMENT OF THE ABILITY OF THE APPLICANT(S) TO FOSTER AND/OR ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH AND TO PRESERVE CONTINUITY OF THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S IDENTITY IN A POSITIVE AND AFFIRMING MANNER. FACTORS SHOULD INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, CONSIDERATION OF THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, AND EXPRESSION, RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITY, FAMILY, COMMUNITY, NEIGHBORHOOD, FAITH OR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, FRIENDS, AND THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S AND FAMILY'S PRIMARY LANGUAGE. DOCUMENTATION OF THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS REQUIREMENT SHALL BE IN THE CASE FILE.</p> <p>b. THE APPLICATION FOR FOSTER CARE OR ADOPTION SHALL BE DENIED FOR REASONS LISTED IN SECTION 7.500.312.D AND MAY BE DENIED FOR</p>	Moved previous language and added additional requirement in statute	

			<p>REASONS LISTED IN SECTION 7.500.312.E. IF THE APPLICANT HAS EVER BEEN DENIED AS A PROSPECTIVE FOSTER AND/OR ADOPTIVE PARENT, THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST ADDRESS THE REASON FOR THE DENIAL AND ANY RESOLUTION OF DISAGREEMENTS CONCERNING THE DECISION.</p> <p>c. AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, THE AGENCY MUST:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF ONE JOINT FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH A COUPLE, ONE INDIVIDUAL FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND, IF APPLICABLE, ONE INDIVIDUAL FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH ANY PERSON CONSIDERING A SECOND PARENT ADOPTION OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH EACH CHILD/YOUTH RESIDING IN THE HOME. FOR SINGLE APPLICANTS, A MINIMUM OF TWO INTERVIEWS WILL BE REQUIRED. 2) COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW IN THE APPLICANT'S HOME. 3) COMPLETE AN ON-SITE INSPECTION FOR FOSTER CARE HOMES TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH THE "RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FOSTER HOMES", SECTION 7.708. 		
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			<p>APPROVAL OF LOCAL ZONING, HEALTH, OR FIRE DEPARTMENTS MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME FILE WHEN THE SITUATION WARRANTS.</p> <p>4) COMPLETE INTERVIEWS OVER A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE DAYS.</p> <p>5) COMPLETE AN ANNUAL SAFE™ UPDATE. THIS SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE VISIT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME AND A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT MEDICAL STATUS. ANY CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT ASSESSMENTS COMPLETED DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR SHALL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE APPLICANT(S).</p> <p>IF THE GOVERNOR OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECLARES A DISASTER OR EMERGENCY, AND BECAUSE OF THE DECLARED DISASTER OR EMERGENCY THE MEDICAL EXAMS FOR THE FOSTER PARENT(S), OTHER CHILDREN, AND OTHER ADULTS RESIDING IN THE HOME CANNOT BE COMPLETED FOR THE CHILD/YOUTH IN THE REQUIRED TIME FRAME, THE MEDICAL EXAM(S) MUST BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER THAN 45 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE DECLARED CONCLUSION OF THE DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.</p> <p>d. THE APPLICATION AND MEDICAL RECORDS MUST BE REVIEWED; ANY</p>		
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			<p>ISSUES THAT ARE IDENTIFIED WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE APPLICANT. NO PHYSICAL EXAMINATION SHALL BE REQUIRED OF ANY PERSON WHO IN GOOD FAITH RELIES UPON SPIRITUAL MEANS OR PRAYER IN THE FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION TO PREVENT OR CURE A DISEASE UNLESS THERE IS A REASON TO BELIEVE THE INDIVIDUAL'S PHYSICAL CONDITION IS SUCH THAT THE PERSON WOULD BE UNABLE TO CARE FOR A CHILD/YOUTH.</p> <p>e. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT COMPLETE A FOSTER CARE HOME OR ADOPTIVE HOME ASSESSMENT ON A MEMBER OF ITS OWN STAFF. THE WORKER SHOULD CHECK WITH THE SUPERVISOR FOR COUNTY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REGARDING COMPLETING ASSESSMENTS ON COUNTY STAFF.</p> <p>f. WATER, IF FROM ANY SOURCE OTHER THAN A REGULAR MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY, SHALL BE TESTED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH WATER QUALITY REQUIREMENTS.</p> <p>g. A CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR OF THE FOSTER FAMILY SHALL BE REQUESTED AND MAINTAINED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD.</p> <p>h. PURSUANT TO SECTION 19-1-130 C.R.S., A SERVICE PROVIDER MEANS THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES, OR A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY. THIS</p>		
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			<p>INCLUDES A CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR THAT PROVIDES PLACEMENT-RELATED SERVICES ON A SERVICE PROVIDER'S BEHALF.</p> <p>1) A SERVICE PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE PLACEMENT-RELATED SERVICES IN A MANNER THAT IS CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TO THE COMPLEX SOCIAL IDENTITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING SUCH SERVICES. COMPLEX SOCIAL IDENTITIES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO RACE, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, AGE, RELIGION, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, PHYSICAL OR COGNITIVE ABILITY, LANGUAGE, BELIEFS, VALUES, BEHAVIOR PATTERNS, AND CUSTOMS.</p> <p>a) NONE OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS MAY BE USED TO CAUSE THE DELAY OR DENIAL OF AN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH, UNLESS THE DELAY OR DENIAL OF THE PLACEMENT IS NOT DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OR WELFARE OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.</p> <p>2) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES MUST NOT DENY ANY PERSON THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A</p>		
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			<p>FOSTER OR AN ADOPTIVE PARENT SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF A REAL OR PERCEIVED DISABILITY, RACE, CREED, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, MARITAL STATUS, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, OR ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE, INCLUDING HIV, OF THE PERSON OR A MEMBER OF THE PERSON'S HOUSEHOLD; AND,</p> <p>a) ANY DENIAL TO CARE FOR A SPECIFIC CHILD OR YOUTH THAT INCLUDES ONE OF THE FACTORS ABOVE AS THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL MUST BE DOCUMENTED, MUST HAVE A CLEAR CONNECTION TO THE ABILITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH, AND THE DENIAL TO CARE MUST NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OR WELFARE OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH; OR,</p> <p>3) DELAY OR DENY THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH FOR ADOPTION OR INTO FOSTER CARE ON THE BASIS OF A REAL OR PERCEIVED DISABILITY, RACE, CREED, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, OR ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE, INCLUDING HIV, OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.</p>		
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7.500.2.A .10		<p>10. County departments are required to share approved adoptive home assessments within the county system if there is a child(ren) whom the family wants to be considered for possible placement. The family shall make a request in writing providing the name of the county department or child placement agency, address and name of the person who is to receive the home assessment, and appropriate documents. When the county department or child placement agency that completed the home assessment receives the written request, the written home assessment and appropriate documents shall be sent to the other county within five (5) working days at no cost to the family. The county receiving the home assessment shall notify the family within five (5) days that the county department has received the information. The county department placing the child for adoption will be responsible for post-placement supervision until the adoption is finalized, unless otherwise negotiated in the placement agreement between the county and the child placement agency.</p>	<p>40. County departments are required to share approved adoptive home assessments within the county system if there is a child(ren) whom the family wants to be considered for possible placement. The family shall make a request in writing providing the name of the county department or child placement agency, address and name of the person who is to receive the home assessment, and appropriate documents. When the county department or child placement agency that completed the home assessment receives the written request, the written home assessment and appropriate documents shall be sent to the other county within five (5) working days at no cost to the family. The county receiving the home assessment shall notify the family within five (5) days that the county department has received the information. The county department placing the child for adoption will be responsible for post-placement supervision until the adoption is finalized, unless otherwise negotiated in the placement agreement between the county and the child placement agency.</p> <p>10. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS</p> <p>BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE APPLICANT'S COMPLETION OF THE SAFE™ COMPATIBILITY INVENTORY, LIST CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILD(REN)/YOUTH THAT THE FOSTER PARENT(S) ARE APPROVED TO PROVIDE CARE AND/OR CAN BEST SERVE. THESE INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO AGE, RACE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, AND SPECIFIC NEEDS (SUCH</p>	<p>Renumber and moved previous language</p>	

			<p>AS MEDICAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL). INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE COMPATIBILITY INVENTORY MUST INDICATE COMPETENCIES IN PARENTING, THEIR AREAS OF INTEREST, AS WELL AS TRAINING OR COACHING NEEDED TO INCREASE SKILLS. THIS MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 7.500.2.A.9.h ABOVE. THESE CHARACTERISTICS MUST BE DISCUSSED IN THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT. THE INFORMATION MUST BE EVALUATED AND SUMMARIZED AND ATTACHED TO THE SAFE™ QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II.</p> <p>AT A MINIMUM, THE SAFE™ COMPATIBILITY INVENTORY MUST BE COMPLETED WITH EACH APPLICANT AT INITIAL CERTIFICATION AND THEN EVERY OTHER YEAR THEREAFTER. IT IS ENCOURAGED THAT SOMEONE WITH KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE CHILD/YOUTH BEING CONSIDERED FOR PLACEMENT IN A FOSTER CARE HOME COMPLETE THE CHILD/YOUTH INVENTORY.</p>		
7.500.2.A .11.a-d		<p>11. Child Placement Agencies (CPAs) shall share their home assessments with the county department when a CPA family is providing foster care and wants to be considered for a possible adoptive placement.</p> <p>a. The family shall make a written request to the Child Placement Agency, identifying the county department, and the name and address of the county</p>	<p>11. Child Placement Agencies (CPAs) shall share their home assessments with the county department when a CPA family is providing foster care and wants to be considered for a possible adoptive placement.</p> <p>a. The family shall make a written request to the Child Placement Agency, identifying the county department, and the name and address of the county contact that is to receive the home assessment and appropriate documents.</p>	Moved previous language and added rule regarding new adults moving into or visiting a foster home 14 day or longer	

		<p>contact that is to receive the home assessment and appropriate documents.</p> <p>b. When the Child Placement Agency receives the written request, the written home assessment and appropriate documents shall be sent to the identified county department within five (5) working days.</p> <p>c. The county department receiving the home assessment shall notify the prospective adoptive family within five (5) working days that the county department has received the information.</p> <p>d. The county department placing the child for adoption will be responsible for post placement supervision until the adoption is finalized, unless otherwise negotiated in the placement agreement between the county and the child placement agency.</p>	<p>b. When the Child Placement Agency receives the written request, the written home assessment and appropriate documents shall be sent to the identified county department within five (5) working days.</p> <p>c. The county department receiving the home assessment shall notify the prospective adoptive family within five (5) working days that the county department has received the information.</p> <p>d. The county department placing the child for adoption will be responsible for post placement supervision until the adoption is finalized, unless otherwise negotiated in the placement agreement between the county and the child placement agency.</p> <p>11. ASSESSMENT UPDATE</p> <p>a. IF THERE ARE CHANGES IN THE AGE AND/OR SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH THAT THE COUNTY WILL CONSIDER FOR PLACEMENT WITH THE FOSTER PARENT(S), A RE-EVALUATION OF THE FAMILY WILL BE COMPLETED AND THE ASSESSMENT REVISED.</p> <p>b. FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER ENTERING THE HOME WITH THE INTENT OF RESIDING IN THE HOME OR PROVIDING CARE IN THE HOME, THERE SHALL BE A REVIEW AND DOCUMENTATION IN THE PROVIDER RECORD OF THE FOLLOWING:</p>		
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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT RECORDS CHECK IN EVERY STATE WHERE THE ADULT HAS RESIDED IN THE PREVIOUS FIVE (5) YEARS. 2). A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION CHECK COMPLETED FOR THE CBI AND FBI, AND, 3). A COMPARISON SEARCH IN THE COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT THE STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, USING THE NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH WITH AVAILABLE CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION. THE PURPOSE IS TO DETERMINE ANY CRIME(S) FOR WHICH THE ADULT RESIDING IN THE HOME WAS ARRESTED OR CONVICTED AND THE DISPOSITION. THIS SEARCH MUST BE COMPLETED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE CBI AND FBI FINGERPRINT HISTORY CONFIRMS OR DOES NOT CONFIRM A CRIMINAL HISTORY. 4) CBI SEX OFFENDER AND NSOPW SEX OFFENDER CHECKS, INCLUDING KNOWN NAMES, NICKNAMES, AKAs, ADDRESSES, AND A MAP OF THE LOCATION FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASE TO CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME WAS CHECKED. 5) IF A NEW INDIVIDUAL EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER IS VISITING OR LIVING IN THE FOSTER CARE OR KINSHIP FOSTER CARE 		
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			<p>HOME AND INTENDS TO STAY THIRTY (30) CONSECUTIVE DAYS OR LONGER, THE FOLLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN THE TIME FRAMES LISTED BELOW FROM THE DATE THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES LEARNED THAT THE ADULT WAS IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) WITHIN 24 HOURS, THE COUNTY MUST COMPLETE CBI AND NSOPW SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY CHECKS AND DOCUMENT THE INFORMATION INTO THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS AND FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD. b) WITHIN 24 HOURS, A COLORADO CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT CHECK AND A CHECK IN THE STATE JUDICIAL DATABASE MUST BE COMPLETED AND DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS AND THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD. c) WITHIN SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS THE COUNTY MUST REQUEST CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RECORDS IN ALL OTHER STATES WHERE THE ADULT HAS RESIDED IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS. DOCUMENT THE REQUESTS IN THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS. DOCUMENT ALL 		
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			<p>RESPONSES IN THE CCWIS AND FOSTER CARE RECORD.</p> <p>d) WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS, A CBI AND FBI FINGERPRINT BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK MUST BE SUBMITTED. DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING THE DATES OF THE CBI AND FBI CHECKS, MUST BE ENTERED INTO THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS. DOCUMENTATION MUST INDICATE THE RESULTS WERE REVIEWED AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES DID NOT HAVE CONCERNS. THIS MAY BE A RECORD OF CONTACT (ROC) NOTE. THE HARD COPY RECORDS MUST BE LOCATED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD.</p>		
7.500.2.A .12		None	<p>12. AT ANY TIME AFTER THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD/YOUTH, THE PLACING AGENCY MAY REVIEW THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT, UPDATES, AND ALL BACKGROUND CHECKS OF THE FOSTER PARENTS, EXCEPT THE FBI CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION REPORT, UNLESS THE APPLICANT AUTHORIZES IT IN WRITING.</p>	Renumber	
7.500.2.A .13		None	<p>13. COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES ARE REQUIRED TO SHARE APPROVED ADOPTIVE HOME STUDIES BETWEEN COUNTIES IF THERE IS A CHILD(REN)/YOUTH WHOM THE FOSTER PARENT(S) WANTS TO BE</p>	Renumber and moved previous language	

			<p>CONSIDERED FOR POSSIBLE PLACEMENT. THE FOSTER PARENT(S) SHALL MAKE A REQUEST IN WRITING PROVIDING THE NAME OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, ADDRESS, AND NAME OF THE PERSON WHO IS TO RECEIVE THE HOME ASSESSMENT, AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS. WHEN THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY THAT COMPLETED THE HOME ASSESSMENT RECEIVES THE WRITTEN REQUEST, THE WRITTEN HOME ASSESSMENT AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE SENT TO THE OTHER COUNTY WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS AT NO COST TO THE FOSTER PARENTS(S). THE COUNTY RECEIVING THE HOME ASSESSMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE FOSTER PARENT(S) WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED THE INFORMATION.</p> <p>THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLACING THE CHILD/YOUTH FOR ADOPTION WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR POST-PLACEMENT SUPERVISION UNTIL THE ADOPTION IS FINALIZED, UNLESS OTHERWISE NEGOTIATED IN THE PLACEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.</p>		
7.500.31 2.A.14			<p>14. A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY SHALL SHARE THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WHEN A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY FOSTER PARENT WANTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A POSSIBLE ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT.</p>		

			<p>a. THE FOSTER PARENT SHALL MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, IDENTIFYING THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT, AND THE NAME, AND ADDRESS OF THE COUNTY CONTACT THAT IS TO RECEIVE THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS.</p> <p>b. WHEN THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY RECEIVES THE WRITTEN REQUEST, THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE SENT TO THE IDENTIFIED COUNTY DEPARTMENT WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS.</p> <p>c. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECEIVING THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED THE INFORMATION.</p> <p>d. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLACING THE CHILD/YOUTH FOR ADOPTION WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR POST PLACEMENT SUPERVISION UNTIL THE ADOPTION IS FINALIZED, UNLESS OTHERWISE NEGOTIATED IN THE PLACEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.</p>		
7.500.2.A .15		None	15. POST-ADOPTIVE SERVICES AND CONNECTIONS	Renumbered and moved previous language	

			<p>THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST WITH POSSIBLE POST-ADOPTIVE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH SHOULD BE ASSESSED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIRTH FAMILY; b. LOCATING AND OBTAINING NON-IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIRTH FAMILY; c. SEARCH AND POSSIBLE REUNIFICATION OF THE CHILD/YOUTH WITH THE BIRTH FAMILY; AND, d. WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST THE CHILD/YOUTH WHO WAS ADOPTED WITH COUNSELING, IF NEEDED, REGARDING ISSUES RELATED TO ADOPTION. 		
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7.500.3		CHILDREN'S RESOURCES [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	CHILDREN'S / Youth's Resources [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]		
7.500.3.A		A. Resources for children to be developed by the county department of social or human services are foster care homes, receiving homes, specialized group facilities, and adoption resources.	A. Resources for children/YOUTH to be developed by the county department of social or human /SOCIAL services are NON-RELATIVE foster care homes, KINSHIP FOSTER CARE HOMES, receiving homes IF APPLICABLE, specialized group facilities , and adoption resources.	Technical changes	
7.500.3.B		B. Good faith efforts and due diligence shall be used to recruit families who reflect the communities of all children in care.	B. A DILIGENT RECRUITMENT PLAN SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE WITH THE CONTENT, FORMAT, AND TIME FRAMES PRESCRIBED. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PLAN AND DEMONSTRATE good faith efforts and due diligenceshall be used to recruit AND RETAIN families who THAT reflect the DIVERSE communities AND IDENTITIES of all children/YOUTH served by the child welfare agency..	Requires a diligent recruitment plan to demonstrate efforts to recruit families that reflect the children in care	
7.500.3.C		C. Facilities for children shall be utilized solely by children, shall be licensed or certified, and shall meet necessary local requirements and hold local licenses or permits. In order to support youth with an independent living stipend, a foster care home may provide a home for a youth that previously resided in foster care in the home on or before the youth's eighteenth (18th) birthday. The youth shall solely occupy a bedroom and shall not occupy a bedroom with a child and/or youth in foster care. The foster care home may accept a negotiated portion of the independent living stipend. Negotiation shall	C. Facilities for children/YOUTHshall be utilized solely by children YOUTH, shall be licensed or certified, and shall meet necessary local requirements and hold local licenses or permits , AS APPLICABLE. In order to support youth with an independent living stipend, a foster care home may provide a home for a youth that previously resided in foster care in the home on or before the youth's eighteenth (18th) birthday. The youth shall solely occupy a bedroom ALONE and shall not occupy a bedroom with a child and/or youth in foster care . The foster care home may accept a negotiated portion of the independent living stipend. Negotiation shall include the youth, caseworker, and foster parent(s).	Technical changes	

		include the youth, caseworker, and foster parent(s).			
7.500.3.D		D. The county department of social/human services shall audit all current foster care files on an annual basis to verify that all required information is present in the file. Following the annual audit, the county department shall attest in writing that all the required information is present.	D. The county department of social/human/SOCIAL services shall audit all current foster care files on an annual basis to verify that all required information is present in the file. Following the annual audit, the county department shall attest in writing that all the required information is present.	Technical changes	
7.500.3.E		E. The county department shall develop resources for the twenty-four (24) hour out-of-home care of children who otherwise would be inappropriately placed in jail or detention.	E. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall develop resources for the twenty-four (24) hour out-of-home care of children/YOUTH who otherwise would be inappropriately placed in jail or detention.	Technical changes	
7.500.3.F		F. A foster home or receiving home certified by the county department of social or human services or a specialized group facility sponsored by a county department shall receive children only from a county department of social or human services, and the certifying county shall approve of each placement.	F. A foster CARE home or receiving home certified by the county department of social or human/SOCIAL services or a specialized group facility sponsored by a county department shall receive children/YOUTH only from a county department of social or human services , and the certifying county shall approve of each placement.	Technical changes	
7.500.3.G		G. The county department shall maintain a directory of current, accurate information to identify available placements. The directory shall include available vacancies, licensed or certified capacity, ages and gender of children accepted by the home or facility, a description of the level of care which the home or facility can provide, and a listing of any special services that it can provide.	G. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall maintain a directory of current, accurate information to identify ALL available placements. The directory shall include available vacancies, licensed or certified capacity, ages, and gender IDENTITY of children/YOUTH accepted by the FOSTER CARE home or facility, a description of the level of care which the FOSTER CARE home or facility can provide, and any special services that it can ARE provided.	Technical changes	
7.500.3.H	NEW	NONE	H. CARE OF CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE HOMES WHEN CARE IS ALSO PROVIDED FOR ADULTS WITH	New	

			<p>INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL MEET ALL CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION 7.500. 2. THE CAPACITY OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME WHEN ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARE ALSO IN CARE SHALL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF FOUR (4) PERSONS REQUIRING CARE THROUGH THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AND/OR THE ADULT INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SYSTEM. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. WHEN A YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE TURNS EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE AND IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ADULT RESIDENTIAL SYSTEM THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING (HCPF), THE YOUTH SHALL BE CONSIDERED AN ADULT RECEIVING CARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPACITY. IF THE COUNTY OR STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES HAS LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CARE AND PLACEMENT OF THE YOUTH TURNING EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE, THE INDIVIDUAL WILL BE CONSIDERED A CHILD FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPACITY. b. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE AND WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE CHILDREN'S HABILITATION RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM (CHRP), MAY LIVE IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME WITH A COMBINED MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) 		
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			<p>INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING A HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES (HCBS) WAIVER. THIS MAY INCLUDE ONE (1) HCBS-CHRP CLIENT AND TWO (2) HCBS-PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DD) OR HCBS-SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES (SLS) WAIVER PARTICIPANTS, OR TWO (2) HCBS-CHRP PARTICIPANTS AND ONE (1) HCBS-DD OR HCBS-SLS WAIVER PARTICIPANTS LIVING IN THE SAME FOSTER CARE HOME.</p> <p>c. ALL CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, CHILDREN/YOUTH UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) LIVING IN THE HOME WHO ARE NOT IN FOSTER CARE, AND ALL ADULTS BEING CARED FOR THROUGH THE ADULT INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SYSTEM CANNOT EXCEED A COMBINED CAPACITY OF TEN (10).3. WHEN A YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE IN THE HOME TURNS EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE (18), IF THE YOUTH IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ADULT RESIDENTIAL SYSTEM, BACKGROUND CHECKS IN SECTION 7.500.2.A.5.a.1), MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE YOUTH AND A SAFE™ UPDATE MUST BE COMPLETED AS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 7.500.A.7.</p>		
7.500.31		<p>Foster Care Homes [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]</p> <p>Foster care homes are certified by county departments of human or social services; foster care homes associated with Child Placement Agencies (CPAs) are certified by the CPA.</p>	<p>Foster Care Homes [rev. eff. 1/1/16]</p> <p>Foster care homes are MUST BE certified by county departments of human/of-social services, foster care homes associated with Child Placement Agencies are certified by the CPAs, CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCIES OR A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE WITH A FOSTER CARE PROGRAM.</p>	Technical changes	

7.500.31. A	A. A foster care home provides temporary or long-term care for children who must live outside their own homes and are in need of protection and/or supervision, including those children with physical handicaps or developmental disabilities when target group eligibility and out-of-home placement criteria are met. Receiving homes are a type of foster care home which provide temporary care of children.	A. A foster care home provides temporary or long-term care for children/YOUTH who must live outside their own homes and are in need of protection and/or supervision, including those children/YOUTH with physical handicaps or developmental disabilities when target group eligibility and out-of-home placement criteria are met. Receiving homes are a type of foster care home which provide temporary care of children/YOUTH.	Technical changes	
7.500.31. B	B. Foster parents shall be recruited who demonstrate a genuine interest in and knowledge of children and a concern for their proper care and well-being. A county department shall recruit within its own county and may recruit in adjacent counties with the approval of the director of the county department of the adjacent county.	B. Foster parents shall be recruited who demonstrate a genuine interest in and knowledge of children/YOUTH and a concern for their proper care and well-being. A county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall recruit within its own county and may recruit in adjacent counties.	Technical changes	
7.500.31. C	C. Within five working days after initial inquiry, the worker shall discuss with prospective applicants general information regarding foster parenting requirements and the upcoming orientation.	C. Within five (5) working days after initial inquiry, the CASE worker shall discuss with THE prospective applicant(S) general information regarding foster CARE requirements and the DATE OF THE upcoming orientation/INFORMATION MEETING.	Technical changes	
7.500.31. D	D. An orientation shall be held to discuss the application and certification process for prospective foster parent applicants within six weeks after initial inquiry.	D. An orientation/information meeting shall be held to discuss the application and certification process for prospective foster parent applicants within six (6) weeks after the initial inquiry. THE ORIENTATION/INFORMATION MEETING CAN BE HELD INDIVIDUALLY.	Technical change	
7.500.31. E.1-4	E. A foster home must be certified. Pursuant to an application for a certificate, the county department of human or social services shall assess a foster home; however:	E. A foster CARE home MUST BE certified AND Pursuant to an application for a certificate -certification, the county department of human/ or social services shall assess a foster CARE home;	Technical changes	

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A staff member of a county department of human/social services shall not be certified by the county in which he/she is employed to operate a foster home due to conflict of interest. 2. A staff member of a county department of human or social services may be certified by another county, but may not receive children placed by the county in which he/she is employed. 3. No county department shall certify a foster home of a relative of any staff member of the Child Welfare Division or unit. If the foster home is certified by another county department, the referring county department may place children in the foster home upon written agreement of the two county department directors or designee. 4. If a relative of a staff member of the county department, who is not an employee of the county Child Welfare Division or unit, makes application to be a foster care home for the county department, then the application shall be reviewed by the county department director to determine whither a conflict of interest exists and the director shall provide written approval or denial and the justification for the decision. The 	<p>however except:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A staff member of a county department of human/social services shall not be certified by the county in which he/she is employed to operate a foster CARE home BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS EMPLOYED due to conflict of interest. A WAIVER CAN BE FILED IF THERE IS AN UNDUE HARDSHIP WHICH CREATES A SUBSTANTIAL AND UNNECESSARY BURDEN ON THE APPLICANT, THE FAMILY, COMMUNITY SERVED, OR THE RULE IS TOO STRINGENTLY APPLIED. 2. A staff member of a county department of human/ or social services may be certified by another county, but may not receive children/YOUTH placed by the county in which he/she THE INDIVIDUAL is employed. 3. No county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall certify a foster CARE home of a relative of any staff member of the Child Welfare Division or unit. If the foster CARE home is certified by another county department, the referring county department may place children/YOUTH in the foster CARE home upon written agreement of the two (2) county department directors or designees. 4. If a relative of a staff member of the county who is not an employee of the county, Child Welfare Division or unit, makes application APPLIES to be a foster care home for the county department, then the application shall be reviewed by the county department 		
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		documentation shall be attached to the application.	director OR DESIGNEE to determine whether WHETHER a conflict of interest exists and the director OR DESIGNEE shall provide written approval or denial and the justification for the decision. The documentation shall be attached to the application.		
7.500.31. F		F. A county department may receive an application for a certificate and complete a foster home assessment for an applicant living in an adjacent county only after the county director of the adjacent county or his/her designee gives approval for the other county department to complete the assessment and issue the certificate. County departments may only certify a foster home in a nonadjacent county with the written permission of both county directors or designees.	F. A county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES may receive an application for certificate certification and complete a foster home SAFE™ assessment for an applicant living in an adjacent county only after the county director of the adjacent county or his/her designee gives approval for the other county department to complete the SAFE™ assessment and issue the certificate. County departments may only certify a foster home in a nonadjacent county with the written permission of both county directors or THEIR designees.	Technical changes	
7.500.31. G		G. The county department of human or social services shall require verification of an individual's lawful presence in the United States, as provided in general eligibility requirements as found in Section 3.140.11 (9 CCR 2503-1), in order to approve an application to operate a foster home.	G. The county department of human/ or social services shall require verification of an individual's lawful presence in the United States, as provided in general eligibility requirements as found in Section 3.140.11 (9 CCR 2503-1), in order to approve an application to operate a foster CARE home. LAWFUL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES IS NOT REQUIRED TO OPERATE A FOSTER CARE HOME. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL NOT VERIFY AN APPLICANT'S LAWFUL PRESENCE TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION TO OPERATE A FOSTER CARE HOME.	New language	
7.500.31. H		H. A county department of human or social services shall not accept an application to operate a foster home from an individual who is currently certified by a child placement agency	H. A county department of human/ or social services shall not accept an application to operate a foster CARE home from an individual who is currently certified by a child placement agency to operate a family FOSTER CARE home until that individual	Technical changes	

		to operate a family care home until that individual has terminated the certification by the child placement agency.	has terminated the certification by the child placement agency.		
7.500.31. I		I. Reference checks for the applicant and all adults residing in the home: An applicant for certification for a foster care home and all adults residing in the home shall provide the county department of human or social services from whom the certification is sought with a list of all child placement agencies and county departments of human or social services that previously certified the applicant or any adult residing in the home. Each adult shall sign a release of information; and, the county department of human or social services from whom the certification is sought shall conduct a reference check of each adult residing in the home by contacting all of the child placement agencies and county departments of human or social services identified before issuing the certification for the foster care home.	I. Reference checks for the applicant and all adults residing in the home: AnY applicant-APPLICATION ACCEPTED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL(S) OR COUPLE WHO WISHES TO BE CERTIFIED TO OPERATE A for certification for foster care home SHALL BE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVED FORM. and all adults residing in the home shall provide the county department of human or social services from whom the certification is sought with a list of all child placement agencies and county departments of human or social services that previously certified the applicant or any adult residing in the home. Each adult shall sign a release of information; and, the county department of human/ or-social services from whom the certification is sought shall conduct a reference check of each adult residing in the home by contacting all of the child placement agencies and county departments of human or social services identified before issuing the certification CERTIFICATE for the foster care home. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE AND IS NOT LIMITED TO: 1. THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCIES AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS WHERE THE APPLICANT PREVIOUSLY APPLIED OR WAS CERTIFIED, INFORMATION ABOUT PRIOR OR CURRENT LICENSING FOR CHILD CARE AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICATION, THE AGENCY THAT ISSUES THE CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE, AND	Technical changes, and new language	

			THE TYPE OF CARE THE CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE AUTHORIZED.		
7.500.31. J		J. No director or staff member of a county department or governing body for a Specialized Group Facility (SGF) sponsored by the county department shall contact or recruit foster homes currently certified by another county department or child placement agency for the purpose of becoming a foster home or specialized group facility.	J. No director or staff member of a county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES or CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY governing body for a Specialized Group Facility (SGF) sponsored by the county department shall contact or recruit foster CARE homes currently certified by another county department or child placement agency for the purpose of becoming a foster CARE home or specialized group facility.	Technical changes	
7.500.3.K .1-44		K. A county director or his/her designee may take the following actions for prospective or current kinship foster care home providers. Decisions shall be made case-by-case and the safety and well-being of a child and/or youth placed in the home shall not be compromised: 1. Waive non-safety certification standards for kinship foster care providers defined in Section 7.708.11 and referenced in 7.708.7 (12 CCR 2509-8); 2. Require special conditions for certification that address the safety or well-being needs for a child or youth; 3. Limit or restrict a certificate; and/or, 4. Require a written agreement for compliance that addresses safety	K. A county director or THE his/her designee may take the following actions for prospective or current kinship foster care home providers. Decisions shall be made case-by-case and the safety and well-being of a child/YOUTH and/or youth placed in the FOSTER CARE home shall not be compromised, The county director or the designee may: 1. Waive non-safety certification standards for kinship foster care providers defined in Section 7.708.11 and referenced in 7.708.7 (12 CCR 2509-8); 2. Require special conditions for certification that address the safety or well-being needs for a child/YOUTH or youth; 3. Limit or restrict a certificate; and/or, 4. Require a written agreement for compliance that addresses safety and well-being needs for a child/YOUTH or youth.	Technical changes	

		and well-being needs for a child or youth.			
7.500.31 1		Training and Foster Home Assessment [Rev. eff. 1/1/16] In addition to twenty-seven hours of pre-certification training, which includes twelve hours of core training, each foster parent shall be certified in First Aid or the equivalent, and CPR for the ages of the children and/or youth in placement.	Training and Foster Home Assessment [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Title revision	
7.500.31 1.A		A. Prior to certification, the county department shall complete the single SAFE assessment of foster and adoptive homes as outlined in Section 7.500.2.	A. Prior to certification, the county department of human or social services shall complete the single SAFE assessment of foster and adoptive homes as outlined in Section 7.500.2.	Struck because the language is unnecessary	
7.500.31 11.B.1.a		B. Training, Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Five Year Child Abuse and Neglect Records Check Requirements 1. Prior to the placement of a child and/or youth, initial training shall be provided through the statewide core curriculum, county department of human or social services, or CPA. a. Each applicant shall complete twelve hours of core training. Core training shall include, at a minimum, the following ten primary topic areas: 1) General overview of foster care; 2) Administrative and legal issues;	BA. Training, Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Five-Year Child Abuse and Neglect Records Check Requirements. 1. Prior to the placement of a child and/or youth, initial training shall be provided through the statewide core curriculum, county department of human/ or social services, or CPA-LICENSED COLORADO CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, OR AN ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE. a. Each applicant shall complete twelve hours of core training. Core training shall include, at a minimum, the following ten primary topic areas: 1) General overview of foster care;	Reletter and technical changes	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Why children and youth get placed in out-of-home care; 4) Parenting and family dynamics; 5) Key concepts of child/youth growth and development; 6) Importance of the team approach; 7) Individual differences, such as ethnicity and culture; 8) Discipline; 9) Effects of fostering on the foster family; and, 10) Working with the biological family. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2) Administrative RULES, LAWS, and legal issues; 3) Why children and youth get placed in out-of-home care THE IMPACT OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT; 4) Parenting and family dynamics; 5) Key concepts of child growth and development; 6) Importance of the team approach; ADDRESSING CHILD/YOUTH BEHAVIORS; 7) Individual differences, such as ethnicity and culture IMPORTANCE OF THE TEAM APPROACH; 8) Discipline CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 7.701 (12 CCR 2509-8), INCLUDING individual differences, such as RACE, ethnicity, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION, ABLEISM, and culture; 9) Effects of fostering on the foster family; and, DISCIPLINE; 		
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			<p>10) Working with the biological family EFFECTS OF FOSTERING ON THE FOSTER FAMILY;</p> <p>11) THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CHILDREN/YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS, INCLUDING REGULAR VISITATION;</p> <p>12) REASONABLE AND PRUDENT PARENT STANDARD;</p> <p>13) TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 7.701.400;</p> <p>14) MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION;</p> <p>15) HEALTH ISSUES IN FOSTER CARE, INCLUDING HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE;</p> <p>16) THE RIGHT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE TO HAVE FAIR AND EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL AVAILABLE SERVICES, PLACEMENT, CARE, TREATMENT, AND BENEFITS, AND TO NOT BE SUBJECTED TO DISCRIMINATION OR HARASSMENT ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED DISABILITY, RACE, CREED,</p>		
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			<p>RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, OR ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE, INCLUDING HIV, OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH;</p> <p>17) THE RIGHTS OF SIBLINGS IN FOSTER CARE, LOCATED IN §19-7-203, C.R.S.; AND,</p> <p>18) UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF A CHILD WELFARE EDUCATION LIAISON, AS DESCRIBED IN § 22-32-13 8 (2), C.R.S.</p>		
7.500.31 1.B.1.b		<p>b. In addition to twenty-seven hours of pre-certification training, which includes twelve hours of core training, each foster parent shall be certified in First Aid or the equivalent, and CPR for the ages of the children and/or youth in placement.</p> <p>1. If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency, the foster parent(s) cannot take the First Aid class in a classroom with the first aid trainer, the First Aid training may be completed online. The foster parent(s) must then complete the</p>	<p>b. In addition to twenty-seven hours of pre-certification training, which includes twelve hours of core training, each foster parent shall be certified in First Aid or the equivalent, and CPR for the ages of the children and/or youth in placement. INITIAL CPR TRAINING MUST BE COMPLETED IN A CLASSROOM WITH MANUAL DEMONSTRATION OF RESUSCITATION. INDIVIDUALS IN THE DIRECT MEDICAL OR EMERGENCY RESPONDER FIELD MAY HAVE CPR AND FIRST AID WAIVED IF THEIR IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR AFFIRMS THAT THE APPLICANT IS A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL THAT PERFORMS THESE SKILLS.</p> <p>1. If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency, the foster parent(s) cannot take the First Aid class in a classroom</p>	Technical change, clarifies training method, and allows exception based on training	

		<p>classroom training with the first aid trainer as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.</p> <p>2. If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency, the foster parent(s) cannot take the CPR class in a classroom with the CPR trainer, and the foster parent(s) has successfully completed a CPR class within the last five (5) years, the foster parent(s) may take the CPR class online. The foster parent(s) must then complete the classroom training with a CPR instructor as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.</p>	<p>with the first aid trainer, the First Aid training may be completed online. The foster parent(s) must then complete the classroom training with the first aid trainer as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.</p> <p>2. If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency, the foster parent(s) cannot take the CPR class in a classroom with the CPR trainer, and the foster parent(s) has successfully completed a CPR class within the last five (5) years, the foster parent(s) may take the CPR class online. The foster parent(s) must then complete the classroom training with a CPR instructor as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.</p>		
7.500.31 1.B.1.c		c. Complete a background check required in Section 7.500.2, B, 1.	e. Complete a background check required in Section 7.500.2, A, 8.	Unnecessary	
7.500.31 1.B1..d		d. The county department of human or social services shall train foster parents how to determine whether to approve the child's or youth's participation in an	c.d The county department of human/ or social services shall train foster parents how to determine whether to approve the child's/YOUTH'S or youth's participation in an extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, or social activity is consistent with the reasonable and	Reletter and technical changes	

		extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, or social activity is consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard, based upon criteria in section 7.701.200 (12 CCR 2509-8).	prudent parent standard, based upon criteria in section 7.701.200 (12 CCR 2509-8).		
7.500.31 11.B.2.a- b		<p>2. Ongoing Training</p> <p>a. Each applicant shall have twenty (20) hours of ongoing training every year, except specialized providers outlined in Section 7.708.65, E (12 CCR 2509-8). The training shall be relevant to fostering the children and/or youth being served in the foster care home or kinship foster care home.</p> <p>b. If there are children and/or youth in the home and training is not completed, no additional children and/or youth shall be placed until training is complete. Children and/or youth</p>	<p>2. Ongoing Training</p> <p>a. Each applicant shall have twenty (20) hours of ongoing training every year, except specialized providers outlined in Section 7.708.65, E (12 CCR 2509-8). The training shall be relevant to fostering the children and/or youth being served in the foster care home or kinship foster care home.</p> <p>b. If there are children and/or youth in the home and training is not completed, no additional children and/or youth shall be placed until training is complete. Children and/or youth who are currently in placement shall not be disrupted due to this requirement.</p>		
7.500.31 1.C		<p>C. Exceptions to the Training and CBI, FBI, and Five-Year Child Abuse and Neglect Records Check Requirements An exception to the rules may be made for emergency "child specific" placements identified in Section 7.304.21, D, 2, f, and for non-emergency "child specific" placements in Section 7.500.312, E. These are defined as placements where the child has a prior relationship to the applicant.</p>	<p>CB. Exceptions to the Training and CBI, FBI, and Five-Year Child Abuse and Neglect Records Check Requirements</p> <p>An exception to the rules may be made for emergency "child specific" placements identified in Section 7.304.21, D, 2, f, 7.304.21.E.2.f, and for non-emergency "child specific" placements in Section 7.500.312, ED. These are defined as placements where the child/YOUTH has a prior relationship to the applicant.</p>	Reletter and technical changes	

		<p>1. The applicant may have sixty (60) calendar days from the date of application to complete training.</p> <p>2. In the event of an emergency child specific placement in a previously uncertified home, prior to or at the time of the placement the county department of human or social services shall receive the completed Original Application to Care for Children. In addition, the county staff and the applicant shall review and sign the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home".</p>	<p>1. The applicant may have NINETY sixty (690) calendar days from the date of application to complete training.</p> <p>2. In the event of an emergency "child specific" placement in a previously uncertified home, prior to or at the time of the placement the county department of human or social services shall receive the completed Original Application to Care for Children AND YOUTH. In addition, the county staff and the applicant shall review and sign the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home".</p>		
7.500.31 1.D.1-4		<p>D. If a provisional certificate will be issued because a "child specific" emergency placement is required in a previously non-certified home, prior to or at the time of the placement the county department of human or social services shall receive the completed Original Application to Care for Children, and the county staff and the applicant shall review and sign the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home", and submit fingerprints and current processing fee to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. The following shall be initiated by the county department of human or social services as soon as possible for an emergency "child specific" placement of a child and/or youth. Complete a background check for each adult (18</p>	<p>DC. If a provisional certificate will be issued because a "child specific" emergency placement is required in a previously non-certified home, prior to or at the time of the placement the county department of human/social services shall receive the completed Original Application to Care for Children AND YOUTH, and the county staff and the applicant shall review and sign the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home", and submit fingerprints and current processing fee to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. WHEN A CHILD/YOUTH THAT WAS IN FOSTER CARE WITH A FOSTER PARENT(S) THAT IS NO LONGER CERTIFIED, A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED IF IT IS IN THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S BEST INTEREST TO RETURN TO THE FOSTER CARE HOME.</p> <p>The following shall be initiated COMPLETED by the county department of human or social services as soon as possible for PRIOR TO an emergency "child specific" placement of a child/YOUTH and/or youth.</p>	Reletter and renumber, technical changes, and additional language regarding CCWIS	

		<p>years and older) living in the home for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child abuse/neglect records in every state where any adult residing in the home has lived in the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application; 2. Fingerprint-based criminal history record information checks from the CBI and the FBI as soon as possible and consistent with Section 7.304.21, D, 2, f (12 CCR 2509-4); 3. Review the court case management system at the State Judicial Department and include a copy in the provider record; and, 4. The CBI sex offender registry and the national sex offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice and include a copy in the provider record using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Known names and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and, b. Address only, of the provider's home. 	<p>THE COUNTY SHALL cComplete a background check for each adult (EIGHTEEN (18) years and older) living in the home for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child abuse/neglect records in every state where any adult residing in the home has lived in the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application; 2. Fingerprint based criminal history record information checks from the CBI and the FBI as soon as possible and consistent with Section 7.304.21, D, 2, f (12 CCR 2509 4); 31. Review the court case management system at the State Judicial Department and include a copy in the provider record; and, 42. The CBI sex offender registry, and the national sex offender public website NSOPW operated by the United States Department of Justice, and include a copy in the provider record using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Known names, NICKNAMES, AKA, and addresses of each adult residing in the FOSTER CARE home; and, b. Address only, of the provider's home WITH A MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASES TO CONFIRM THE ADDRESS OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME HAS BEEN CHECKED. 53. CCWIS (TRAILS) SCREEN PRINTS, INCLUDING PRIOR NAMES, NICKNAMES, AND AKAs, AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS IN THE TIME FRAMES IDENTIFIED BELOW: 		
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			<p>4. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT RECORDS CHECKS IN EVERY STATE WHERE ANY ADULT RESIDING IN THE HOME HAS LIVED IN THE FIVE (5) YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF APPLICATION SHALL BE INITIATED NO LATER THAN SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS FOLLOWING PLACEMENT; AND,</p> <p>5. FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION CHECKS FROM THE CBI AND THE FBI SHALL BE INITIATED NO LATER THAN FIVE (5) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH ARE PLACED IN THE HOME OR NO LATER THAN FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH ARE PLACED IN THE HOME WHEN DOCUMENTED URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST, CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 7.304.21.E.2.f (12 CCR 2509-4).</p>		
7.500.31 11.E.1-2		<p>E. If a provisional certificate will be issued because a non-emergency "child specific" placement is required in a previously non-certified home:</p> <p>1. The county department of human or social services shall submit fingerprints to CBI and FBI and complete all other background checks prior to placement of the child and/or youth, consistent with Section 7.500.2, B, 1, except that child abuse and neglect records in other states where an adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the application shall be initiated no later than seven (7)</p>	<p>ED. If a provisional certificate will be issued because a non-emergency "child specific" placement is required in a previously non-certified home:</p> <p>1. The county department of human/or social services shall submit fingerprints to CBI and FBI and complete all other background checks prior to placement of the child/YOUTH and/or youth, consistent with Section 7.500.2, B, 1 7.500.2.A.5., except that child abuse and neglect records in other states where an adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the application shall be initiated no later than seven (7) working days following placement; and,</p>	Reletter and technical changes	

		<p>working days following placement; and,</p> <p>2. Review the completed "Original Application to Care for Children" and the CWS-7A "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home" with the provider, and collect the signed documents.</p>	<p>2. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/ORS SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL Review the completed "Original Application to Care for Children AND YOUTH" and the CWS-7A "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home" with the provider, and collect the signed documents.</p>		
7.500.31 2		<p>Issuance/Denial of Certificate [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]</p> <p>Every application used in the state of Colorado for employment with a child care provider or facility, or for the certification of a foster home, shall include the following notice to the applicant: "Any applicant who knowingly or willfully makes a false statement of any material fact or thing in the application is guilty of perjury in the second degree as defined in Section 18-8-503, C.R.S., and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished accordingly." After the completion of the home assessment, the county department shall take one of the following certification actions:</p>	<p>7.500.312 Issuance/Denial of Certificate [Rev. eff. 4/4/16]</p> <p>Every application used in the state of Colorado for employment with a child care provider or facility, or for the certification of a foster home, shall include the following notice to the applicant:</p> <p>"Any applicant who knowingly or willfully makes a false statement of any material fact or thing in the application is guilty of perjury in the second degree as defined in Section 18-8-503, C.R.S., and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished accordingly."</p> <p>EACH APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE VERIFICATION OF A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN) OR AN INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ITIN) ISSUED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.</p> <p>After the completion of the home SAFE™ assessment, the county department shall take one of the following certification actions:</p>	<p>Technical change</p> <p>New language</p>	
7.500.31 2.A.1-2		<p>A. A one (1) year time-limited certificate shall be issued when it is determined that the applicant is competent, has completed the necessary training, and is in compliance with the Rules</p>	<p>A. A one (1) year time-limited certificate shall be issued when it is determined that the applicant is competent, has completed the necessary training, and is in compliance with the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708. The certificate</p>	<p>Technical changes</p>	

		<p>Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708. The certificate issue date is the date that the assessment is completed and the foster home is in compliance with Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number and age of children for whom the home is certified shall be determined by the size of the home and the rules regulating foster care homes, the applicant's previous experience, and parenting skills. 2. Before a certificate is issued, the county department shall review the foster care facility contract and agreement with the foster parents. The contract and agreement must be signed by each applicant prior to certification. If a child is placed and care paid by the county department, rules found in the provider rules section of this manual shall be utilized. 	<p>issue date is the date that the assessment is completed and the foster CARE home is in compliance. with Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number and age of children/YOUTH for whom the FOSTER CARE home is certified shall be determined by the size of the home and the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, the applicant's previous experience, and parenting skills, AND INPUT FROM THE FOSTER PARENT. 2. Before a certificate is issued, the county department shall review the foster care facility contract and agreement with the foster parents. The contract and agreement must be signed by each applicant prior to certification. If a child/YOUTH is placed and care paid by the county department, rules found in the provider rules IN section 7.417.1 (12 CCR 2509-5) of this manual shall be utilized. 		
7.500.31 2.B.1-2		<p>B. A provisional certificate shall be issued for child specific homes if the home is temporarily unable to conform to all appropriate regulations upon proof by the applicant that attempts are being made to comply with the appropriate regulations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A provisional certificate may be issued to complete required training or in the event that an emergency placement into a previously uncertified home is 	<p>B. A provisional certificate shall be issued for child specific homes if the home is temporarily unable to conform to all appropriate regulations upon proof by the applicant that attempts are being made to comply with the appropriate regulations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A provisional certificate may be issued TO ALLOW THE APPLICANT to complete required training or in the event that an emergency placement into a previously uncertified home is required. If the applicant does not complete training within six months after application, no additional 	Technical changes	

		<p>required. If the applicant does not complete training within six months after application, no additional children can be placed in the home until this requirement is met. The reasons for the issuance of a provisional certificate shall be displayed on the certificate. The Department will not reimburse for children placed in a provisionally certified foster care home more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of application.</p> <p>2. The provisional certificate shall be issued for no more than six months from the date it is determined that time will be needed to complete the regulations or that care is to begin. Only one original provisional certificate may be issued to a foster home at one location address. The Department will not reimburse for children placed in a provisionally certified foster care home more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of application.</p>	<p>children/YOUTH can be placed in the home until this requirement is met. The reasons for the issuance of a provisional certificate shall be displayed on the certificate. The Department will not reimburse for children/YOUTH placed in a provisionally certified foster care home more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of application.</p> <p>2. The provisional certificate shall be issued for no more than six months from the date it is determined that time will be needed to complete COMPLY WITH the regulations or that care is to begin. Only one original provisional certificate may be issued to a foster home at one location address. The Department will not reimburse for children/YOUTH placed in a provisionally certified foster care home more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of application.</p>		
7.500.31 2.C		C. The application shall be withdrawn when the applicant no longer chooses to pursue certification.	C. The application shall be withdrawn CLOSED when the applicant no longer chooses to pursue certification.	Technical changes	
7.500.31 2.D.1-5		D. The application shall be denied for one or more of the following reasons: 1. When it is determined that the applicant is not competent to operate a family foster home or is unable or unwilling to comply with	D. The application shall be denied for one or more of the following reasons: 1. When it is determined that the applicant is not competent to operate a family foster home or is unable or unwilling to comply with the regulations within three months of application.	Statutory change - Section 26-6-910 Strike	

		<p>the regulations within three months of application.</p> <p>2. When the individual or person who resides with the applicant has been determined to be insane or mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction and, should a court enter an order pursuant to Part 3 or Part 4 of Article 14 of Title 15, C.R.S., or Section 27- 65-109(4) or 27-65-127, C.R.S., specifically finding that the mental incompetency or insanity is of such degree that the applicant is incapable of operating a family child care home, foster care home, child care center, or child placement agency, the record of such determination and entry of such order being conclusive evidence thereof.</p> <p>3. If the person applying for the certificate has been convicted of any of the crimes defined in a-e, below. "Convicted" means a conviction by a jury or a court and shall also include a deferred judgment and sentence agreement, a deferred prosecution agreement, a deferred adjudication agreement, an adjudication, and a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. This does not apply to a diversion, deferral or plea for a juvenile who participated in diversion (defined in Section 19-1-103(44), C.R.S.), and does not apply to an adult who successfully completed the child</p>	<p>21. PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-6-905(10), C.R.S., when the individual or person who resides with the applicant has been determined to be insane or mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction and, should IF THE acourt enters an order pursuant to Part 3 or Part 4 of Article 14 of Title 15, C.R.S., or Section 27-65-109(4) or 27-65-127, C.R.S., AN ORDER specifically finding that the mental incompetency or insanity is of such degree that the applicant is incapable of operating a RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TREATMENT CHILD CARE FACILITY, family child care home, foster care home, child care center, or child placement agency, the record of such determination and entry of such order being conclusive evidence thereof.</p> <p>32. If the person applying for the certificate OR A PERSON WHO RESIDES AT THE HOME has been convicted of any of the crimes defined in a-e, below. "Convicted" means a conviction by a jury or a court and shall also includeS a deferred judgment and sentence agreement, a deferred prosecution agreement, a deferred adjudication agreement, an adjudication, and a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. This does not apply to a diversion, deferral or plea for a juvenile who participated in diversion (defined in Section 19-1-103(44) 19-2.5-102 , C.R.S.), and does not apply to an adult who successfully completed the child abuse and/or neglect diversion program (defined in Section 19-3-310, C.R.S.).</p> <p>a. Child abuse, as specified in section 18-6-401;</p>	<p>Moved to another section</p> <p>Technical change and renumber</p>	
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		<p>application. "Pattern of misdemeanor" shall include consideration of Section 26-6-108(2), C.R.S., regarding suspension, revocation and denial of a license, and shall be defined as:</p> <p>a. Three (3) or more convictions of 3rd degree assault as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., and/or any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by any court on the record to include an act of domestic violence as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; or,</p> <p>b. Five (5) misdemeanor convictions of any type, with at least two (2) convictions of 3rd degree assault as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., and/or any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by any court on the record to include an act of domestic violence as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; or,</p> <p>c. Seven (7) misdemeanor convictions of any type.</p> <p>5. Any offense in any other state, the elements of which are substantially</p>	<p>degree assault as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., and/or any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by any court on the record to include an act of domestic violence as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; or,</p> <p>c. Seven (7) misdemeanor convictions of any type.</p> <p>54. Any offense in any other state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements listed in 2-41-3.</p>		
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		similar to the elements listed in 2-4.			
7.500.31 2.E.1-15		<p>E. The application may be denied or the foster care certification suspended, revoked or made probationary for one or more of the following reasons, if the person applying for the certificate or any individual living with the applicant or employed by the applicant has (also see Section 7.708.21):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Been convicted in Colorado or in any other state of any felony, or has entered into a deferred judgment agreement or a deferred prosecution agreement in Colorado or in any other state to any felony other than those offenses specified in Section 26-6-104(7), C.R.S., or child abuse, as specified in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S., the record of conviction being conclusive evidence thereof, notwithstanding Section 24-5-101, C.R.S.; or, 2. Been convicted of third degree assault, as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on any record to include an act of domestic violence, as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S., any misdemeanor violation of a restraining order, as described in Section 18-6-803.5, C.R.S., any misdemeanor offense of child abuse as defined in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S., or any 	<p>E. The application may be denied or the foster care certification suspended, OR revoked or made probationary PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-6-914, C.R.S. for one or more of the following reasons, if the person applying for the certificate or any individual living with the applicant or employed by the applicant has (also see Section 7.708.21):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Been IS convicted in Colorado or in any other state of any felony, or has entered into a deferred judgment agreement or a deferred prosecution agreement in Colorado or in any other state to any felony other than those offenses specified in Section 26-6-905(8)26-6-104(7), C.R.S., or child abuse, as specified in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S., the record of conviction being conclusive evidence thereof, notwithstanding Section 24-5-101, C.R.S.; or, 2. Been IS convicted of third degree assault, as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on any record to include an act of domestic violence, as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S., any misdemeanor violation of a restraining order, as described in Section 18-6-803.5, C.R.S., any misdemeanor offense of child abuse as defined in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S., or any misdemeanor offense in any other state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any one of the offenses described in this paragraph; or, 3. Used any controlled substance as defined in Section 12-22-303(7), C.R.S. or consumed any alcoholic beverage or been under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic beverage 	Technical change	

		<p>misdemeanor offense in any other state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any one of the offenses described in this paragraph; or,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Used any controlled substance as defined in Section 12-22-303(7), C.R.S. or consumed any alcoholic beverage or been under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic beverage during the operating hours of the facility. This shall not apply to foster care homes, unless such use or consumption impairs the foster parent's ability to properly care for children; or, 4. Been convicted of unlawful use of a controlled substance as specified in Section 18-18-404, C.R.S., unlawful distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, sale, or possession of a controlled substance as specified in Section 18-18-405, C.R.S., or unlawful offenses relating to marijuana or marijuana concentrate as specified in Section 18-18-406, C.R.S.; or, 5. Consistently failed to maintain standards prescribed and published by the Colorado Department of Human Services; or, 6. Furnished or made any misleading or any false statement or report to 	<p>during the operating hours of the facility. This shall not apply to foster care homes, unless such use or consumption impairs the foster parent's ability to properly care for children; or, USES ANY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES INCLUDING RETAIL MARIJUANA, OR CONSUMES ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DURING THE OPERATING HOURS OF THE FACILITY OR IS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DURING THE OPERATING HOURS OF THE FACILITY; OR,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Been IS convicted of unlawful use of a controlled substance as specified in Section 18-18-404, C.R.S., unlawful distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, sale, or possession of a controlled substance as specified in Section 18-18-403.5 OR 18-18-405, C.R.S., or unlawful offenses relating to marijuana or marijuana concentrate as specified in Section 18-18-406, C.R.S.; or, 5. Consistently failed to maintain standards prescribed and published by the Colorado Department of Human Services; or, 6. Furnished or made MAKES any misleading or any false statement or report to the Colorado Department of Human Services; or, 7. Refused to submit to the Colorado Department of Human Services any reports or refused to make available to the Department any records required by it in making AN investigation of the facility for licensing purposes; or, 8. Failed or refused to submit to an investigation or inspection by the Colorado Department of Human Services or to admit authorized 		
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		<p>the Colorado Department of Human Services; or,</p> <p>7. Refused to submit to the Colorado Department of Human Services any reports or refused to make available to the Department any records required by it in making investigation of the facility for licensing purposes; or,</p> <p>8. Failed or refused to submit to an investigation or inspection by the Colorado Department of Human Services or to admit authorized representatives of the Department at any reasonable time for the purpose of investigation or inspection; or,</p> <p>9. Failed to provide, maintain, equip, and keep in safe and sanitary condition premises established or used for child care pursuant to standards prescribed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Colorado Department of Human Services or by ordinances of regulations applicable to the location of the foster care home; or,</p> <p>10. Willfully or deliberately violated any of the provisions of the Child Care Licensing Act; or,</p> <p>11. Failed to maintain financial resources adequate for the satisfactory care of children served in regard to upkeep of premises and provision for personal care, medical</p>	<p>representatives of the Department at any reasonable time for the purpose of investigation or inspection; or,</p> <p>9. Failed to provide, maintain, equip, and keep in safe and sanitary condition premises established or used for child care pursuant to standards prescribed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Colorado Department of Human Services or by ordinances of regulations applicable to the location of the foster care home; or,</p> <p>10. Willfully or deliberately violated any of the provisions of PART 9 OF FOSTER CARE, RESIDENTIAL, DAY TREATMENT, AND CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY LICENSING the Child Care Licensing Act; or,</p> <p>11. Failed to maintain financial resources adequate for the satisfactory care of children served in regard to upkeep of premises and provision for personal care, medical services, clothing, and other essentials in the proper care of children; or,</p> <p>12. Been IS charged with the commission of an act of child abuse or an unlawful sexual offense, as specified in Section 18-3-411 (1), C.R.S., if:</p> <p>a. THE-such individual has admitted committing the act or offense and the admission is documented or uncontroverted; or,</p> <p>b. THE-an Administrative Law Judge finds that such charge is supported by substantial evidence; or,</p> <p>13. Admitted to an act of child abuse or if substantial evidence is found that the license</p>		
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		<p>services, clothing, and other essentials in the proper care of children; or,</p> <p>12. Been charged with the commission of an act of child abuse or an unlawful sexual offense, as specified in Section 18-3-411 (1), C.R.S., if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. such individual has admitted committing the act or offense and the admission is documented or uncontroverted; or, b. an Administrative Law Judge finds that such charge is supported by substantial evidence; or, <p>13. Admitted to an act of child abuse or if substantial evidence is found that the licensee, person employed by the licensee, or person who resides with the licensed in the foster home has committed an act of child abuse, as defined at 19-1-103(1), C.R.S.; or,</p> <p>14. Been the subject of a negative licensing action.</p> <p>15. Intentionally misused funds: the individual(s) making the expenditure decision had deliberate, willful, and intentional disregard for the fiduciary responsibility for how public funds are to be used for children placed in foster care or adoptive homes.</p>	<p>person employed by the licensee, or person who resides with the licensed in the foster home has committed an act of child abuse, as defined at 19-1-103(1), C.R.S.; or,</p> <p>14. Been IS the subject of a negative licensing action.</p> <p>15. Intentionally misused MISUSES funds: the individual(s) making the expenditure decision had deliberate, willful, and intentional disregard for the fiduciary responsibility for how public funds are to be used for children placed in foster care or adoptive homes.</p>		
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7.500.31 2.F		F. A certified kinship care certificate shall be issued when it is determined the applicant has met requirements outlined in Section 7.500.31.	F. A certified kinship FOSTER care certificate shall be issued when it is determined the applicant has met requirements outlined in Section 7.500.31.		
7.500.31 2.G		None	<p>G. DENIAL OF AN ORIGINAL OR RENEWAL APPLICATION.</p> <p>1. WHEN AN ORIGINAL OR RENEWAL APPLICATION IS DENIED, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES MUST NOTIFY THE APPLICANT IN WRITING OF THE DENIAL AND MAIL IT TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE APPLICATION. THE DENIAL LETTER SHOULD BE SENT BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO VERIFY THE DATE THE APPLICANT RECEIVED THE DENIAL LETTER. IN ADDITION TO SENDING THE LETTER BY CERTIFIED MAIL, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO USE ANOTHER METHOD TO COMMUNICATE THE INFORMATION TO THE APPLICANT. IF THE APPLICANT CHOOSES TO APPEAL THE DECISION, A REQUEST BY THE APPLICANT FOR A HEARING MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE APPLICANT RECEIVED THE NOTICE OF DENIAL.</p>	New language to clarify due process	

7.500.31 3.		Supervision [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Supervision [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]		
7.500.31 3.A.1-2		<p>A. Supervision and monitoring of the identified needs of the foster home shall be carried out according to the following schedule:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A face-to-face contact shall be made in the foster care home with the foster parent(s) at least every month when children are in placement. Documentation of such contact shall be entered in the State Department's automated system in the contacts for the provider and/or the foster children placed in the home. The purpose of the contact is to answer questions that the foster parent has about the program, to indicate to the foster parents county department concerns about the operation of the home, and to observe child care. If the face-to-face contact is not possible, the reasons must be documented in the provider file and a telephone contact must be made. In the event face-to-face contact cannot be made, the maximum number of allowable days between face-to-face contacts shall not exceed forty five (45) calendar days. 2. An annual supervisory visit shall be made to the foster home. A written report of the supervisory visit shall be given to the foster parent and a copy maintained in 	<p>A. Supervision and monitoringSUPPORT of the identified needs of the foster home shall be carried outOCCUR according to the following schedule:</p> <p>A face-to-face contact shall be made in the foster care home with AT LEAST ONE (1) FOSTER PARENT PRESENTthe foster parent(s) at least ONCE A MONTH WHILEevery month when children/YOUTH are in placement-PLACED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME. Documentation of such contact shall be entered in the State Department's automated systemCCWIS in the contacts for the provider and/or the foster children/YOUTH placed in FOSTER CARE IN the FOSTER CARE home. The purpose of the contact is to PROVIDE SUPPORT AND answer questions that the foster parent has about the program, to indicate to the foster parent(s) ANY CONCERNS THE county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES concernsHAS about the operation of the FOSTER CARE home, and to observe child care/INTERACTION WHEN POSSIBLE. If the face-to-face contact is not possible, the reasons must be documented in the provider file and a telephone contact must be made. In the event face-to-face contact cannot be made, the maximum number of allowable days between face-to-face contacts shall not exceed forty five (45) calendar days.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IF THE FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE REASONS MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER 	Changes made to clarify monthly supervision and support visits and recertification visit, and reletter	

		<p>the case file. If a review of the physician's plan indicates a need for an annual examination, a new statement from the physician is required at that time. A written notice of noncompliance with the regulations will be left with the foster parents or sent to the foster parents within fifteen (15) working days of the supervisory visit if there is noncompliance. Compliance must be achieved within the time frames indicated on the written compliance notice.</p>	<p>RECORD AND AN ALTERNATE CONTACT MUST BE MADE. THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ALLOWABLE DAYS BETWEEN FACE-TO-FACE CONTACTS SHALL NOT EXCEED FORTY-FIVE (45) CALENDAR DAYS.</p> <p>2. FOR A TWO (2) FOSTER PARENT FOSTER CARE HOME, EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO MEET WITH BOTH FOSTER PARENTS. IF A FOSTER PARENT IS UNABLE TO BE PRESENT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME, THE REASON A FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT IS NOT FEASIBLE SHALL BE DOCUMENTED IN THE CCWIS. ALL FOSTER PARENTS MUST HAVE FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME QUARTERLY DURING THE YEAR AND DOCUMENTED IN THE CCWIS. FOR EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, A WAIVER MAY BE SUBMITTED.</p> <p>3. IF A CHILD/YOUTH IS NOT PRESENT DURING THE SUPPORT VISIT, AND IT IS DOCUMENTED, THE OBSERVATION OF CHILD CARE/INTERACTION IS NOT NEEDED. AT A MINIMUM ANNUALLY, THE SUPPORT CASEWORKER MUST OBSERVE THE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE FOSTER PARENT, THE/ CHILD/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, AND ANY OTHER CHILD/YOUTH LIVING IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME.</p> <p>2B. PRIOR TO RECERTIFICATION, An annual supervisory ON-SITE visit shall MUST be made to the foster CARE home TO PREPARE FOR RECERTIFICATION. A Written report</p>		
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			<p>DOCUMENTATION of the supervisory visit shall MUST be given to the foster parent TO DOCUMENT ANY NECESSARY ACTION NEEDED TO COMPLETE RECERTIFICATION. and a copy THE DOCUMENTATION MUST BE maintained in the case PROVIDER file, INCLUDING THE CCWIS. If a review of the physician's plan indicates a need for an annual examination, a new statement from the physician is required at that time. A written notice of noncompliance with the regulations will be left with the foster parents or sent to the foster parents within fifteen (15) working days of the supervisory visit if there is noncompliance. Compliance must be achieved within the time frames indicated on the written compliance notice.</p>		
7.500.31 3.B.1-4		<p>B. If a county department of social services no longer chooses to place children in the foster home, the county department shall follow one or more of the following procedures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A provisional certificate may be allowed to expire if the foster family chooses not to submit a renewal application; or, 2. The county department must send a written statement to the home explaining that the county will no longer place children in the home for foster care and that the home must not accept any children for care from other sources; or, 3. The county department must meet with the foster parents and ask them to sign a statement that they 	<p>BC. If a county department of HUMAN/ social services no longer chooses to place children/YOUTH in the foster CARE home, the county department shall follow one or more of the following procedures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A provisional certificate may be allowed to expire if the foster family chooses not to submit a certification renewal application; or, 21. The county department must send a written statement to the FOSTER PARENT home explaining that the county DEPARTMENT will no longer place children/YOUTH in the FOSTER CARE home for foster care and that the FOSTER PARENT home must not accept any children/YOUTH for care from other sources; or, 32. The county department must meet with the foster parents and ask them to sign a statement that they are withdrawing from the foster CARE home 	<p>Technical changes, combined 2 rules, added language, and remove unnecessary language</p>	

		<p>are withdrawing from the foster home program; or,</p> <p>4. The county department must send a letter to the foster parents requesting the foster parents to sign and return a statement that they are withdrawing from the foster home program.</p>	<p>program; or, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST SEND A LETTER TO THE FOSTER PARENTS REQUESTING THE FOSTER PARENTS TO SIGN AND RETURN A STATEMENT THAT THEY ARE WITHDRAWING FROM THE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM.</p> <p>43. The county department must send a letter to the foster parents requesting the foster parents to sign and return a statement that they are withdrawing from the foster home program. CLOSE THE CERTIFICATION AND PROVIDE THE FOSTER PARENT WITH WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE RIGHT TO APPEAL.</p>		
7.500.31 4		<p>Renewal or Continuation Notice [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]</p> <p>The county department shall send a renewal notice to the foster parents at least ninety (90) calendar days prior to the expiration of a certificate.</p>	<p>Renewal or Continuation Notice [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]</p> <p>The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall send a renewal notice to the foster parents at least ninety (90) calendar days prior to the expiration of a certificate.</p>	Technical change	
7.500.31 4.A		<p>A. If the foster parents wish to continue to provide care, the renewal notice shall be completed and returned to the county department prior to the expiration of the certificate.</p>	No change		
7.500.31 4.B		<p>B. If the renewal notice is received by the county department prior to the expiration of the certificate, the renewal notice is timely and the certificate continues valid until action is taken by the county department.</p>	<p>B If the renewal notice is received by the county department prior to the expiration of the certificate, the renewal notice is timely and the certificate continues TO BE valid until action is taken by the county department.</p>	Technical change	
7.500.31 4.C		<p>C. If the renewal notice is received after the expiration of the certificate, the renewal notice is untimely and the certificate is no longer valid. The</p>	<p>C. If the renewal notice is received after the expiration of the certificate, the renewal notice is untimely and the certificate is no longer valid. IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLANS TO PURSUE</p>	New guidance	

		untimely renewal notice shall be acted upon as an original application.	RECERTIFICATION, the untimely renewal notice shall OR THE COUNTY MAY FOLLOW THE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURE(S) REFERENCED IN SECTION 7.500.315.B.1-3.-		
7.500.315		Recertification Action	Recertification Action		
7.500.315.A.1-12		<p>A. Upon receipt of a timely renewal application for a certificate, and prior to the expiration of the current certificate, the county department must complete the following action to determine if continued certification is appropriate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the physician's plan. If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency the medical exams cannot be completed for the foster parent(s), other children, and other adults residing in the foster care home in the required time frame, the medical exam must be completed as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency. 2. Complete searches on the CBI sex offender registry and national sex offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice and include a copy in the provider record using the following criteria, at a minimum: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Known names and addresses of each adult 	<p>A. Upon receipt of a timely renewal application for a certificate, and prior to the expiration of the certificate. TIMELY RENEWAL MEANS A RENEWAL APPLICATION NOTICE WAS RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO OR ON THE DATE OF THE EXPIRATION OF THE CERTIFICATE. IF ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED THE FOSTER CARE HOME SERVICE SHALL BE ENTERED INTO THE CCWIS AND THE APPROVAL STATUS IS ENTERED AS PENDING FOR NO MORE THAN NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE RECEIVED. The county department of human/social services must complete the following action to determine if continued certification is appropriate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the physician's plan HEALTH ASSESSMENT. <p>If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency the medical exams for the foster parent(s), other children, and other adults residing in the home cannot be completed for the child/youth in the required time frame, the medical exam(s) must be completed as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Complete searches on the CBI sex offender registry and THE National Sex Offender 	Changes to provide definition and new guidance	Technical changes

		<p>residing in the home; and,</p> <p>b. Address only, of the foster home.</p> <p>3. Review the following information, for the applicant(s) and all adults residing in the home:</p> <p>a. Any child abuse and/or neglect allegations or investigations in the previous year;</p> <p>b. Any arrest or conviction records in the previous year; and,</p> <p>c. Any other involvement with the foster family with the county department of human or social services.</p> <p>4. If the foster parent or any adult living in the foster home left the state for three (3) consecutive months or longer, a new FBI fingerprint-based criminal history record information check shall be conducted.</p> <p>5. Evaluate the foster care homes' current and past compliance with the rules regulating foster homes.</p> <p>6. Conduct a supervisory visit in accordance with Section 7.500.313, A, 2-4;</p> <p>7. Complete a Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (S.A.F.E.) update to document the status of</p>	<p>Public Website NSOPW operated by the United States Department of Justice and include a copy in the provider record using the following criteria, at a minimum:</p> <p>a. Known name, NICKNAMES, AKAs, and addresses of each adult residing in the FOSTER CARE home; and,</p> <p>b. Address only, of the foster CARE home, INCLUDING A MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASE TO CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME HAS BEEN CHECKED.</p> <p>3. Review the following information, for the applicant(s) and all adults residing in the FOSTER CARE home. AS APPLICABLE, PROVIDE A COPY IN THE PROVIDER RECORD:</p> <p>a. Any child abuse and/or neglect allegations REFERRALS or investigations ASSESSMENTS in the previous year;</p> <p>b. Any arrest or conviction records in the previous year; and,</p> <p>c. Any other involvement with the foster family with the county department of human/ or social services; AND,</p> <p>d. THE COLORADO COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.</p> <p>4. If the foster parent or any adult living in the foster CARE home left the state for three (3) consecutive months or longer, a new FBI fingerprint-based criminal history record information check shall be conducted.</p>		
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		<p>the foster family, including changes that have occurred.</p> <p>8. Complete a CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home"; and,</p> <p>9. A one year time-limited certificate shall be issued. The certificate issue date is the date that the foster home is in compliance with the "Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes"; or,</p> <p>10. A probationary certificate shall be issued with the specific reasons listed on the certificate and on the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home"; or,</p> <p>11. The renewal application for the certificate is denied. The process for denial of a renewal application is the same as the process for denial of an original application.</p> <p>12. The certificate information shall be entered into the state automated case management system.</p>	<p>5. Evaluate the foster care PARENT'S homes' current and past compliance with the Rules Regulating Ffoster CARE Hhomes.</p> <p>6. Conduct aN ANNUAL ONSITE -supervisory-visit in accordance with Section 7.500.313-,A,2-4;</p> <p>7. Complete a Structured Analysis Family Evaluation SAFE™ (S.A.F.E.) update to document the status of the foster family, including changes that have occurred AND SIGNATURE AND DATE FROM SECTION A. OF THE UPDATE FORM.</p> <p>8. Complete a CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home"; and,</p> <p>9. A one year time-limited certificate shall be issued. The certificate issue date is the date that the foster CARE home is in compliance with the "Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes"; or,</p> <p>10. A probationary certificate shall be issued with the specific reasons listed on the certificate and on the CWS 7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home"; or IF THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE IS DENIED. THE PROCESS FOR DENIAL OF A RENEWAL APPLICATION IS THE SAME AS THE PROCESS FOR DENIAL OF AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION.</p> <p>11. The renewal application for the certificate is denied. The process for denial of a renewal application is the same as the process for denial of an original application. THE CERTIFICATE INFORMATION SHALL BE</p>	<p>Technical changes</p> <p>Repeal county does not have authority to issue a probationary certificate</p>	
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<p>7.500.B. 1-5</p>		<p>B. A foster home certificate is no longer valid whenever one of the following situations exists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A certified foster family moves to a new address. 2. A foster family decides to withdraw from the foster home program and confirms the same in writing. 3. A certificate has been revoked or the renewal application has been denied. 4. A certificate has expired. 	<p>ENTERED INTO THE CCWIS.</p> <p>12. The certificate information shall be entered into the state automated case management system.</p> <p>B. A RENEWAL APPLICATION NOTICE IS UNTIMELY IF IT IS RECEIVED AFTER THE DATE THE FOSTER CARE HOME CERTIFICATE EXPIRED. SECTION 7.406.1.C (12 CCR 2509-5) AUTHORIZES STATE REIMBURSEMENT WHEN THE CHILD IS WITH A PROVIDER IN POSSESSION OF A VALID CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE, WHEN ONE IS REQUIRED. NO ADDITIONAL CHILDREN/YOUTH MAY BE PLACED IN THE HOME UNTIL IT IS FULLY CERTIFIED. CHILDREN/YOUTH WHO ARE CURRENTLY IN PLACEMENT ARE NOT DISRUPTED IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WISHES TO CONTINUE CERTIFICATION. THE OPTIONS ARE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THE FOSTER CARE HOME SERVICE MAY BE ENTERED INTO THE CCWIS WITH THE APPROVAL IN PENDING STATUS. ALL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS; OR, 2. IF COMPLETION OF ALL REQUIREMENTS WILL TAKE LONGER THAN FIFTEEN (15) WORKING DAYS AN EMERGENCY APPEAL MAY BE FILED BY THE CERTIFYING COUNTY DEPARTMENT. IF THE EMERGENCY APPEAL IS DENIED, THE HOME IS NOT CERTIFIED AND IS CONSIDERED CLOSED. 3. A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE 	<p>Technical change</p> <p>Reletter and guidance when renewal application notice is untimely</p>	
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			<p>ISSUED ONLY IF NONE WAS PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR THE SAME ADDRESS. THE FOSTER CARE HOME MUST BE CERTIFIED WITHIN NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS OR THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL BE CLOSED.</p> <p>4. IN ANY SUBSEQUENT CERTIFICATION YEAR IF AN UNTIMELY RENEWAL APPLICATION NOTICE IS RECEIVED AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE CERTIFICATE, THE FOSTER PARENT MUST COMPLETE AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND MEET ALL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.</p> <p>a. A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED ONLY IF NONE WAS PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR THE SAME ADDRESS. FOLLOW 7.500.315.B.3; OR,</p> <p>b. IF THE COUNTY PLANS TO CERTIFY THE HOME, SECTION 7.406.1.C APPLIES.</p>		
7.500.31 5.C.1-4	New	.	<p>BC. A foster CARE home certificate is no longer valid whenever one of the following situations exists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A certified foster family moves to a new address. 2. A foster family PARENT decides to withdraw from the foster home CARE program and confirms the same IT in writing. 3. A certificate has been revoked or the renewal application has been denied. 4. A certificate has expired AND NO ACTION IS 	Reletter	

			TAKEN PURSUANT TO 7.500.315.B.1-3.		
7.500.31 6		Inter-county Transfer or Move of Foster Home [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Inter-county Transfer or Move of THE Foster CARE Home [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Technical change	
7.500.31 6.A		A. When a foster family moves to a new location within the county of residence or within a new county, the family must make a timely notification to the certifying county prior to the move by submission of an original application.	A. When a foster family moves to a new location within the county of residence or within a new county, the family must make a timely notification AT LEAST THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE MOVE TO the CURRENT certifying county prior to the move by submission of an original application.	Technical changes	
7.500.31 6.B.1-2		B. When a foster family moves to a new residence in the same county, the county department shall inspect the new residence to assure compliance with the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708 (12 CCR 2509-8). Certification action which results in issuance of a certificate shall be dated in the following fashion: 1. A certificate shall commence the date that the county department determines that there is compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Foster Homes, Section 7.708. 2. The county department may issue a provisional certificate if the home is temporarily unable to conform to all appropriate rules of the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708, upon proof by the foster parents that attempts are being made to comply with the	B. When a foster family moves to a new residence in the same county, the county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall inspect the new residence to assure compliance with the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708 (12 CCR 2509-8). Certification action which results in issuance of a certificate shall be COMPLETED dated in the following WAY fashion : 1. A certificate shall commence the date that the county department determines that there is compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for REGULATING Foster CARE Homes, Section 7.708. 2. The county department may issue a CHILD SPECIFIC provisional certificate if the FOSTER CARE home is temporarily unable to conform to all appropriate rules of the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708, upon proof by the foster parents that attempts are being made to comply with the appropriate regulations. The reasons for the issuance of the provisional certificate will be displayed on the certificate. The provisional certificate may not exceed ninety (90) calendar days from the	Technical changes and clarifies reimbursement from section 7.500.312	

		appropriate regulations. The reasons for the issuance of the provisional certificate will be displayed on the certificate. The provisional certificate may not exceed ninety (90) calendar days from the date it is determined that time will be needed to meet the rules. Only one original provisional certificate may be issued to a foster home at one location address.	date it is determined that time will be needed to meet the rules. Only one original provisional certificate may be issued to a foster CARE home at one location address. THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT REIMBURSE FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH PLACED IN A PROVISIONALLY CERTIFIED FOSTER CARE HOME MORE THAN NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION.		
7.500.31 6.C		C. When a foster family who has foster children in placement moves to another county, the county of original residence shall immediately forward to the county where the family moves the record on the foster home and children in placement, and ask that county to certify and supervise the home in the new location.	C. When a foster family who has foster WITH children/YOUTH in FOSTER CARE placement, moves to another county, the county of original residence shall MAY immediately forward to the county where the family moves, the record on the foster CARE home and children/YOUTH in placement; TO THE and ask that county WHERE THE FOSTER FAMILY MOVES to certify and supervise the home in the new location.	Technical changes	
7.500.31 6.D		D. When a foster family who has foster children in placement moves to an adjoining county, the county of original residence shall immediately notify the adjoining county and may ask permission to continue to certify and supervise the home. Upon notification from the second county of its approval, certification assessment of the foster home shall be completed by the original county, and a permanent or provisional certificate issued.	D. When a foster family who has foster WITH children/YOUTH in FOSTER CARE placement moves to an adjoining county, the county of original residence shall immediately OR WITHIN TWO (2) BUSINESS DAYS notify the adjoining county and may ask permission to continue to certify and supervise the FOSTER CARE home. Upon notification from the second county of its approval, certification assessment of the foster CARE home shall be completed by the original county, and a permanent or a provisional certificate issued.	Technical changes	
7.500.31 6.E		None	E. IF A FOSTER CARE HOME TRANSFERS TO A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FROM ANOTHER AGENCY OR TRIBAL FOSTER CARE PROGRAM, A SAFE™ ASSESSMENT UPDATE MAY BE COMPLETED IF THE PREVIOUS ENTITY	New language includes tribal foster home program	

			PROVIDES THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND ALL SUBSEQUENT UPDATES.		
7.500.31 7		Complaint Investigations [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]	Complaint Investigations [Rev. eff. 4/1/12] RESPONSE to a NOTIFICATION of an ALLEGATION of ABUSE and/or NEGLECT or ANOTHER TYPE of CONCERN in a COUNTY FOSTER CARE HOME	Technical change	
7.500.31 7.A.1-6 & B	reletter	<p>A. When a complaint of child abuse or neglect is received by the agency about a certified facility, the local investigating authority and placement workers of children in the home shall be notified immediately. Investigation shall be made according to the procedures outlined for investigation of institutional abuse as found in the Program Area 5 Section.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A determination shall be made immediately whether children should remain in placement or if other children should be placed in the home while the investigation is in progress. 2. The results of the investigations shall be summarized and included in the foster home facility file. This may be in the form of the final written report completed by the investigating county. 3. Upon receipt of the written report from the investigating county, the certifying county shall make a determination within three working days whether there will continue to be future use of the home. The foster home shall be notified in 	<p>A. When a complaint of child abuse or neglect is received by the agency about a certified facility, the local investigating authority and placement workers of children in the home shall be notified immediately. Investigation shall be made according to the procedures outlined for investigation of institutional abuse as found in the Program Area 5 Section.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A determination shall be made immediately whether children should remain in placement or if other children should be placed in the home while the investigation is in progress. 2. The results of the investigations shall be summarized and included in the foster home facility file. This may be in the form of the final written report completed by the investigating county. 3. Upon receipt of the written report from the investigating county, the certifying county shall make a determination within three working days whether there will continue to be future use of the home. The foster home shall be notified in writing. 	Significant changes - strike prior language and reletter	

		<p>writing and the notification recorded in the foster home facility file as to the decision regarding future use of the home. If the foster home certificate is closed, suspended or revoked, the county department shall notify the Colorado Department of Human Services in writing.</p> <p>4. The final decision regarding the future use of the foster home shall be confirmed in writing to the home and recorded in the foster home facility file within ten (10) working days of the receipt by the certifying agency of the final written report of a child abuse investigation. If the county department continues to certify a foster home where there has been a confirmed report for medium or severe child abuse or neglect, the county department must notify the State Department in writing within three (3) business days and submit justification for keeping the foster home certified.</p> <p>5. Administrative proceedings to modify, limit or revoke the certificate will be initiated by the certifying agency within 30 calendar days of notification of any adverse decision regarding future use of the home.</p> <p>6. After the State Institutional Abuse Team reviews the investigating county finding, the State</p>	<p>4. The final decision regarding the future use of the foster home shall be confirmed in writing to the home and recorded in the foster home facility file within ten (10) working days of the receipt by the certifying agency of the final written report of a child abuse investigation. If the county department continues to certify a foster home where there has been a confirmed report for medium or severe child abuse or neglect, the county department must notify the State Department in writing within three (3) business days and submit justification for keeping the foster home certified.</p> <p>A. WHEN NOTIFICATION OF A REFERRAL ALLEGING ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN A COUNTY FOSTER CARE HOME IS RECEIVED AND IT HAS NOT BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ASSESSMENT THE CERTIFYING COUNTY FOSTER CARE SUPPORT WORKER SHALL TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:</p> <p>1. REVIEW THE REFERRAL TO DETERMINE IF THERE ARE CERTIFICATION CONCERNS IDENTIFIED.</p> <p>a. IF NO CERTIFICATION CONCERNS ARE IDENTIFIED, DOCUMENT RECEIPT OF THE REFERRAL IN RESOURCE NOTES IN THE COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CCWIS).</p> <p>b. IF CONCERNS ARE IDENTIFIED, THE FOSTER CARE SUPPORT WORKER WILL COMPLETE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE INCIDENT THIS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:</p>		
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		<p>Institutional Abuse Team may recommend that a follow-up investigation be completed. The county shall advise the State Department of actions taken by entering a report into the State Department's automated system within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the State Institutional Team's request.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) MEET WITH THE FOSTER PARENT; 2) IDENTIFY ANY CORRECTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS THAT NEED TO BE INCORPORATED AND PROVIDE ANY TRAINING, OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MITIGATE CONCERNS; AND, 3) DOCUMENT ANY ACTIONS TAKEN. <p>B. WHEN NOTIFICATION OF A REFERRAL ALLEGING ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT IN A COUNTY FOSTER CARE HOME HAS BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ASSESSMENT THE CERTIFYING COUNTY'S FOSTER CARE SUPPORT WORKER AND/OR DESIGNATED STAFF SHALL TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A DETERMINATION SHALL BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ASSESSMENT CASEWORKER, WHETHER CHILDREN/YOUTH SHOULD REMAIN IN PLACEMENT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME; AND, 2. IF OTHER CHILDREN/YOUTH SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE HOME WHILE THE ASSESSMENT IS IN PROGRESS 3. THE RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT SHALL BE SUMMARIZED AND INCLUDED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD MAINTAINED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT. THIS MAY BE IN THE FORM OF THE FINAL WRITTEN REPORT COMPLETED BY THE COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSESSMENT. 		
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			<p>4. UPON RECEIPT OF THE WRITTEN REPORT FROM THE COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT, THE CERTIFYING COUNTY SHALL MAKE A DETERMINATION WITHIN THREE (3) WORKING DAYS REGARDING CONTINUED USE OF THE HOME. THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF THE DECISION AND THE NOTIFICATION RECORDED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD MAINTAINED BY THE CERTIFYING COUNTY. IF THE FOSTER CARE CERTIFICATE IS CLOSED, SUSPENDED, OR REVOKED, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL DOCUMENT THIS IN THE CCWIS.</p> <p>5. THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING FUTURE USE OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL BE CONFIRMED IN WRITING TO THE FOSTER PARENT AND RECORDED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD WITHIN TEN (10) WORKING DAYS OF THE RECEIPT BY THE CERTIFYING AGENCY OF THE FINAL WRITTEN REPORT OF A CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT ASSESSMENT.</p> <p>a. IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTINUES CERTIFICATION OF A FOSTER CARE HOME WHERE THERE HAS BEEN A CONFIRMED REPORT OF MEDIUM OR SEVERE CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT, WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION AND ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP MUST BE IDENTIFIED. THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE MUST SIGN THE STATEMENT.</p> <p>b. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST NOTIFY THE CHILD WELFARE</p>		
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			<p>DIRECTOR AND FOSTER CARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR AT THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE IN WRITING WITHIN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS AND SUBMIT THE JUSTIFICATION AND FOLLOW-UP FOR MAINTAINING THE FOSTER CARE HOME CERTIFICATION.</p> <p>c. THE STATEMENT MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN NOTES IN THE REFERRAL FOR THE PROVIDER.</p> <p>5 6. Administrative proceedings to modify, limit, or revoke the certificate will be initiated by the certifying agency within 30 calendar days of notification of any adverse decision regarding future CONTINUED use of the FOSTER CARE home.</p> <p>6-7. After the State Institutional Abuse REVIEW Team (IART) reviews EVALUATES the investigating county finding, and assessment BY THE COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSESSMENT, the State Institutional Abuse REVIEW Team may recommend that a follow-up REVIEW investigation. A FOLLOW-UP IS A REVIEW OF THE ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT be completed BY THE CERTIFYING COUNTY TO DETERMINE IF THE AGENCY HAS CULPABILITY BASED ON PRACTICES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES, IF ANY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS WERE VIOLATED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME, OR BY THE FOSTER CARE PROVIDERS. The</p>		
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			county shall advise the State Department of actions taken by entering a report into the State Department's automated system CCWIS within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the State Institutional ABUSE REVIEW Team's request. THE FOLLOW-UP MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD.		
7.500.31 7.BC		B. Other types of complaints shall be investigated by the certifying authority. The investigation shall result in a determination whether the complaint is valid and, if so, what corrections or modifications the home must make. The results of the investigation shall be confirmed in writing within ten (10) working days.	BC. Other types of complaints OR IDENTIFIED CONCERNS shall be investigated REVIEWED AND ADDRESSED by the certifying COUNTY. authority. The investigation COUNTY'S shall result in a determination REVIEW of THE CONCERNS SHALL BE DOCUMENTED whether the complaint is valid and, if se APPLICABLE, what corrections or modifications the FOSTER CARE home must make. The results investigation shall be confirmed in writing within ten (10) working days TO THE FOSTER PARENT AND DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS.	Reletter and technical changes	
7.500.32		Specialized Group Facilities [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Specialized Group Facilities [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Technical change	
7.500.32. A		A. Specialized group facilities provide long-term or emergency care of children who must live away from their own homes and who can benefit from group interaction, need a more therapeutic setting than that provided in a foster home, and need the experience of strong peer relationships.	A. Specialized group facilities provide long term or emergency care of children who must live away from their own homes and who can benefit from group interaction, need a more therapeutic setting than that provided in a foster home, and need the experience of strong peer relationships.	Repeal	
7.500.32. B		B. A specialized group home and specialized group center are defined in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. A specialized group home and	B. A specialized group home and specialized group center are defined in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. A specialized group home and specialized group center shall be licensed by the state department.	Repeal	

		specialized group center shall be licensed by the state department.			
7.500.32. C		C. The recruitment of specialized group facilities shall center on the recruitment of primary caregivers who meet the requirements of primary caregiver as stated in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities and are capable of working closely with the department and a variety of other agencies.	C. The recruitment of specialized group facilities shall center on the recruitment of primary caregivers who meet the requirements of primary caregiver as stated in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities and are capable of working closely with the department and a variety of other agencies.	Repeal	
7.500.32. D		D. The county department which establishes and sponsors a specialized group facility shall assign a department staff member to be the supervisor of that facility who meets the requirements as stated in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. The supervisor shall develop policies for the facility pursuant to the regulations prior to issuance of the original license.	D. The county department which establishes and sponsors a specialized group facility shall assign a department staff member to be the supervisor of that facility who meets the requirements as stated in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. The supervisor shall develop policies for the facility pursuant to the regulations prior to issuance of the original license.	Repeal	
7.500.32. E.1-3		E. Requirements for the Operation of Specialized Group Homes or Specialized Group Centers 1. The specialized group facility shall be sponsored and supervised by a county department of social/human services or a child placement agency. 2. The supervisory responsibilities of the sponsoring agency are: a. To be knowledgeable with the rules regulating specialized group facilities; and,	E. Requirements for the Operation of Specialized Group Homes or Specialized Group Centers 1. The specialized group facility shall be sponsored and supervised by a county department of social/human services or a child placement agency. 2. The supervisory responsibilities of the sponsoring agency are: a. To be knowledgeable with the rules regulating specialized group facilities; and, b. Participate in the development and application process to include verifying that the original application submitted is complete	Repeal	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Participate in the development and application process to include verifying that the original application submitted is complete with all required signatures and submitted in a timely manner; and, c. Ongoing assessment of the specialized group facility for quality of care issues; and, d. Annual evaluations of the governing body, unless the governing body and the sponsoring agency are the same agency; and <p>3. The sponsoring agency shall be responsible to ensure that state rules are followed regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The hiring, training and scheduling staff; and, b. Placement decisions including, but not limited to, appropriateness of placement and least restrictive environment; and, c. The documentation, reporting and corrective action of critical incidents. 	<p>with all required signatures and submitted in a timely manner; and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Ongoing assessment of the specialized group facility for quality of care issues; and, d. Annual evaluations of the governing body, unless the governing body and the sponsoring agency are the same agency; and <p>3. The sponsoring agency shall be responsible to ensure that state rules are followed regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The hiring, training and scheduling staff; and, b. Placement decisions including, but not limited to, appropriateness of placement and least restrictive environment; and, c. The documentation, reporting and corrective action of critical incidents 		
7.500.32 1		Application and Study for an Original License [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]	Application and Study for an Original License [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]	Repeal	
7.500.32 1.A		A. If the county department establishes and plans to sponsor a specialized group facility and the governing body for the specialized group facility is the	A. If the county department establishes and plans to sponsor a specialized group facility and the governing body for the specialized group facility is the applicant for the license, both the county department and the	Repeal	

		applicant for the license, both the county department and the governing body must sign the original application. An original application which is totally complete and a fee shall be submitted to the State Department, including a written plan for the supervision of the specialized group facility. The name of the supervisor for the specialized group facility must be identified on the application.	governing body must sign the original application. An original application which is totally complete and a fee shall be submitted to the State Department, including a written plan for the supervision of the specialized group facility. The name of the supervisor for the specialized group facility must be identified on the application.		
7.500.32 1.B.1-2		<p>B. The county department shall complete a study of the specialized group facility which shall consist of at least the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An assessment of character and suitability of the primary caregivers, including at least a review of the State Department's automated system as to the applicant and persons who reside with applicant in the facility, with written approval by such persons, receipt of statements from references and physician, review of existing case records, evaluation by a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker documented by a written statement that includes all items listed at Section 7.709.22, J, 1-16; and documentation of the prior work experience of the primary caregiver with children in out-of-home care. 2. Statement from references and physician for each staff member working at the specialized group home or center. 	<p>B. The county department shall complete a study of the specialized group facility which shall consist of at least the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An assessment of character and suitability of the primary caregivers, including at least a review of the State Department's automated system as to the applicant and persons who reside with applicant in the facility, with written approval by such persons, receipt of statements from references and physician, review of existing case records, evaluation by a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker documented by a written statement that includes all items listed at Section 7.709.22, J, 1-16; and documentation of the prior work experience of the primary caregiver with children in out of home care. 2. Statement from references and physician for each staff member working at the specialized group home or center. 	Repeal	

<p>7.500.32 1.B.3.a-c</p>		<p>3. The State Department shall require any applicant or licensee and any person eighteen (18) years of age or older who resides with the applicant or licensee in the specialized group facility or who works in the specialized group facility to obtain and review:</p> <p>a. Fingerprint-based criminal history record information checks from the CBI and the FBI as required in Section 7.701.33 in all circumstances.</p> <p>b. Child abuse/neglect records in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the date of application;</p> <p>c. The CBI sex offender and National Sex Offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice by:</p> <p>1) Known names and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and</p> <p>2) Address only of the home</p> <p>3) A comparison search on the Court Case Management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each</p>	<p>3. The State Department shall require any applicant or licensee and any person eighteen (18) years of age or older who resides with the applicant or licensee in the specialized group facility or who works in the specialized group facility to obtain and review:</p> <p>a. Fingerprint-based criminal history record information checks from the CBI and the FBI as required in Section 7.701.33 in all circumstances.</p> <p>b. Child abuse/neglect records in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the date of application;</p> <p>c. The CBI sex offender and National Sex Offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice by:</p> <p>1) Known names and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and</p> <p>2) Address only of the home</p> <p>3) A comparison search on the Court Case Management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which an applicant or other adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search shall be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history and record confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. (See section 7.500.24)</p>	<p>Repeal</p>	
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		<p>adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which an applicant or other adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search shall be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history and record confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. (See section 7.500.24)</p> <p>4) All background checks shall be documented in the state automated case management system</p>	<p>4) All background checks shall be documented in the state automated case management system</p>		
7.500.32 1.B.4-7		<p>4. An on-site facility inspection, documented in writing, which determines that the facility is in compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.</p> <p>5. Written approval received by the county department from the local health, fire, and zoning departments.</p> <p>6. A CWS-7A, Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services and Foster Care Facility Agreement, shall be signed by the primary caregivers.</p>	<p>4. An on-site facility inspection, documented in writing, which determines that the facility is in compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.</p> <p>5. Written approval received by the county department from the local health, fire, and zoning departments.</p> <p>6. A CWS-7A, Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services and Foster Care Facility Agreement, shall be signed by the primary caregivers.</p> <p>7. Completion of policies for the operation of the specialized group home.</p>	Repeal	

		7. Completion of policies for the operation of the specialized group home.			
7.500.32 1.C		C. The group home primary caregivers who have not previously received twelve (12) hours of "core" training shall receive twelve (12) hours of training within the first twelve (12) months following the submission of the application.	C. The group home primary caregivers who have not previously received twelve (12) hours of "core" training shall receive twelve (12) hours of training within the first twelve (12) months following the submission of the application.	Repeal	
7.500.32 1.D.1-3		D. The application form requires that several attachments be submitted. The application is incomplete and the license cannot be issued until these are submitted. The county department must also submit the following with the application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation of experience, the medical statement, reference statements and written statement from a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker regarding the primary care giver. 2. The name of each staff member, dates of receipt of medical statements and references. 3. Written and dated documentation that an on-site home inspection has been made and the facility is in compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. 	D. The application form requires that several attachments be submitted. The application is incomplete and the license cannot be issued until these are submitted. The county department must also submit the following with the application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation of experience, the medical statement, reference statements and written statement from a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker regarding the primary care giver. 2. The name of each staff member, dates of receipt of medical statements and references. 3. Written and dated documentation that an on-site home inspection has been made and the facility is in compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. 	Repeal	
7.500.32 1.E		E. The license will not be issued until the State Department has received an approving written report from the fire, health, and zoning departments as	E. The license will not be issued until the State Department has received an approving written report from the fire, health, and zoning departments as required by the General Rules for Child Care	Repeal	

		required by the General Rules for Child Care Facilities, Section 7.701.34. Approvals may be verified by signature of the inspector on the application form.	Facilities, Section 7.701.34. Approvals may be verified by signature of the inspector on the application form.		
7.500.32 2		Supervision The group home supervisor shall provide supervision for the group home or group center pursuant to the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.	Supervision The group home supervisor shall provide supervision for the group home or group center pursuant to the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.	Repeal	
7.500.32 3		Complaint Investigations [Rev. eff. 1/1/16] Complaints of child abuse or neglect and other complaints about a specialized group facility shall be investigated and documented in the same manner as for foster homes.	Complaint Investigations Complaints of child abuse or neglect and other complaints about a specialized group facility shall be investigated and documented in the same manner as for foster homes.	Repeal	

7.500.32 4.A.1-5		Dual Licenses and Certificates [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Dual Licenses and Certificates [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]	Technical change	
		A. A home may be licensed and certified to provide both day care and foster care simultaneously. This is known as a dual care provider. Dual care providers utilized by county departments of human/social services are certified by the county for foster care and licensed by the State for day care. 1. If a foster home wishes to accept children for day care on a regular basis, the home shall apply for a license for day care from the Colorado Department of Human Services and pay the prescribed fee.	A. A home may be licensed and certified to provide both day CHILD care and CERTIFIED FOR foster care simultaneously. This is known as a dual care provider. Dual care providers utilized by county departments of human/social services are certified by the county for foster care and licensed by the State for day CHILD care. 1. If a foster CARE home wishes to accept children for day CHILD care on a regular basis, the home PROVIDER shall apply for a license for CHILD care from the Colorado Department of Human Services EARLY CHILDHOOD and pay the prescribed fee. 2. If the foster CARE home wishes to provide day	Technical changes and repeal rule regarding probationary status below	

		<p>2. If the foster home wishes to provide day care, the certifying agency must approve.</p> <p>a. The county department shall complete a justification statement as to how the needs of all children will be met and protected in this home if certified for foster care and licensed for day care, which shall be filed in the case record.</p> <p>b. The county department shall document in the case record the specific number of children for combined use of the home, specific number of children as a day care home, and a specific number of children in foster care.</p> <p>3. A home that is licensed for day care may only be certified for foster care for one child or for a group of siblings.</p> <p>4. A county that has a foster home that is certified for foster care and also licensed for day care must notify the Division of Child Care when any of the following situations occur in the foster home:</p> <p>a. A complaint is received; or,</p> <p>b. A child abuse investigation occurs; or,</p>	<p>CHILD care, the certifying agency must approve.</p> <p>a. The county department shall complete a justification statement as to how DESCRIBING HOW the needs of all children/YOUTH will be met and protected in this home if certified for foster care and licensed for day CHILD care, which shall be filed in the case record.</p> <p>b. The county department shall document in the case record the specific number of children for combined use of the home, specific number of children as a day CHILD care home, and a specific number of children/YOUTH in foster care.</p> <p>3. A home that is licensed for day CHILD care may only be certified for foster care for one (1) child/YOUTH or for a group of siblings.</p> <p>4. A county DEPARTMENT that has a foster CARE home that is certified for foster care and also licensed for day CHILD care must notify the Division of Child Care COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD when any of the following situations occur in the foster CARE home:</p> <p>a. A complaint is received; or,</p> <p>b. A child abuse AND/OR NEGLECT ASSESSMENT investigation occurs; or,</p> <p>c. A FOLLOW-UP Stage II REVIEW investigation occurs; or,</p> <p>d. A foster child(ren) YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE is removed from the home because of abuse</p>		
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. A Stage II investigation occurs; or, d. A foster child(ren) is removed from the home because of abuse allegations; or, e. The foster home certificate is changed to probationary; or, f. The foster home certificate is revoked or closed. <p>5. A county that has a foster home that is certified for foster care and also licensed for day care must submit the following reports to the CDHS Division of Child Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All complaint investigation reports; and, b. All child abuse investigation reports; and, c. All Stage II investigation reports. 	<p>AND/OR NEGLECT allegations; or,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. The foster CARE home certificate is changed to probationary; or, fe. The foster CARE home certificate is revoked or closed. <p>5. A county DEPARTMENT that has a foster CARE home that is certified for foster care and also licensed for day CHILD care must submit the following reports to the COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. All complaint investigation reports; and, b. All child abuse/NEGLECT investigation ASSESSMENT reports; and, c. All FOLLOW-UP-Stage II-REVIEW investigation reports. 		
7.500.33		(None)	<p>SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER QUALIFICATIONS (HOME STUDY)</p> <p>THE FOLLOWING ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTITIONERS AND THEIR SUPERVISION WHEN COMPLETING HOME STUDY ASSESSMENTS.</p> <p>A. COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES STAFF AND CONTRACT VENDORS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:</p>	New section moved from adoption services with additional requirements regarding supervision. The requirements align with section 7.710.	

			<p>1. A SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER MUST HAVE A BACHELOR'S, MASTER'S, OR DOCTORATE DEGREE FROM A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN A HUMAN SERVICE OR MENTAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RELATED FIELD, SUCH AS PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND FAMILY STUDIES, SOCIAL WORK, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, AND/OR COUNSELING; AND BE SUPERVISED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS BOTH THE EDUCATIONAL AND WORK-RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN CHILD PLACEMENT, CHILD PROTECTION, FOSTER CARE, OR ADOPTION.</p> <p>B. ALL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS COMPLETING A SAFE™ HOME STUDY MUST RECEIVE SUPERVISION FOR EACH SAFE™ ASSESSMENT BY A SUPERVISOR TRAINED IN SAFE™ PROTOCOL, SAFE™ SUPERVISION, AND WITH THE EDUCATIONAL AND WORK-RELATED REQUIREMENTS. APPROVED PRACTITIONERS COMPLETING A SAFE™ HOME STUDY MUST UTILIZE THE SAFE™ SUPERVISORY PROCESS AS OUTLINED BY THE CONSORTIUM FOR CHILDREN. IF THE SAFE™ SUPERVISION PROTOCOL IS NOT FOLLOWED IT IS NOT CONSIDERED A VALID SAFE™ HOME STUDY. THERE IS NO EXCEPTION.</p> <p>C. ALL INDIVIDUALS FUNCTIONING AS A SAFE™ SUPERVISOR MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE SAFE™ TWO-DAY CERTIFICATION TRAINING, SAFE™ SUPERVISOR TRAINING, AND</p>		
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			<p>COMPLETED SAFE™ REFRESHER TRAINING TIMELY.</p> <p>D. SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS WHO ARE SUPERVISORS MUST ALSO RECEIVE SUPERVISION FROM A SEPARATE QUALIFIED SAFE™ SUPERVISOR FOR EACH SAFE™ ASSESSMENT COMPLETED. THE SUPERVISOR VERIFIES THAT THIS HOME STUDY WAS CONDUCTED WITH DUE PROFESSIONAL DILIGENCE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH COLORADO LAW AND THE RULES ADOPTED BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.</p> <p>E. THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN AN APPROVED CONTRACT VENDOR LIST OF HOME STUDY REPORT PROVIDERS.</p> <p>1. ALL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS THAT ARE ON THE CONTRACT VENDOR LIST MUST PROVIDE VERIFICATION OF A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSCRIPT, RESUME, ATTESTATION OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES, SAFE™ ASSESSMENT TRAINING, SAFE™ SUPERVISOR TRAINING (IF APPLICABLE), AND CURRENT INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY INSURANCE.</p> <p>a. INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT VENDORS MUST SUBMIT PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE IN AN AMOUNT REASONABLE AS RELATED TO THEIR EXPOSURE TO RISK.</p> <p>2. THE INDIVIDUAL MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT RISK ASSESSMENT TO THE</p>		
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			COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IF REQUESTED.		
7.500.34		(NONE)			
7.500.35		Adoption Resources	Adoption Resources		
7.500.35 1		Applications and Adoption Services [Rev.eff. 3/2/11]	Applications and Adoption Services [Rev.eff. 3/2/11]	Technical change	
7.500.35 1.A		A. Recruiting and Inquires	A. FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING A SAFE™ ASSESSMENT OR SAFE™ UPDATE FOR ADOPTION, IT MUST BE COMPLETED NINETY (90) WORKING DAYS FROM RECEIVING THE COMPLETED BACKGROUND CHECKS. COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES AND CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCIES SHALL BE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE COURT THE RESULTS OF A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK WHEN IT REVEALS THAT THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT WAS CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR OF:	Moved the language to B	
			1. CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT;		
			2. ANY CRIME AGAINST A CHILD, INCLUDING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY;		
			3. ANY CRIME, THE UNDERLYING FACTUAL BASIS OF WHICH HAS BEEN FOUND BY THE COURT ON THE RECORD TO INCLUDE AN ACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 18-6- 800.3, C.R.S.;		
			4. VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-6-803.5, C.R.S.;		
			5. ANY CRIME INVOLVING VIOLENCE, RAPE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR HOMICIDE; AND,		
			6. ANY FELONY DRUG-RELATED CONVICTION WITHIN, AT A MINIMUM, THE PAST FIVE YEARS. FELONY DRUG-RELATED		

			<p>CONVICTIONS AT LEAST TEN YEARS PRIOR TO THE APPLICATION DO NOT NEED TO BE REPORTED.</p> <p>7. NO PERSON CONVICTED OF A FELONY OFFENSE SHALL BE ALLOWED TO ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH, EXCEPT A PERSON MAY BE ALLOWED TO ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH IF:</p> <p>a. THE APPLICANT HAS HAD NO FURTHER ARRESTS OR CONVICTIONS SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORIGINAL CONVICTION;AND,</p> <p>b. THE APPLICANT HAS NOT BEEN CONVICTED OF A PATTERN OF MISDEMEANOR, AS DEFINED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES AT SECTION 7.500.312.D.3.a-c.</p> <p>c. THE COURT ENTERS A FINDING CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 19-5-210(2)(D), C.R.S., THE COURT ENTERS A FINDING CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 19-5-210(2)(d), C.R.S., THAT THE ADOPTION IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD.</p>		
7.500.35 1.A.1		<p>1. The county department recruits adoptive homes that reflect the racial, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds for all waiting children. The county shall make reasonable efforts to recruit families of the same ethnic, cultural and racial background as the children waiting adoption.</p>	<p>AB. Recruiting and Inquiries</p> <p>1. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES recruits adoptive homes that reflect the racial, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds for all waiting children/YOUTH. The county DEPARTMENT shall make reasonable efforts to recruit families of the same</p>	Reletter and technical changes	

			ethnic, cultural, and racial background as the children/YOUTH Awaiting adoption AS REFERENCED IN MULTIETHNIC PLACEMENT ACT (42 U.S.C. § 5115a).		
7.500.35 1.A.2		2. The county department provides information about adoption services within the county department and services available through other adoption agencies and organizations. Requests for studies for children from private sources shall be referred to private agencies.	2. The county department provides information about adoption services within the county department and services available through other adoption agencies and organizations. Requests for studies SAFE™ ASSESSMENTS for children/YOUTH from private sources shall be referred to private agencies.	Technical change and re-letter	

<p>7.500.351.A.3</p>	<p>3. Families approved for international adoption and waiting for adoptive placement can be simultaneously approved for adoption with public and private adoption agencies as long as both agencies are aware of the arrangement.</p> <p>a. The family shall inform the public agency of its current relationship with the private agency that approved it for an international adoption.</p> <p>b. The family shall sign a release for information from the private agency to be provided to the county department of their choice. The released information shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Current home study completed in the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) format by the private agency; 2) Documentation of training completed by the family. <p>c. The county shall do an update of the home study using the SAFE home study format and clarify the type of child for whom the family would be approved via the county's approval process.</p>	<p>3. PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) Families approved for international INTERCOUNTRY adoption and waiting for adoptive placement can be simultaneously approved for adoption with public and private adoption CHILD PLACEMENT agencies as long as both agencies are aware AND IN AGREEMENT of the arrangement.</p> <p>a. The PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) family shall inform the public agency of its current relationship with the LICENSED private CHILD PLACEMENT agency that approved it for an international INTERCOUNTRY adoption.</p> <p>b. The PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) family shall sign a release for OF information from the private CHILD PLACEMENT agency to be provided to the county department of their choice. The released information shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Current SAFE™ ASSESSMENT home study completed in the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE™) format by the private agency; 2) Documentation of training completed by the family PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S). <p>c. The county DEPARTMENT shall do COMPLETE A SAFE™ UPDATE an update of the home study using the SAFE™ home study format and clarify the type CHARACTERISTICS of child REN/YOUTH for whom the PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) family would be approved via USING the county's DEPARTMENT'S approval process.</p> <p>d. The county DEPARTMENT must obtain the following new information from the PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) family:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) References; 	<p>Technical changes and new language regarding time frame for background check</p>
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	<p>d. The county must obtain the following new information from the family:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1) References;</p> <p>2) Physicals;</p> <p>3) Background check for each adult eighteen (18) and older living in the home, for the following:</p> <p>Fingerprint-based criminal history checks from the CBI and FBI as required in section 7.701.33 in all circumstances.</p> <p>Child abuse/neglect records in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the date of application.</p> <p>The CBI Sex Offender and National Sex Offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known names and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and • Address only of the home <p>iv. A comparison search on the Court Case Management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult</p>	<p>2) HEALTH ASSESSMENTS Physicals;</p> <p>3) Background check for each adult AGE eighteen (18) and older living in the home, for the following:</p> <p>i-a) Fingerprint-based criminal history checks from the CBI and FBI as required in section 7.701.33 in all circumstances.</p> <p>ii-b) Child abuse/neglect records in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the date of application.</p> <p>iii-c) The CBI Sex Offender and National Sex Offender public website NSOPW operated by the United States Department of Justice by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • i. Known names, NICKNAMES, AKAs, and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and, • ii. Address only of the home, INCLUDING A MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASES TO CONFIRM IT HAS BEEN CHECKED. <p>iv-d) A comparison search on the COLORADO Court Case Management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which an applicant or other adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search shall be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history and record confirms or does not confirm a criminal history (See</p>	
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		<p>eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which an applicant or other adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search shall be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history and record confirms or does not confirm a criminal history (See section 7.500.24).</p>	<p>section 7.500.24).</p> <p>e) WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS PRIOR TO FINALIZATION OF AN ADOPTION, COMPLETE ALL BACKGROUNDS CHECKS INCLUDING: CCWIS, COLORADO COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, CBI AND FBI FINGERPRINT BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION CHECK, CBI SEX OFFENDER CHECK AND NSOPW.</p>	
7.500.351.A.3.d.4)	<p>4) All background checks shall be documented in the state automated case management system.</p> <p>i. The county shall continue to follow its regular policies and procedures in considering the family for potential placements.</p> <p>ii. The family shall sign an agreement with both the public and private agency stating that the family shall inform either agency when there is a potential placement. The agreement shall state the following:</p> <p>1. All parties understand and agree that the agency not placing the child will put the family "on hold" for a minimum of six months following the date that the child is placed in the family's home;</p>	<p>4) All background checks shall be documented in the state automated case management system CCWIS.</p> <p>i-a) The county DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall continue to follow its regular policies and procedures in considering the PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) family for potential placements.</p> <p>ii-b) The family PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) shall sign an agreement with both the public and private agency stating that the family PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) WILL shall inform either agency when there is a potential placement. The agreement shall state the following:</p> <p>4i. All parties understand and agree that the agency not placing the child will put the family THE HOME OF THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR ANY NEW PLACEMENTS "on hold" for a minimum of six (6) months following the date that the</p>	<p>Technical changes and renumber</p>	

		<p>2. At the end of the six month period "on hold", all parties including the family, the two agencies and any other person or persons who have a vested interest in the adoptive placement of the child, shall meet to discuss whether or not the "on hold" period should continue and the reason(s) behind that decision;</p> <p>3. The placing agency shall complete a home study update using the SAFE format regarding the progress and appropriateness of the new placement and make recommendations for further adoptive placements in the future;</p> <p>4. The non-placing agency shall update its home study using the SAFE format, with the same criteria such that the non-placing agency has made its own recommendations for further placements.</p> <p>(numbered incorrectly)</p> <p>ii. The public agencies shall advise families that home studies completed for public agencies are not suitable to determine the appropriateness for placement with children from other countries.</p>	<p>child/YOUTH is placed in the family's home;</p> <p>2ii. At the end of the six (6) month period "on hold" THAT THE HOME IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR NEW PLACEMENTS, all parties including the family PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) AND BOTH the PUBLIC AND LICENSED PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCY two agencies, and any other person or persons who have a vested interest in the adoptive placement of the child/YOUTH, shall meet to discuss DETERMINE AND DOCUMENT whether or not the "on hold" NON AVAILABILITY period should continue; and the reason(s) behind that decision;</p> <p>3iii. The placing agency shall complete a home study SAFE™ update using the SAFE format regarding the progress and appropriateness of the new placement and make recommendations for ANY further adoptive placements; in the future;</p> <p>4iv. The non-placing agency shall COMPLETE A SAFE™ update its home study using the SAFE format, ADDRESSING THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD/YOUTH INTO THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE HOME with the same criteria such that the non-placing agency has made its own recommendations for further placements.</p> <p>ii.c) The public agencies COUNTY DEPARTMENT shall advise THE</p>	
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		<p>iii. The public agency shall assure that the required information is included in either the private agency's home study or in the update completed by the public agency.</p>	<p>PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) families that THE SAFE™ home studies ASSESSMENT completed for public agencies COUNTY DEPARTMENTS are IS not suitable to determine the appropriateness for INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION. placement with children from other countries.</p> <p>THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL ADVISE THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) THAT A PRIVATE LICENSED ADOPTION AGENCY MUST COMPLETE THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AS REFERENCED IN 7.351.4.</p> <p>iii-d) The public agency COUNTY DEPARTMENT shall assure that the required information is included in either the private agency's home study SAFE™ ASSESSMENT or in the SAFE™ update completed by the public agency COUNTY DEPARTMENT.</p>	
7.500.351.A.3.d.5)		<p>5) Applications</p> <p>i. The county department accepts applications for the adoption of children only from persons who meet the requirements of the Colorado statute, who have expressed an interest in the placement of a child</p>	<p>5) Applications</p> <p>i-a) The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL ONLY accepts applications for the adoption of children/YOUTH only from persons who meet the requirements of the Colorado statute, who have expressed an interest in the</p>	<p>Technical changes, renumber, new language regarding statute, lawful presence, home study</p>

	<p>who might be available at the time of the application.</p> <p>ii. The applicants shall be informed that submitting an application does not guarantee that an assessment shall be performed or a child placed with them.</p> <p>iii. The county notifies the adoptive parent(s) of the disposition of the application in a timely manner.</p> <p>iv. The county department of human/social services shall require verification of an individual's lawful presence in the United States, as provided in general eligibility requirements as found in Section 3.140.11 (9 CCR 2503-1), in order to approve an application for a child's adoption.</p> <p>v. The county department of human/social services shall require the individual applying to adopt a child(ren) to notify the Department when the Structure Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) home study will be used in the next six months for a second parent adoption.</p> <p>vi. Requirements for Adoption</p> <p>1. A single foster home or adoptive assessment as outlined in Section 7.500. 2 must be completed prior to the child</p>	<p>placement of a child/YOUTH THROUGH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT. who might be available at the time of the application.</p> <p>ii-b) The applicants shall be informed that submitting an application does not guarantee that an SAFE™ ASSESSMENT WILL BE COMPLETED assessment shall be performed or a child/YOUTH placed with them.</p> <p>iii-c) The county DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY notifies the PROSPECTIVE adoptive parent(s) of the disposition of the application in a timely manner WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS.</p> <p>iv-d) The county department of human/social services shall require verification of an individual's lawful presence in the United States, as provided in general eligibility requirements as found in Section 3.140.11 (9 CCR 2503-1), in order to approve an application for a child's adoption. LAWFUL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES IS NOT REQUIRED TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHILD/YOUTH'S ADOPTION. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL NOT VERIFY A PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT'S LAWFUL PRESENCE TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHILD/YOUTH'S ADOPTION.</p> <p>v. The county department of human/social services shall require the individual applying to adopt a child(ren) to notify the Department when the Structure Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) home study will be used</p>	<p>interviews, and repeal</p>
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		<p>being placed with the intent of adoption.</p> <p>2. The assessment must include a visit to the home and a separate interview of the potential adoptive parents. Other adults living in the home shall be interviewed.</p>	<p>in the next six months for a second parent adoption.</p> <p>vi.e) Requirements for Adoption</p> <p>4i. A single foster home or adoptive SAFE™ assessment as outlined in Section 7.500.2 must be completed prior to the child/YOUTH being placed with the intent of adoption.</p> <p>2ii. The assessment must include a visit to the home and a separate interview of the potential adoptive parent(s) AND ALL other adults living in the home shall be interviewed.</p> <p>a. AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, THE SAFE™ PRACTITIONER MUST CONDUCT A MINIMUM OF ONE (1) JOINT INTERVIEW WITH ALL APPLICANTS, ONE (1) INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW WITH EACH CHILD/YOUTH RESIDING IN THE HOME. FOR A SINGLE APPLICANTS, A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) INTERVIEWS IS REQUIRED; AND,</p> <p>b. THE SAFE™ PRACTITIONER SHALL ENSURE THE SECOND INTERVIEW, AND ANY SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS, OF THE ADULTS SHALL NOT BE PERFORMED UNTIL AT LEAST THREE (3) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE PREVIOUS INTERVIEW.</p>	
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7.500.351.A.3.d.6	Numbering error 6) was missing - NEW	Should be 7.500.35.1.A.3.d.6	<p>6) APPROVAL</p> <p>a) AN APPLICANT(S) SHALL BE MADE AWARE OF THEIR STANDING WITH THE AGENCY. IF THERE ARE SERIOUS CONCERNS DURING THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PROCESS WHICH CANNOT BE RESOLVED, THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER SHALL DISCUSS THESE CONCERNS AND THE DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE APPLICANT(S). THE APPLICANT(S) SHALL BE ENCOURAGED TO WITHDRAW IF THIS IS ADVISABLE AND/OR THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL SEND A DENIAL LETTER WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE RIGHT TO APPEAL.</p> <p>b) WHEN A SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL:</p> <p>i. INFORM THE APPLICANT IN WRITING OF THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING THEIR APPLICATION WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE THE DECISION IS MADE.</p> <p>ii. SEND WRITTEN NOTIFICATION TO THE APPLICANT, WHICH INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p>a. THE APPLICATION TO ADOPT IS APPROVED.</p> <p>b. THE AGE, GENDER, AND ANY SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF</p>	Renumber due to numbering error - moved language from 8)

			<p>THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED.</p> <p>c. ANY OTHER CONDITIONS OF THE APPROVAL THAT PERTAIN.</p> <p>d. THE SAFE™ ADOPTIVE ASSESSMENT IS AVAILABLE ONLY FOR THE ADOPTION OF A CHILD(REN)/YOUTH PLACED BY A COLORADO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES OR CHILD(REN)/YOUTH PLACED IN COOPERATION WITH AN AGENCY LICENSED TO PLACE CHILDREN/YOUTH FOR ADOPTION.</p> <p>e. THE APPLICANT'S RIGHT TO A REVIEW OF THE DECISION BY THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH FOR WHICH THE PROSPECTIVE PARENT(S) IS APPROVED.</p> <p>f. THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES OF CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH COULD IMPACT AN ADOPTION.</p>		
7.500.351.A.3.d.7.a-b		<p>7) Qualifications for Completing Adoptive Home Study Reports</p> <p>a. In the application for inclusion as a vendor to complete adoptive home studies, each county</p>	<p>7) Qualifications for Completing Adoptive Home Study Reports</p> <p>a. In the application for inclusion as a vendor to complete adoptive home studies, each county department, qualified individual, or child placement agency must provide documentation concerning education, training, years of experience, and knowledge</p>	Renumber and language moved	

		<p>department, qualified individual, or child placement agency must provide documentation concerning education, training, years of experience, and knowledge regarding adoptive placement and supportive services provided to children with special needs or are being supervised by an individual who meets the qualifications.</p> <p>b. Any county department staff, qualified individual, or child placement agency staff shall meet the following qualifications or be supervised by an individual who meets the qualifications to conduct adoptive home studies for children in the custody of county departments being placed for adoption:</p> <p>i. Bachelors, masters, or doctorate in a human service related field, such as psychology, sociology, child development, social work, health and education, from an accredited college or university; and, three years' experience in child placement, child protection, foster care, or adoption.</p> <p>If the individual does not meet the experience requirement, an</p> <p>iii. Individuals presently involved in the field who do not meet the above experience criteria or do</p>	<p>regarding adoptive placement and supportive services provided to children with special needs or are being supervised by an individual who meets the qualifications.</p> <p>b. Any county department staff, qualified individual, or child placement agency staff shall meet the following qualifications or be supervised by an individual who meets the qualifications to conduct adoptive home studies for children in the custody of county departments being placed for adoption:</p> <p>i. Bachelors, masters, or doctorate in a human service related field, such as psychology, sociology, child development, social work, health and education, from an accredited college or university; and, three years' experience in child placement, child protection, foster care, or adoption.</p> <p>ii. If the individual does not meet the experience requirement, an</p> <p>iii. Individuals presently involved in the field who do not meet the above experience criteria or do not have access to direct supervision in their agency must purchase supervision time by someone who meets the above criteria. Individuals will be given three years from the date of enactment of this rule to obtain the necessary experience.</p> <p>iv. Individuals who are current employees of the county or a child placement agency and have a BA or BS degree with a minor in psychology, sociology, mental health, rehabilitation, or education and five years of experience in human services, three of which must have been in child placement, child protection, foster care or adoption, may apply to be on the vendor list.</p> <p>v. Individuals who are current employees of the county or a child placement agency with a BA or BS degree and ten years experience, three of which must have been in child placement, child protection, foster care or adoption, may apply to be on the vendor list.</p>	
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		<p>not have access to direct supervision in their agency must purchase supervision time by someone who meets the above criteria. Individuals will be given three years from the date of enactment of this rule to obtain the necessary experience.</p> <p>iv. Individuals who are current employees of the county or a child placement agency and have a BA or BS degree with a minor in psychology, sociology, mental health, rehabilitation, or education and five years of experience in human services, three of which must have been in child placement, child protection, foster care or adoption, may apply to be on the vendor list.</p> <p>v. Individuals who are current employees of the county or a child placement agency with a BA or BS degree and ten years experience , three of which must have been in child placement, child protection, foster care or adoption, may apply to be on the vendor list.</p> <p>vi. A designated qualified individual may conduct a SAFE home study for an individual that is planning a second parent adoption. An individual that is not an employee of a county department of human /social services or a licensed child placement agency, who is</p>	<p>A designated qualified individual may conduct a SAFE home study for an individual that is planning a second parent adoption. An individual that is not an employee of a county department of human /social services or a licensed child placement agency, who is involved with the adoption of a child from a county department, must be approved and listed on the State Department's vendor list.</p> <p>7) DENIAL OF APPLICANT BASED ON ASSESSMENT THE DECISION TO DENY APPROVAL OF THE APPLICANT'S SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT SHALL BE A JOINT DECISION INVOLVING AT LEAST THE CASEWORKER AND THE SUPERVISOR. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p>a) SEND THE APPLICANT'S WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE DENIAL WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) WORKING DAYS OF THE DECISION.</p> <p>b). THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE A FACE-TO-FACE MEETIING TO DISCUSS THE REASONS FOR THE DENIAL IF THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST.</p> <p>c) NOTIFY THE APPLICANT OF THE RIGHT TO A REVIEW BY THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE IF THE APPLICANT IS DISSATISFIED WITH THE DECISION.</p>	
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		involved with the adoption of a child from a county department, must be approved and listed on the State Department's vendor list.		
7.500.351.A.8.a-c		<p>8) Approval</p> <p>The county department director or the director's designated agent shall approve adoptive assessments on the form, Approval of Adoptive Home. The assessment and the approval shall not be done by the same person.</p> <p>Applicants shall be kept aware of their status with the agency. If there are serious concerns during the assessment process which cannot be resolved, the study worker shall discuss these concerns and the decision of whether or not to proceed with the family. The clients shall be encouraged to withdraw if this is advisable.</p> <p>c. When an adoptive assessment has been approved the county shall:</p> <p>i. Inform the applicants in writing of the final decision regarding their applications within 15 working days from the date the decision is made.</p> <p>ii. Send written notification to the applicant(s), which includes the following:</p>	<p>8) Approval</p> <p>a. The county department director or the director's designated agent shall approve adoptive assessments on the form, Approval of Adoptive Home. The assessment and the approval shall not be done by the same person.</p> <p>b. Applicants shall be kept aware of their status with the agency. If there are serious concerns during the assessment process which cannot be resolved, the study worker shall discuss these concerns and the decision of whether or not to proceed with the family. The clients shall be encouraged to withdraw if this is advisable.</p> <p>c. When an adoptive assessment has been approved the county shall:</p> <p>Inform the applicants in writing of the final decision regarding their applications within 15 working days from the date the decision is made.</p> <p>Send written notification to the applicant(s), which includes the following:</p> <p>1. That the application to adopt is approved.</p> <p>2. The age, sex, and any special characteristics of the child(ren) which will be considered for them.</p> <p>3. Any other conditions of the approval which pertain.</p> <p>4. That the adoptive assessment is available only for the adoption of a child(ren) placed by a Colorado county department of social services or a child(ren) placed in cooperation with an agency licensed to place children for adoption.</p>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the application to adopt is approved. 2. The age, sex, and any special characteristics of the child(ren) which will be considered for them. 3. Any other conditions of the approval which pertain. 4. That the adoptive assessment is available only for the adoption of a child(ren) placed by a Colorado county department of social services or a child(ren) placed in cooperation with an agency licensed to place children for adoption. 5. The applicants' right to a review of the decision by the county director or the director's designee of the type of child for which the parent(s) is approved. 6. The applicants' responsibility to inform the county department of significant changes of circumstances which could impact their adopting. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The applicants' right to a review of the decision by the county director or the director's designee of the type of child for which the parent(s) is approved. 6. The applicants' responsibility to inform the county department of significant changes of circumstances which could impact their adopting. <p style="text-align: center;">8) REEVALUATION OF ASSESSMENT</p> <p>IF A CHILD/YOUTH HAS NOT BEEN PLACED IN THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE HOME WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE DATE OF THE APPROVAL OF THE SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT, THE ASSESSMENT SHALL BE REEVALUATED TO DETERMINE IF THE HOME IS TO REMAIN ACTIVE FOR CONSIDERATION OF A CHILD/YOUTH, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UNTIL A PLACEMENT IS MADE OR THE CASE IS CLOSED. REEVALUATION SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p>a) A CURRENT HEALTH ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED FOR EACH FAMILY MEMBER. THE ASSESSMENT IS VALID FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWO (2) YEARS. HEALTH ASSESSMENTS MAY BE COMPLETED BY A LICENSED DOCTOR OF MEDICINE OR OSTEOPATHY, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR NURSE PRACTITIONER.</p> <p>IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS CONCERNS ABOUT THE HEALTH OF ANY FAMILY MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE PREVIOUS HEALTH ASSESSMENT THE COUNTY</p>	
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			<p>DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE AN UPDATED HEALTH ASSESSMENT</p> <p>b) DOCUMENTATION OF ANY CHANGES IN THE HOME AND FAMILY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO FINANCES, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, ILLNESSES, PREGNANCY, AND CURRENT INFORMATION, WHERE APPLICABLE, ON GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT, AND ACTIVITIES OF CHILDREN/YOUTH IN THE HOME.</p> <p>c) CHANGES, IF ANY, IN THE PREFERENCES IN THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH TO BE ADOPTED, THE REASON FOR THE CHANGE, AND THE APPLICANT'S CAPACITY TO PROVIDE FOR THE LONG TERM NEEDS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED.</p> <p>d) DETERMINATION WHETHER TO CONTINUE APPROVAL OF THE HOME.</p>	
7.500.351.A.3.d.9.a-c	<p>9) Denial of Applicant Based on Assessment</p> <p>The decision to deny approval of the applicant(s) adoption assessment shall be a joint decision involving at least the worker and the supervisor. The county shall do the following:</p> <p>a. Send the applicant(s) written notice of the denial within fifteen working days of the decision.</p> <p>b. The county shall have a face-to-face interview to discuss the</p>	<p>9) Denial of Applicant Based on Assessment</p> <p>The decision to deny approval of the applicant(s) adoption assessment shall be a joint decision involving at least the worker and the supervisor. The county shall do the following:</p> <p>a. Send the applicant(s) written notice of the denial within fifteen working days of the decision.</p> <p>b. The county shall have a face-to-face interview to discuss the reasons for the denial if the family requests a meeting.</p> <p>c. Notify the applicant(s) of their right to a review by the county director or the director's designee if they are dissatisfied with the decision.</p>	<p>Renumber, move language, and technical changes</p>	

		<p>reasons for the denial if the family requests a meeting.</p> <p>c. Notify the applicant(s) of their right to a review by the county director or the director's designee if they are dissatisfied with the decision.</p>	<p>9) SECOND OR ADDITIONAL UPDATE TO ASSESSMENTS</p> <p>IF A PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT CHOOSES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ANOTHER ADOPTION WITH THE SAME LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.</p> <p>a) IF THE LAST SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS WITHIN THREE (3) YEARS OF THE APPROVAL DATE OF THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT, A SUBSEQUENT SAFE™ UPDATE SHALL BE COMPLETED. THE UPDATE SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE (1) JOINT INTERVIEW WITH THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S), OR AN INTERVIEW WITH THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE APPLICANT, AND ONE (1) INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW WITH EACH CHILD/YOUTH. AT LEAST ONE (1) INTERVIEW WITH THE FAMILY MUST BE CONDUCTED IN THE HOME. THE INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS WITH THE ADOPTIVE APPLICANTS MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE SAME DATE.</p> <p>b) IF THE PERIOD OF TIME SINCE THE APPROVAL OF THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS LONGER THAN THREE (3) YEARS, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT SHALL BE COMPLETED.</p>	
7.500.351.A.3.d. 10.a-c		10) Reevaluation of Assessment If a child has not been placed in the adoptive home within one	10) Reevaluation of Assessment If a child has not been placed in the adoptive home within one year from the date of the approval of the adoption assessment, the assessment shall be	Renumber and move language

		<p>year from the date of the approval of the adoption assessment, the assessment shall be reevaluated if the home is to remain active for consideration of a child, and annually thereafter until a placement is made or the case is closed. Reevaluation shall consist of at least the following:</p> <p>a. Statement every two years from a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy regarding the current physical condition of the applicants and others living in the home. The county department shall have the discretion to require an updated medical report prior to the two year standard.</p> <p>b. Documentation of any changes in the home and family, i.e., finances, employment, housing, illnesses, pregnancy, and current information, where applicable, on growth, development, and activities of children in the home.</p> <p>c. Changes, if any, in the kind of child desired, the reason for the change, and the family's capacity to provide for the child currently requested.</p>	<p>reevaluated if the home is to remain active for consideration of a child, and annually thereafter until a placement is made or the case is closed. Reevaluation shall consist of at least the following:</p> <p>a. Statement every two years from a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy regarding the current physical condition of the applicants and others living in the home. The county department shall have the discretion to require an updated medical report prior to the two year standard.</p> <p>b. Documentation of any changes in the home and family, i.e., finances, employment, housing, illnesses, pregnancy, and current information, where applicable, on growth, development, and activities of children in the home.</p> <p>c. Changes, if any, in the kind of child desired, the reason for the change, and the family's capacity to provide for the child currently requested.</p> <p>d. Determination of the appropriateness to continue approval of the home.</p> <p>10) UPDATE TO ASSESSMENTS WHEN THE APPLICANT CHOOSES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AN ADOPTION THROUGH A DIFFERENT LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY:</p> <p>a) WHEN THE FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE ORIGINATING AGENCY WITH AN UPDATE WITH AN APPROVAL DATE OF LESS THAN ONE (1) YEAR, THE NEW AGENCY MAY EITHER COMPLETE:</p> <p>i. A SAFE™ UPDATE OF THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT OR, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT.</p>	
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		d. Determination of the appropriateness to continue approval of the home.	ii. IF THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT OR UPDATE APPROVAL DATE IS MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED AS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 7.500.2.	
7.500.351.A.3.d.11.a-b		<p>11) Second or Additional Assessments</p> <p>If a family has previously adopted a child and applies to adopt an additional child, the assessment shall be a comprehensive study unless the original assessment is available. The second or any additional assessment shall include the following:</p> <p>a. A minimum of one personal contact with the applicant(s) in which the parents are interviewed alone, as well as together with the children in order to enable the worker to observe the interaction between the parent(s) and child(ren).</p> <p>b. An in-depth discussion of motivation for adoption of an additional child, changes in family relationships since the last assessment, the development of the applicant's child or children, the effect of another adoption on the children already in the family, kind of child to be considered, current family information, medicals, and photographs of the family.</p>	<p>41) Second or Additional Assessments</p> <p>If a family has previously adopted a child and applies to adopt an additional child, the assessment shall be a comprehensive study unless the original assessment is available. The second or any additional assessment shall include the following:</p> <p>A minimum of one personal contact with the applicant(s) in which the parents are interviewed alone, as well as together with the children in order to enable the worker to observe the interaction between the parent(s) and child(ren).</p> <p>b. An in-depth discussion of motivation for adoption of an additional child, changes in family relationships since the last assessment, the development of the applicant's child or children, the effect of another adoption on the children already in the family, kind of child to be considered, current family information, medicals, and photographs of the family.</p> <p>11) FOSTER PARENT ASSESSMENTS</p> <p>a) The SAFE™ ASSESSMENT ALONG WITH A SAFE™ UPDATE FOCUSING ON THE ABILITY OF THE PARENT TO MEET THE SPECIFIC NEEDS AND TO PARENT THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH PLACED FOR ADOPTION WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR ADOPTION. THE CASEWORKER WILL CHECK THE ADOPTION BOX ON THE STATE PRESCRIBED APPLICATION.</p> <p>b) THE CASEWORKER SHALL DISCUSS THE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH THE FOSTER PARENT, FOCUSING ON THE</p>	Renumber and technical changes

			NEEDS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH AND THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT'S ABILITY TO MEET THOSE NEEDS AS ADDRESSED IN SECTION 7.306.4 (12 CCR 2509-4).	
7.500.351.A.3.d.12.a-b		12) Foster Parent Assessments a. The single assessment completed on a foster family for foster care will be accepted for adoption. The worker will check the adoption box on the single application form and, if appropriate, write a brief update. b. The worker shall discuss the subsidy program with the foster parents, focusing on the child's special needs and the family's ability to meet those needs.	12) Foster Parent Assessments a. The single assessment completed on a foster family for foster care will be accepted for adoption. The worker will check the adoption box on the single application form and, if appropriate, write a brief update. b. The worker shall discuss the subsidy program with the foster parents, focusing on the child's special needs and the family's ability to meet those needs. 12) INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION a. NON-PUBLIC INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTIONS SHALL ONLY BE COMPLETED ACCORDING TO THE CHILDREN'S CODE AND SECTION 7.710 (12 CCR 2509-8).	Renumber and technical changes
7.500.351.A.3.d.13.a-b		13) Inter-country Adoption a. Non-public foreign adoptions shall comply with the Children's Code. b. County departments complete assessments for foreign adoption only on authorization of the state department adoption program supervisor.	13) Inter-country Adoption Non public foreign adoptions shall comply with the Children's Code. County departments complete assessments for foreign adoption only on authorization of the state department adoption program supervisor.	Renumber and repeal
7.500.352		Fees	7.500.352 Fees	
7.500.352.A		A. The county department informs persons applying to adopt what fees may be involved in adopting through the county.	A. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES informs persons INDIVIDUALS applying to adopt what THE fees THAT may be involved in adopting through the county. Fees are based on the ability to pay for the adoptive services rendered by	Technical changes

		Fees are based on the ability to pay for the adoptive services rendered by the county department which provides the home assessment services. Although the fee may be waived, a fee charged to a family cannot exceed \$800 for the initial home study and \$500 for an update. Fees for the yearly reevaluation shall not exceed \$200 unless special circumstances exist and approval is granted by the county director or his/her designee	the county department which provides the SAFE™ home assessment services. Although the feeS may be waived, a A fee MAY BE charged to a family AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT. cannot exceed \$800 for the initial home study and \$500 for an update. Fees for the yearly reevaluation shall not exceed \$200 unless special circumstances exist and approval is granted by the county director or his/her designee.	
7.500.352.B		B. The fee is established on ability to pay or cost of service, whichever is less.	B. A NON-DISCRIMINATORY FEE STRUCTURE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED. The fee is established on ability to pay or cost of service, whichever is less.	Language added to require a policy
7.500.352.C		C. Fees will be charged to adoptive families coming into Colorado or who receive a child from another state, in accordance with the adoption services provided. If the child being placed is in the custody of a public agency and receiving services through the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children the family shall not be charged a fee.	C. Fees will be charged to OUT-OF-STATE PROSPECTIVE adoptive PARENTS families coming SEEKING TO ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH FROM into Colorado or PROSPECTIVE COLORADO PARENTS SEEKING TO ADOPT who receive a child/YOUTH from another state, in accordance with the adoption services provided. If the child/YOUTH being placed is in the custody of a public agency and receiving services through the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) the family PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS shall not be charged a fee.	Technical changes
7.500.352.D		D. No fee is charged to persons or families whose income is below the poverty level, as established by the United States Department of Agriculture, or who are recipients of Supplemental Security Income, Colorado Works, or state- and	D. No fee is charged to persons INDIVIDUALS or families whose income is below the poverty level, as established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or who are recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Colorado Works PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, or state- and county-funded assistance payments.	Technical changes

		county-funded assistance payments.		
7.500.352.E		E. Fees may be waived in whole or in part by the county department which provides the home assessment services when such fees pose a barrier to the adoption of special needs children for whom a county department is financially responsible. If an adoptive family, for whom the fee has been waived, decides not to adopt a child with special needs, then they are to pay the appropriate fee. If the fee is waived, the waiver should be documented in the county record.	E. Fees may be waived in whole or in part by the county department which provides the home assessment SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND OTHER RELATED ADOPTION services when such fees pose a barrier to the adoption of special needs children/YOUTH for whom a county department is financially responsible. IF THE FEE IS WAIVED, THE WAIVER SHOULD BE DOCUMENTED IN THE COUNTY RECORD. If a PROSPECTIVE adoptive family PARENT, for whom the fee has been waived, decides not to adopt a child/YOUTH with special needs , then they THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT are to MAY BE REQUIRED TO pay the appropriate fee. If the fee is waived, the waiver should be documented in the county record.	Technical changes
7.500.352.F		F. When an assessment is court ordered, the adoptive parents shall be charged a fee for a home assessment, supervision or a report to the court in accordance with the above fees.	F. When an assessment is court ordered, the PROSPECTIVE adoptive parents shall MAY be charged a fee for a home assessment, supervision, or a report to the court in accordance with the above fees.	Technical changes
7.500.353		Case Records [Rev. eff. 8/1/06]	7.500.353 Case Records [Rev. eff. 8/1/06]	Technical change
7.500.353.A		A. The Adoptive Family Record will contain all documentation required for approval for adoption, such as application, home assessment, and medicals.	A. The Adoptive Family Record will contain all documentation required for approval for adoption, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO such as THE application, SAFE™ home ASSESSMENT, SAFE™ UPDATES, REQUIRED BACKGROUND CHECKS, assessment , and medicals INFORMATION.	Technical changes
7.500.353.B		B. The county department maintains a record for each adoptive family approved for the placement of a child. Upon completion of the legal adoption	B. The county department maintains a record for each adoptive family approved for the placement of a child/YOUTH. Upon completion of the legal adoption of a child(ren)/YOUTH, the family's record shall be closed and maintained in a secure location at the county DEPARTMENT in order to preserve	Technical changes

		of a child(ren), the family's record shall be closed and maintained in a secure location at the county in order to preserve confidentiality as required by statute.	confidentiality as required by statute §19-5-305, C.R.S.	
7.500.353.C		C. Any material contained in the family's record regarding a child placed with and adopted by the family shall be maintained at the county with the family's adoption record. After the decree of adoption has been issued, the county department shall not retain information in an open record which will link the adoptive family with the child's original identity except information necessary to maintain the subsidized adoption record.	C. Any material contained in the family's record regarding a child/YOUTH placed with and adopted by the family shall be maintained at the county DEPARTMENT with the family's adoption record. After the decree of adoption has been issued, the county department shall not retain information in an open record which will link the adoptive family with the child's/YOUTH'S original identity except information necessary to maintain the subsidized adoption ASSISTANCE record.	Technical changes
7.500.353.D		D. Access to Adoption Assessments	D. Access to Adoption Assessments INFORMATION AND RECORDS	
7.500.353.D.1.a-d		<p>1. Prior to filing petition to adopt:</p> <p>a. The records of prospective adoptive parents are confidential, as provided in Section 26-1-114(1), C.R.S., as amended.</p> <p>b. The county department shall not provide records of prospective adoptive parents to an individual or agency, other than another Colorado county department involved in the adoptive process, without the written permission of the prospective</p>	<p>1. Prior to filing A petition to adopt:</p> <p>a. The records of prospective adoptive parents are confidential, as provided in Section §26-1-114(1), C.R.S., as amended.</p> <p>b. The county department shall not provide records of prospective adoptive parent(S) to an individual or agency, other than another Colorado county department involved in the adoptive process, without the written permission of the EACH prospective ADOPTIVE parents, including husband and wife, if both are involved in the adoption process.</p> <p>c. The county department shall not release PROVIDE a copy of the SAFE™ home assessment to the prospective adoptive parents FOR THE PURPOSE OF</p>	Technical changes and repeal language

		<p>parents, including husband and wife, if both are involved in the adoption process.</p> <p>c. The county shall not release a copy of the home assessment to the prospective adoptive parents. Adoptive parents who wish to read their home assessment must make a written request to the county department signed by husband and wife, if both are involved in the adoptive process. The parts of the home assessment to be made available shall include any information provided by the prospective parents and the written social assessment made by the county department or licensed child placement agency.</p> <p>d. The following shall not be made available to the prospective adoptive parents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Medical and health reports. 2) Reports of psychiatric and psychological evaluations. 3) Scholastic records of the prospective adoptive couple or members of the family. 4) Reports of contacts with references. 	<p>REVIEWING THE ACCURACY OF THE ASSESSMENT. Adoptive parents who wish to read their home assessment must make a written request to the county department signed by husband and wife, if both are involved in the adoptive process. The parts of the home assessment to be made available shall include any information provided by the prospective parents and the written social assessment made by the county department or licensed child placement agency.</p> <p>d. The following shall not be made available to the prospective adoptive parents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Medical and health reports. 2) Reports of psychiatric and psychological evaluations. 3) Scholastic records of the prospective adoptive couple or members of the family. 4) Reports of contacts with references. 5) Any other pertinent third party information. 	
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		5) Any other pertinent third party information.		
7.500.353.D.2.a-b		2. After filing petition to adopt: a. The county department will provide court reports on adoptions outlined in Colorado statute. b. Records and papers in relinquishment and in adoption proceedings shall be confidential as outlined in Colorado statute.	2. After filing A petition to adopt: a. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES will provide court reports on adoptions TO THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS AS outlined in Colorado statute §19-5-209 (2), C.R.S.) b. Records and papers AND INFORMATION RECEIVED DURING in-relinquishment and/OR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS in adoption proceedings shall be confidential as outlined in PURSUANT TO-Colorado statute Sections § 26-1-114(1), C.R.S.	Technical changes
7.500.354		Correspondence with Out of State Agencies [Rev. eff./8/1/06] All correspondence with out of state child placement agencies regarding adoption shall be forwarded to the selected agency for routing to an out of state child placement agency.	Correspondence with Out of State Agencies [Rev. eff. 8/1/06] All correspondence with AN out-of-state child placement agency ies regarding adoption shall be forwarded to the selected COLORADO CHILD PLACEMENT agency for routing to an THE out-of-state child placement agency.	
7.500.355		Purchase of Adoption Services from Agency Providers [Rev. eff. 8/1/06] On behalf of a child, the county department may elect to purchase from agency providers any one or all of the following: pre-placement services, recruitment services, home assessment/evaluation services, placement services, post-placement services, post-finalization services.	Purchase of Adoption Services from LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT Agency Providers [Rev. eff. 8/1/06] On behalf of a child, The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES may elect to purchase from agency providers any one or all of the following FROM LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY PROVIDERS: pre-placement services, recruitment services, home assessment/evaluation SAFE™ ASSESSMENT services, placement services, post-placement services, AND post-finalization/PERMANENCY services. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST HAVE A WRITTEN AND SIGNED CONTRACT WITH THE LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY THAT DETAILS THE SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED, THE FEES TO BE PAID FOR THE SERVICES, AND THE	Technical changes and new language to clarify the allowable providers and requirements in a contract

			APPROPRIATE TIME FRAMES FOR THE SERVICES TO BE CONCLUDED.	
7.500.355.A.1-4		<p>A. Eligible Cases</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children for whom adoption services may be purchased by a county department shall be children freed for adoption, for whom an adoptive home is not available and who are listed with the Colorado Adoption Resource Registry (CARR). 2. All children in need of adoptive placement must be listed with the CARR or a request for exclusion must be submitted to the CARR. 3. The county department wishes to purchase a pre-placement assessment from an agency provider, in a case of a child whose functioning, in the judgment of the county department, is particularly difficult to assess and/or services to legally free the child, prior to the child's information being submitted to the CARR. 4. Services for special needs children not yet freed for adoption may be purchased by a county department when in the judgment of that department it is anticipated 	<p>A. Eligible Cases</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children/YOUTH for whom adoption services may be purchased by a county department shall be children/YOUTH WHO ARE freed for adoption AVAILABLE for adoption, AND for whom an adoptive home is not available, and whom are listed with the Colorado Adoption Resource Registry (CARR). 2. All children/YOUTH in need of adoptive placement must be listed with the CARR or a request for exclusion must be submitted to the CARR (See Section 7.306.13 IN 12 CCR 2509-04). 3. IN THE CASE OF A CHILD/YOUTH WHO IS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION AND HAS COMPLEX NEEDS AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WISHES TO PURCHASE OR CONTRACT FOR PRE-PLACEMENT ASSESSMENT, THE COUNTY MAY DO SO PRIOR TO THE CHILD/YOUTH'S INFORMATION BEING SUBMITTED TO THE CARR. The county department wishes to purchase a pre-placement assessment from an agency provider, in a case of a child whose functioning, in the judgment of the county department, is particularly difficult to assess and/or services to legally free the child, prior to the child's information being submitted to the CARR. 4. Services for special needs children/YOUTH WITH COMPLEX NEEDS WHO ARE not yet AVAILABLE freed for adoption may be purchased by a county department when in the judgment of that department it is anticipated and likely that the child/YOUTH will become freed AVAILABLE for adoption. Adoption services purchased for these children/YOUTH shall be limited to pre-placement, recruitment, and home assessment services. 	Technical changes

		and likely that the child will become freed for adoption. Adoption services purchased for these children shall be limited to pre-placement, recruitment, and home assessment services.		
7.500.355.B.1-2		<p>B. Case Referral</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligible cases shall be referred to the agency provider for purchase of part or all of the adoption process. 2. In its agreement, the county department shall require that the agency provider shall write a case plan for providing adoptive services to the referred child reflecting the joint planning. This plan shall include objectives, specific desired outcomes, and target dates. Regular progress reports shall be submitted to the county department by the agency provider, and shall address all of the requirements of the case plan. 	<p>B. Case Referral</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eligible cases shall be referred to the LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider for purchase of part or all of the adoption SERVICES. process. 2. In its agreement, the county department shall require that the LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider shall write a case plan for providing adoptive services to the referred child/YOUTH reflecting the joint planning. This plan shall include objectives, specific desired outcomes, and target dates. Regular progress reports shall be submitted to the county department by the agency provider, and shall address all of the requirements of the case plan. 	Technical changes
7.500.355.C		<p>C. Service Hour Rate</p> <p>Payment for purchased adoption services shall be on an actual cost basis, up to a specified maximum for each adoption component. The rate shall be based on the base service hour cost of the agency provider,</p>	No Change	No Change

		which is the allowable program costs divided by case service hours in the program (i.e., hours spent by professional staff in performing adoption services on a case).		
7.500.355.D.1-2		<p>D. Provider Billing and Fees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Billing for adoption services provided shall be case-specific and component-specific. That is, the county department shall accept bills from the agency provider only on those cases on which it has entered into an agreement with the county department and only for the component(s) of the adoption process which the county department has agreed to purchase. 2. In its agreement with the agency provider for a given client, the county department shall require that payment by the department shall be the sole payment the provider shall receive from any source for the services provided to the department's client under the contract. This provision shall not affect the assessment of client fees by the agency provider for other clients and for other services not included in the agreement with the department. 	<p>D. Provider Billing and Fees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Billing for adoption services provided shall be case-specific and component-specific. That is, the county department shall accept bills from the agency provider only on those cases on which it has entered into an agreement with the county department and only for the component(s) of the adoption process which the county department has agreed to purchase. 2. In its agreement with the agency provider for a given SPECIFIC CHILD/YOUTH client, the county department shall require that payment by the department shall be the sole ONLY payment the provider shall receive from any source for the services provided to the department's client under the contract. This provision shall not affect the assessment of client fees by the agency provider for other clients and for other services not included in the agreement with the department. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST REQUIRE THAT PAYMENT FOR CHILD/YOUTH SPECIFIC ADOPTION SERVICES BE PAID UNDER SINGLE PAYMENT CONTRACTS. 	Technical changes

7.500.355.E.1-3		<p>E. Payment to Provider</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Payment shall be made to the agency provider for those components provided and billed. 2. Payment to the provider shall be for satisfactory completion of the duties required by the agreement. 3. In the case of disrupted placements, the agency provider shall be paid for actual time spent on the case, not to exceed the maximum allowed for the component(s) utilized to that point in the placement. This payment shall be at the rate of the approved service hour cost as reflected in the component computation. 	<p>E. Payment to Provider</p> <p>No Change</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. In the case of disrupted placements, the agency provider shall be paid for actual time spent on the case, not to exceed the maximum allowed for the component(s) utilized to that point in the placement. This payment shall be at the rate of the approved service hour cost as reflected in the component computation. 	No Change
7.500.355.F		<p>Reimbursement to County Department</p> <p>F. The State Department of Human Services shall reimburse the county department for purchase of adoption service expenditures under approved agreements.</p>	<p>Reimbursement to THE County Department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES</p> <p>F. The State COLORADO Department of Human Services shall reimburse the county department for purchase of adoption service expenditures under approved agreements PURSUANT TO SECTION 7.406.1.NN (12 CCR 2509-5).</p>	Technical changes

7.500.35 5.G.1-5		<p>G. Provider Agreement and Requirements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The county department and the agency provider shall enter into a provider agreement for adoption services to be purchased. 2. The county department shall monitor the provision of services under the purchase of adoption services agreement. 3. The agency provider shall be responsible to the county department for the quality of services provided under the agreement. For pre-placement, home assessment/evaluation, placement, and post-placement service components, the agency provider shall meet the standards for service quality as per the licensing regulations for adoption agencies. 4. County departments shall purchase adoption services only from agency providers who give assurance in their agreement that the purchased services shall be delivered only by staff who meet the following minimum qualifications: 5. For non-direct service components e.g. recruitment and legal services, providers shall have: 	<p>G Provider Agreement and Requirements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The county department and the LICENSED CHILDPACEMENT agency provider shall enter into a provider agreement for adoption services to be purchased. 2. No change 3. The LICENSED CHILDPACEMENT agency provider shall be responsible to the county department for the quality of services provided under the agreement. For pre-placement, home assessment/evaluation, placement, and post-placement service components, the agency provider shall meet the standards for service quality as per the licensing regulations for adoption agencies. 4. County departments shall purchase adoption services only from LICENSED CHILDPACEMENT agency providers who give assurance in their agreement that the purchased services shall be delivered only by staff who meet the following minimum qualifications.:FOR NON-DIRECT SERVICE COMPONENTS, FOR EXAMPLE, RECRUITMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SOME BACKGROUND SHOWING AWARENESS OF AND SENSITIVITY TO ADOPTION ISSUES; AND, b. AT LEAST ONE (1) YEAR OF EXPERIENCE AND/OR A DEGREE APPROPRIATE TO THE SERVICE BEING PURCHASED AND (FOR LEGAL SERVICES) A LICENSE TO PRACTICE IN THEIR SPECIALTY FIELD. 	Technical change	
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		<p>a. Some background showing awareness of and sensitivity to adoption issues; and,</p> <p>b. At least one year of experience and/or a degree appropriate to the service being purchased and (for legal services) a license to practice in their specialty field.</p>	<p>5. For non-direct service components e.g. recruitment and legal services, providers shall have:</p> <p>a. Some background showing awareness of and sensitivity to adoption issues; and,</p> <p>b. At least one year of experience and/or a degree appropriate to the service being purchased and (for legal services) a license to practice in their specialty field.</p>		
7.500.35 6		[Repealed eff. 11/01/2015]	No change	No Change	

STAKEHOLDER COMMENT SUMMARY

Development

The following individuals and/or entities were included in the development of these proposed rules (such as other Program Areas, Legislative Liaison, and Sub-PAC):

Sheila Dalton, Adoption Administrator (DCW), Cheryl Estrick, Private Adoption Administrator (DCW), Tim Russell, Manager (Administrative Review Division [ARD]), James Martinez (ARD), Permanency Task Group, Michelle Lopez and Michele Craig (HCPF) participants in the Foster Care Quarterly meeting (June 18, 2021), stakeholders listed below in feedback section

This Rule-Making Package

The following individuals and/or entities were contacted and informed that this rule-making was proposed for consideration by the State Board of Human Services:

Child placement agencies (foster care and adoption), Colorado Association of Family and Children’s Agencies (CAFCA), Colorado Coalition of Adoptive Families (COCAF), Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) Administrative Review Division (ARD), Colorado Human Services Directors Association (CHSDA), Colorado State Foster Parent Association, Colorado Trails User Group (CTUG), County Adoption Supervisors, County Foster Care Caseworkers and Supervisors, Division of Child Welfare (DCW) Child Protection, Ongoing, Provider, Training and Development, and Youth Services Teams, Fostering Colorado, Foster Source, Office of the Child’s Representative (OCR), Office of the Respondent Parent Counsel (ORPC), and the Permanency Task Group

Other State Agencies

Are other State Agencies (such as HCPF or CDPHE) impacted by these rules? If so, have they been contacted and provided input on the proposed rules?

Yes No

If yes, who was contacted and what was their input?

Michele Craig, Complex and Supportive Service Manager, HCPF. Language was crafted to reflect existing HCPF rules related to capacity in a foster care home with children, youth, and adults receiving home and community-based (HCBS) waiver services.

Sub-PAC

Have these rules been reviewed by the appropriate Sub-PAC Committee?

Yes No

Name of Sub-PAC	Child Welfare
Date presented	November 4, 2021 (introduced rules), August 4, 2022 (introduced rules), October 6, 2022 (approved rules), January 5, 2023 (introduced timely and untimely renewal revisions), February 2, 2023 (approved timely and untimely renewal changes)
What issues were raised?	Noted in stakeholder feedback (November 2021) - allow applicants a voice in location of home study interviews and require fingerprint checks within 30 days from arrival date for new adults staying of visiting the home for 30 consecutive days. August 4, Sub-PAC - additional information provided about the revised rules. October 6, 2022 (rules approved) – January 5, 2023 revised timely and untimely renewal reviewed and an

	alternative was requested. February 2, 2023 approved to move forward to PAC.		
Vote Count	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
	Unanimous February 2, 2023		
If not presented, explain why.			

PAC

Have these rules been approved by PAC?

Yes No

Date presented	November 3, 2022 on the Consent Agenda for the entire rule package. New rules specific to changes to the timely renewal process were on the Consent Agenda on March 2, 2023.		
What issues were raised?	None raised – approved on Consent Agenda 11/3/2022. None raised -approved on Consent Agenda on March 2, 2023 (regarding changes to the timely renewal process only).		
Vote Count	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
	November 3, Consent Agenda March 2, 2023 Consent Agenda		
If not presented, explain why.			

Other Comments

Comments were received from stakeholders on the proposed rules:

Yes No

If “yes” to any of the above questions, summarize and/or attach the feedback received, including requests made by the State Board of Human Services, by specifying the section and including the Department/Office/Division response. Provide proof of agreement or ongoing issues with a letter or public testimony by the stakeholder.

06/18/2021 - Foster care quarterly meeting: Primarily attended by county department and child placement agency certification staff. There were 70+ participants: Agency representation was as follows:

- Adams County, Alamosa County, Boulder County, Broomfield County, Chaffee County, Collaborative Foster Care Program (Arapahoe, Douglas, Jefferson), Custer County, Denver County, El Paso County, Fremont County, Garfield County, Huerfano County, Kiowa County, Kit Carson County, La Plata County, Larimer County, Las Animas County, Lincoln County, Mesa County, Montezuma County, Pitkin County, Saguache County, Sedgwick County, Teller County, Washington County, Weld County, Yuma County, Southern Ute, and ARD
- Bethany Christian Services, Hope and Home, Hope’s Promise, Kairos, Kids Crossing, Kin Connect, Lutheran Family Services-Rocky Mountain, Maple Star Colorado, Mount St. Vincent, Sample Supports, Savio, Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth (SAFY), Special Kids Special Families, Strong Foundation

Only the foster care rules in Section 7.500 were discussed due to time constraints.
7.500.2 - Rule included county staff requirements for completing home studies.
Feedback received: The requirement conflicts with the requirements elsewhere in rule.
The language was removed.

7.500.2.1 - All home study interviews must be completed in the applicant's home.
Feedback received: Concern on behalf of private adoption agencies that requiring all home study interviews to be completed in the applicant's home is problematic. For adoption applicants that are a long distance away, this will drive up the cost of the adoption. This will need to be revised in Section 7.710 too. The rule was revised to reduce the number of required interviews in the applicant's home to reduce hardship for all home study practitioners.

7.500.313.A.1 - Monthly supervision in the foster home. Feedback received: Requested revision to add clarity for monthly contact with each foster parent.

7.500.313.A.2 - Annual onsite supervisory visit - Feedback received: There was feedback that the rule needed further revision to prepare the foster parent for recertification. The rule was revised.

07/09/2021 - Permanency Task Group: Draft written rules were provided in advance and an overview of the proposed changes in the foster care section. There was limited time for a presentation.

7.500.313.A.1 - Annual onsite supervisory visit - Feedback received: Requiring an unannounced supervisory visit prior to recertification will impact counties that have to travel significant distances. If the foster parents aren't home, it won't count. Consider counting attempts and not require a certain number of attempts. Consider flexibility with kinship foster homes.

7/09/2021 - Stakeholder Group - More refreshers are needed, possibly self-guided training, virtual classroom, and web-based training.

7.500.33.A - Requirement that all SAFE practitioners are supervised. There were varying opinions regarding the supervision requirement. It was suggested the 3 year experience requirement be removed because everyone is supervised. Another participant said the rules should apply to all SAFE practitioners regardless of whether it is a county, child placement agency, or a contractor. There was a question from a contractor that if supervision was needed, it was unclear whether the contracting agency would provide supervision or if the person had to hire someone. Another person said it could be difficult supervising someone that is not familiar with the person's work, especially if they are long distances apart. It was raised that if there is a contract to provide a product, there was no legal ability for the payer of service to go back and make changes. There isn't a supervision loop inherent in the process. Providing supervision outside of the county is commensurate with being an employee. A stakeholder from a large county has been supervising home studies for several years. It is in the contract that the county provides supervision and they meet regularly. Another person from a large county said that once the home study is completed it is reviewed and if there are items needing clarification or changes, they meet to make sure the home study is in compliance.

8/13/2021 - Permanency Task Group: Major areas of interest were presented. No feedback was received.

9/10/2021 - Permanency Task Group: Major areas of interest were presented. No feedback was received.

9/17/2021 - Foster care quarterly meeting: Primarily attended by county department and CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY certification staff. There were 80+ participants: Agency representation was as follows:

- Adams County, Alamosa County, Bent County, Boulder County, Broomfield County, Collaborative Foster Care Program (Arapahoe, Douglas, Jefferson), Denver County, El Paso County, Fremont County, Garfield County, Gunnison County, Kiowa County, Kit Carson County, La Plata County, Larimer County, Las Animas County, Lincoln County, Logan County, Mesa County, Otero County, Ouray County, Saguache County, Teller County, Washington County, Weld County, Yuma County, Southern Ute, and ARD
- A New World, Ariel Clinical Services, Bethany Christian Services, Courage Community, Family Resource Network, Hope and Home, Hope's Promise, Kairos, Kids Crossing, Kin Connect, Lutheran Family Services-Rocky Mountain, Maple Star Colorado, Mount St. Vincent, Nightlight Christian Adoptions, Sample Supports, Savio, Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth (SAFY), Special Kids Special Families, Strong Foundation, Whimspire
- Foster Source and Project 1.27

7.500.2.A.1 - A SAFE (Structured Analysis Family Evaluation) refresher course is required every 3 years. There were questions asking if SAFE supervisors must take the course as well as a SAFE Supervisor refresher. The latter has not been an offering and a question was sent to the Consortium for Children whether it could be developed.

7.500.2.A.2 - Documentation required for the home study regarding the location, persons interviewed, and length of time for interviews. Feedback received: The rule does not delineate between the original assessment and update. This applies to the original home study format. The Update does not include the location of the interviews. The rule was revised to reflect this.

7.500.2.A.6.a - This rule requires the SAFE Compatibility Inventory is completed with the initial home study. There were questions about the timing, is it completed only initially, annually, or whether kinship foster parents should be exempted. The most agreement was for the Inventory to be completed initially, including for kinship foster homes. It should be optional annually, though foster parents may change their preferences over time.

7.500.2.A.11.v - This rule requires new individuals visiting or residing in the home for 14 consecutive days or longer, to complete CBI and FBI fingerprints within 5 calendar days of the county learning about it or being notified. The county is required to complete checks on the CCWIS (child abuse/neglect), CBI and national sex offender registry checks, and Colorado judicial database within 24 hours. If the person is in the home for 30 days, they are required to get a health assessment. Feedback was also sought nationally.

Feedback received: Revise the rule to require fingerprints and health evaluations at 30 days. There were 15 comments in the chat suggesting this in addition to verbal feedback

during the discussion of the rule. The majority of comments were in agreement with the database checks being done quickly.

7.500.313A.1: Supervision and monitoring of foster homes: The revised rule shouldn't require both providers (in a 2 parent foster home) to be there. Suggest doing a write-up if not there and then follow-up.

7.500.313.A.1 - Monthly supervision in the foster care home. The rule was revised to clarify the purpose of the meeting and expectations. It addresses monthly support visits in one and two foster parent homes. Feedback received: Joint visits needed further revision related to two parent foster care homes when one parent may not be in the home routinely, such as deployed military and over-the-road truck drivers. It was suggested to allow alternative contacts and exceptions. The changes were made and feedback on the changes was requested on 9/27/2021.

10/8/2021 - Permanency Task Group

7.500.2.A.11.b.5 - Requirements for new adults visiting or residing in the home for 14 consecutive days

Suggestions included having the fingerprint scans scheduled within fifteen (15) days of the adult coming into the home. A member from a small county said her county has had problems having people go to a fingerprinting vendor due to the distance between the office location and the home where the person resides or is visiting. Another member said that some people visiting the house may only be in the house for 21 days and how to address those kinds of scenarios since those individuals may have left before the 30-day period.

It was proposed to change the word "checks" in 7.500.2.A.11.b.v.4.c. to "scans" since the fingerprint scan, not the report, would need to be completed within the time frame prescribed by the proposed rule. The change was made. A member supported a 30-day time frame since the person who is staying at the home may not be a household resident and is solely a visitor, like a grandparent. A member said that other checks can be completed for these short-term visitors instead of also having the fingerprint check be a requirement. Concern was expressed that there would not be out-of-state background information without the fingerprint checks. It was proposed to have the fingerprint scans submitted by the 21st day as a compromise.

Comments from other states:

- Louisiana: If an adult moves in the home, the agency has 12 days to complete all of the checks. If an adult is visiting then no checks have to be done, however if a visitor stays longer than 30 days we consider that person living there and the checks have to be completed.
- Iowa: We do not have any specific language requiring anything of a "visitor". All language in our rules pertain to "household members".
- Nevada: If a family member is staying for a few weeks, that is fine; we just ask that the foster family let us know ahead of time (i.e. adult kids visiting for the holidays, etc.). If it's going to be a *temporary* or longer stay than a few weeks, we need to know for how long so that we can document it – then we can do a local law enforcement check and a local CANs. We cannot fingerprint them though unless they actually *live* in the home. If the visitor will be staying indefinitely, then they have

- to complete the Live-in Adult Packet, Fingerprints, etc. It is also made very clear to foster families that these visitors cannot be put in charge of foster children unless/until they've been cleared by the agency.
- Ohio has the following rules: *OAC 5101:2-7-14 (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.*

This is simply a notification to the agency for further inquiry. If this individual is determined to be a new household member, then Ohio requires all checks. If the individual is only temporarily in the home, such as a grandparent visiting for a month during the summer, Ohio doesn't necessarily require the checks, however, an agency can have a policy requiring it.

10/8/2021 - 7.500.33 - SAFE Assessment Practitioner Qualifications -The proposed rule was specifically sent to home study contractors. Of four responses, three were in agreement and one contractor said it would be cost and time prohibitive and because agencies signed off, that it seemed redundant to have another supervisor sign off too.

11/4/2021 - Child Welfare Sub-PAC recommended:
7.500.2.A.2 - Applicants have a voice in the location of interviews

7.500.2.A.11.b.v - When a new adult is visiting or living in the foster care home, the fingerprint based criminal history record check scan is required by the 30th day from the date of arrival.

11/5/2021 - Permanency Task Group
Agreement with Sub-PAC recommendations
Additional information - Changes were required in 7.500.317 to align with proposed rules regarding institutional assessments. Internal staff, including a manager, child protective service staff, and permanency staff revised the rule.

3/11/2022 - Permanency Task Group
Discussion about changes in Section 7.500.317 regarding abuse/neglect allegations, assessments, and follow-up were discussed. Suggested revisions to roles, reporting, moderate to severe abuse/neglect were adopted. The SAFE™ Compatibility Inventory was briefly discussed.

3/18/2022 - Foster Care Quarterly - Information was provided by the Institutional Abuse Review Team about revisions in institutional assessments. Revisions in Section 7.500.317 were discussed. The SAFE™ Compatibility Inventory was discussed with a recommendation that it is completed with the initial SAFE™ home study and on alternate years thereafter.

Stakeholder feedback sessions offered on May 23, May 25, and May 26, 2022 regarding the institutional allegations rule revision. It was a blog post on CO4kids. Four county staff attended and no foster parents.

4/8/2022 - Permanency Task Group - Approval of Section 7.500.317, recommendation that the SAFE™ Compatibility Inventory be administered a minimum at the initial SAFE™ home study and alternate years thereafter. A revision in the diligent recruitment rule was briefly discussed. Suggestions were made to have prescriptive language about content.

The rule was revised to add language that requires the content and format to be prescribed by DCW to limit necessary rule changes in the future

IM-OCYF-2022-0003 provided notification of SAFE™ Compatibility Inventory training on June 28 & 30, 2022 and July 12 & 14, 2022. There were 259 in attendance over the four sessions.\

4/12, 4/13, and 4/14, 2023 - Stakeholder feedback sessions regarding the rule package were held on with 51 participants from county departments and child placement agencies. Significant rule changes were discussed and there were no specific concerns raised. There was a request for clarification of the rules through the memo series. A memo will be issued that outlines the significant changes prior to the effective date.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES Rules RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

[Note: Changes to rule text are identified as follows: deletions are shown as "strikethrough", additions are in "All Caps", and changes made between initial review and final adoption are in [brackets] or highlighted yellow.

7.500.1 MISSION STATEMENT

To develop and coordinate the external resources necessary to fulfill the objectives of the COUNTY HUMAN/social services programs.

7.500.11 Target Groups ~~[Rev. eff. 4/1/12]~~

Target groups served by this program area are the individuals who will be serving the department's clients in such roles as foster or kinship foster parents for children/YOUTH or adults or CHILD day care providers or adoptive parents.

7.500.2 ASSESSMENT OF FOSTER CARE HOMES AND ADOPTIVE HOMES

A. The family assessment must be completed using the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE™) home study format. The SAFE™ home study tool assessment must be completed by using all tools and processes required by the SAFE™ format PROTOCOL **INCLUDING THE SAFE™ USER'S DESK GUIDE**. Persons completing the home studies must be qualified, ~~as a minimum, as a placement caseworker, with a Bachelor's degree in the social or behavioral sciences,~~ and must complete the Department required TWO (2) DAY SAFE™ training prior to performing **COMPLETING** the home studies **ASSESSMENT. THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION OF A FOSTER PARENT OR ADOPTIVE PARENT.**

A SAFE™ REFRESHER TRAINING IS REQUIRED EVERY THREE (3) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE INITIAL SAFE™ TRAINING RECEIVED OR PREVIOUS REFRESHER TRAINING. THIS INCLUDES HOME STUDY PRACTITIONERS AND THEIR SUPERVISORS.

1. ~~As part of the assessment the home study worker~~ SAFE™ PRACTITIONER must: CONDUCT A MINIMUM OF ONE (1) JOINT INTERVIEW WITH A COUPLE OR ALL APPLICANTS, ONE (1) INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW WITH EACH CHILD/YOUTH RESIDING IN THE HOME. A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) INTERVIEWS IS REQUIRED WITH A SINGLE APPLICANT.

- a- ~~Conduct a minimum of one (1) joint interview with a couple, one (1) individual interview with each adult member of the household and an [age]/developmentally appropriate interview with all children residing in the home. For single applicants, a minimum of two (2) interviews will be required.~~
- b- ~~Conduct at least one (1) interview in the applicant's home.~~
- e- ~~Ensure the second interview, and any subsequent interviews, of the adults shall not be performed until at least three (3) calendar days after the previous interview.~~

2. ~~Relationship with the County Department~~

~~Discuss the applicant's ability to work with the child welfare system, court, birth parents, and others in the child's life, including willingness to obtain help from professionals involved.~~

2. INTERVIEW REQUIREMENTS

THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST INCLUDE THE DATE, PERSON INTERVIEWED, LENGTH OF INTERVIEW (HOURS AND MINUTES), LOCATION OF EACH INTERVIEW, AND MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT. IF THE CERTIFYING AGENCY PROPOSES HAVING INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED OUTSIDE OF THE RESIDENCE, AN APPLICANT MUST BE CONSULTED AND BE IN AGREEMENT. THE CONVERSATION MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT.

- a. A MINIMUM OF TWO INTERVIEWS MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE APPLICANT'S HOME ON SEPARATE DAYS. **QUESTIONNAIRE II MUST BE COMPLETED IN THE HOME.**
- b. THE SECOND INTERVIEW, AND ANY SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS, OF THE ADULTS MUST NOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL AT LEAST THREE (3) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE PREVIOUS INTERVIEW.

3. ~~Post-Adoptive Services~~

~~The applicant's ability and willingness to assist with possible post-adoptive issues of the child, including, but not limited to:~~

- a. ~~Questions about the birth family.~~
- b. ~~Locating and obtaining non-identifying information about the birth family.~~
- c. ~~Search and possible reunification of the adopted child with the birth family.~~
- d. ~~Willingness to assist adopted child with counseling, if needed, related to adoption issues.~~

3. THE SAFE™ PRACTITIONER MUST DOCUMENT THE APPLICANT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES, INCLUDING A DISCUSSION ABOUT THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM, COURT, GUARDIAN AD LITEM (GAL), LEGAL PARENT/LEGAL CUSTODIAN, AND OTHERS IN THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S LIFE.

4. ~~Kinship Foster Care~~

~~The applicant's ability to provide a permanent home through adoption, guardianship or permanent custody. The ability to meet the individualized needs of the specified child(ren), and assessment of the relationship with birth parents and extended family members as they impact capacity of the applicants to care for the child(ren). The ability to set boundaries with birth parents to maintain safety for the child(ren) in care.~~

~~When completing the assessment, Section 7.708, "Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes" shall also apply.~~

4. THE SIGNATURE PAGE OF THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED BY THE PERSON COMPLETING THE ASSESSMENT AND SUPERVISOR/DESIGNEE. THE APPLICANT MUST SIGN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT/UPDATE SECTION INDICATING THE INDIVIDUAL READ AND REVIEWED THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE ASSESSMENT. ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE DATED PRIOR TO OR ON THE DATE OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME CERTIFICATE.
5. ~~State Automated Case Management System,~~ THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST COMPLETE A SEARCH OF THE COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CCWIS), Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Colorado ~~State Courts Data Access~~ COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT THE STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.
 - a. Prior to full certification of a foster CARE home, there shall be a review and documentation in the APPLICANT'S provider record of:
 - ~~i.1)~~ ~~Complete a~~ background check for each adult living in the home for the following:
 - ~~1-a)~~ Child abuse/neglect records check in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application for each adult (**EIGHTEEN (18)** years and older) living in the home.
 - ~~2-b)~~ A fingerprint-based criminal history record information check of CBI and FBI records; ~~and:~~
 - i. A NEW FBI FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION RECORD MUST BE COMPLETED EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS FROM THE ORIGINAL FINGERPRINT DATE AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 7.701.33.D.5.
 - ~~3-c)~~ A comparison search on the court case management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. This search must be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. THESE CHECKS ARE VALID FOR ONE YEAR PRIOR TO CERTIFICATION.
 - ~~4-d)~~ The CBI sex offender registry and national sex offender public website (**NSOPW**) operated by the United States Department of Justice by:
 - a.i. Known names, NICKNAMES, ALSO KNOWN AS (AKA), and addresses of each adult residing in the FOSTER CARE home;

- de. ~~A county department of human or social services shall not place a child and/or youth in the FOSTER CARE home if the foster parent or any adult eighteen (18) years of age or older who resides in the home:~~
- 1) ~~Is a registered sex offender, or,~~
 - 2) ~~Has a finding of child abuse and/or neglect in the state automated case management system CCWIS or another state's child abuse and neglect registry, unless it is determined following a review of the finding that the placement is safe.~~

6. ~~Other Requirements~~

- a. ~~Assessment of the ability of the applicant(s) to foster or adopt a child and to preserve continuity of the child's identity in a positive manner. Factors should include, but are not limited to, consideration of the child's family, community, neighborhood, faith or religious beliefs, school activities, friends, and child's and family's primary language. Documentation of the assessment of this requirement shall be in the case file.~~
- b. ~~The application for adoption or foster care shall be denied for reasons listed in Section 7.500.312,D, and may be denied for reasons listed in Section 7.500.312,E. If the applicant has ever been rejected as a prospective adoptive or foster parent or has been the subject of an unfavorable finding, the home study safe assessment must address the reasons for the unfavorable finding and any resolution of disagreements concerning the finding.~~
- c. ~~For the purposes of conducting an adoptive home study, the county department, qualified individual, and child placement agencies shall be required to report to the court the results of a fingerprint-based criminal history records check when it reveals that the prospective adoptive parent was convicted of a felony or misdemeanor of:~~
- i. ~~Child abuse or neglect;~~
 - ii. ~~Any crime against a child, including child pornography;~~
 - iii. ~~Any crime, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on the record to include an act of domestic violence, as specified in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.;~~
 - iv. ~~Violation of a protective order, as described in Section 18-6-803.5, C.R.S.;~~
 - v. ~~Any crime involving violence, rape, sexual assault, or homicide;~~
 - vi. ~~Any felony drug-related conviction within, at a minimum, the past five (5) years.~~

~~No person convicted of a felony offense shall be allowed to adopt a child, except a person may be allowed to adopt a child if:~~

1. ~~The applicant has had no further arrests or convictions subsequent to the original conviction;~~
 2. ~~The applicant has not been convicted of a pattern of misdemeanors, as defined by rule of the State Board of Human Services at Section 7.500.312,D,4,a-c; and,~~
 3. ~~The court enters a finding consistent with Section 19-5-210(2)(d), C.R.S., that the adoption is in the best interest of the child.~~
- d. ~~As part of the assessment, the agency must:~~
- i. ~~Conduct a minimum of one joint face-to-face interview with a couple, one individual face-to-face interview with each adult member of the household, and, if applicable, one individual face-to-face interview with any person considering a second parent adoption of the child(ren), and an age/developmental appropriate face-to-face interview with all children residing in the home. For single applicants, a minimum of two interviews will be required.~~
 - ii. ~~Conduct at least one face-to-face interview in the applicant's home.~~
 - iii. ~~Perform an on-site inspection for foster homes to determine compliance with the Rules and Regulations for Foster Homes, Section 7.708. Approval of local zoning, health, or fire departments must be documented in the foster home file when the situation warrants.~~
 - iv. ~~Spread out interviews over a period of not less than seven (7) consecutive days.~~
 - v. ~~Complete an annual SAFE update. This shall include at least one home visit and a review of the current medical status. Applicants shall be questioned regarding any child abuse/ investigations during the previous year.~~
- e. ~~The application and medical records will be reviewed; any issues that are identified will be discussed with the applicants. No physical examination shall be required of any person who in good faith relies upon spiritual means or prayer in the free exercise of religion to prevent or cure a disease unless there is a reason to believe such person's physical condition is such that he/she would be unable to care for a child, or such person has a communicable illness.~~
- f. ~~The county department shall not perform a foster home or adoptive home assessment on a member of its own staff. The worker should check with the supervisor for county policies and procedures regarding completing assessments on county staff.~~
- g. ~~Water, if from any source other than a regular municipal water supply, shall be tested for compliance with water quality requirements.~~

- h. ~~A current photograph of the family shall be requested and maintained in the file.~~
- i. ~~For the purposes of conducting an adoptive home study, the home study is to be completed ninety (90) working days from receiving the completed background checks.~~
- j. ~~The county department shall not deny to any person the opportunity to become an adoptive or foster parent on the basis of race, color, or national origin of the person, or of the child involved.~~

6. KINSHIP FOSTER CARE

- a. ASSESSMENT INCLUDES THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE A PERMANENT HOME THROUGH ADOPTION, GUARDIANSHIP, OR PERMANENT CUSTODY. ALSO INCLUDED ARE THE ABILITY TO MEET THE INDIVIDUALIZED NEEDS OF THE SPECIFIED CHILD(REN)/YOUTH, THE RELATIONSHIP WITH BIRTH PARENTS/LEGAL CUSTODIANS AND EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS AS IT IMPACTS THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY TO CARE FOR THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH, AND THEIR ABILITY TO SET BOUNDARIES WITH THE BIRTH PARENTS/LEGAL CUSTODIAN TO MAINTAIN SAFETY FOR THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH.
- b. APPLICANTS ARE NOT PREVENTED FROM FOSTERING IF THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE A PERMANENT HOME. WHEN COMPLETING THE ASSESSMENT, SECTION 7.708, RULES REGULATING FOSTER CARE HOMES SHALL APPLY TO ALL APPLICANTS.

7. ~~Additional Requirements~~

~~List characteristics of child(ren) THAT the home is approved for: age, sex, race, legal risk, and special needs (such as medical, physical, emotional). Following the completion of the assessment, a narrative report that summarizes and evaluates the information obtained must be completed. It shall be attached to the SAFE questionnaires 1 and 2.~~

- 7. WHEN THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AN UPDATE MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE UPDATE TEMPLATE OR WRITTEN IN A WORD DOCUMENT. THE UPDATE MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 45 CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT BECOMES AWARE OF THE CHANGE. EXPECTATIONS FOR TIME FRAMES FOR COMPLETING BACKGROUND CHECKS IS LOCATED IN 7.500.2 A.11.b.5.

WHEN THE CHANGE OCCURS 45 CALENDAR DAYS OR LESS FROM THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE CERTIFICATE, THE CHANGE MAY BE ADDRESSED IN THE SAFE™ UPDATE. THE ADDENDUM NEEDS TO BE SIGNED BY ALL PARTIES. THESE CHANGES MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- a. NEW INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE **EIGHTEEN (18)** YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, LIVING IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME (INCLUDING RESULTS OF THE BACKGROUND CHECKS);
- b. WHEN A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER MOVES OUT OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME;
- c. THE AGE, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITY, AND/OR SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH THAT WILL BE

CONSIDERED FOR THE FOSTER CARE HOME HAS CHANGED. A RE-EVALUATION OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME WILL BE COMPLETED AND THE ASSESSMENT REVISED;

- d. NEW LOCATION OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME;
- e. MARITAL/DOMESTIC RELATIONSHIP; OR,
- f. HEALTH ISSUES, INCAPACITATION, OR DEATH OF A FOSTER PARENT OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER.

~~8. Assessment Update~~

- ~~a. If there are changes in the age, sex, and special characteristics of the child(ren) which will be considered for the family, a re-evaluation of the family will be completed and the assessment revised.~~
- ~~b. For any individual eighteen (18) years of age or older entering the home with the intent of residing in the home or providing caretaker services in the home, there shall be a review and documentation in the provider record of the following:
 - ~~i. Child abuse or neglect records check in every state where the adult has resided in the previous five (5) years.~~
 - ~~ii. A fingerprint based criminal history check completed for the CBI and FBI, and,~~
 - ~~iii. A comparison search in the Colorado State Courts Data Access, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older entering the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which the adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search must be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history confirms or does not confirm a criminal history.~~~~

8. SAFE™ REQUIREMENTS WHEN CERTIFICATION STATUS CHANGES.

- a. A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED WHEN A FOSTER CARE HOME WAS CLOSED LONGER THAN 365 DAYS. THIS INCLUDES ADMINISTRATION OF QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II, PSYCHOSOCIAL INVENTORY, AND PERSONAL REFERENCES.
- b. WHEN THE FOSTER CARE HOME WAS CLOSED LESS THAN 365 DAYS, A COMPREHENSIVE UPDATE, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION OF THE SAFE™ UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRE, IS REQUIRED TO IDENTIFY NEW RELEVANT INFORMATION. ALL RELEVANT DOMAINS AND/OR ANY GAPS IN CONTENT FROM THE ORIGINAL HOME STUDY AND SUBSEQUENT UPDATES, AS WELL AS THE COMPLETION OF NEW UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRES, MUST BE INCLUDED.
 - 1) WHEN ALL HISTORIC SAFE™ DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING ORIGINAL SAFE™, QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II, UPDATE QUESTIONNAIRES, SAFE™ UPDATES, REFERENCES, AND PSYCHOSOCIAL INVENTORIES, ARE NOT AVAILABLE, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED.

~~9. At any time after the placement of a child, the placing agency may review the written family assessment, home study, and background checks of the foster parents.~~

9. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- a. ASSESSMENT OF THE ABILITY OF THE APPLICANT(S) TO FOSTER AND/OR ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH AND TO PRESERVE CONTINUITY OF THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S IDENTITY IN A POSITIVE AND AFFIRMING MANNER. FACTORS SHOULD INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, CONSIDERATION OF THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSION, RACIAL AND ETHNIC IDENTITY, FAMILY, COMMUNITY, NEIGHBORHOOD, FAITH OR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, FRIENDS, AND THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S AND FAMILY'S PRIMARY LANGUAGE. DOCUMENTATION OF THE ASSESSMENT OF THIS REQUIREMENT SHALL BE IN THE CASE FILE.
- b. THE APPLICATION FOR FOSTER CARE OR ADOPTION SHALL BE DENIED FOR REASONS LISTED IN SECTION 7.500.312.D AND MAY BE DENIED FOR REASONS LISTED IN SECTION 7.500.312.E. IF THE APPLICANT HAS EVER BEEN DENIED AS A PROSPECTIVE FOSTER AND/OR ADOPTIVE PARENT, THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST ADDRESS THE REASON FOR THE DENIAL AND ANY RESOLUTION OF DISAGREEMENTS CONCERNING THE DECISION.
- c. AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, THE AGENCY MUST:
 - 1) COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF ONE JOINT FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH A COUPLE, ONE INDIVIDUAL FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND, IF APPLICABLE, ONE INDIVIDUAL FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH ANY PERSON CONSIDERING A SECOND PARENT ADOPTION OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW WITH ALL CHILDREN/YOUTH RESIDING IN THE HOME. FOR SINGLE APPLICANTS, A MINIMUM OF TWO INTERVIEWS WILL BE REQUIRED.
 - 2) COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE FACE-TO-FACE INTERVIEW IN THE APPLICANT'S HOME.
 - 3) COMPLETE AN ON-SITE INSPECTION FOR FOSTER CARE HOMES TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH THE "RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FOSTER CARE HOMES", SECTION 7.708. APPROVAL OF LOCAL ZONING, HEALTH, OR FIRE DEPARTMENTS MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME FILE WHEN THE SITUATION WARRANTS.
 - 4) COMPLETE INTERVIEWS OVER A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE DAYS.
 - 5) COMPLETE AN ANNUAL SAFE™ UPDATE. THIS SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE VISIT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME AND A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT MEDICAL STATUS. ANY CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT ASSESSMENTS COMPLETED DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR SHALL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE APPLICANT(S).

IF THE GOVERNOR OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECLARES A DISASTER OR EMERGENCY, AND BECAUSE OF THE DECLARED DISASTER OR EMERGENCY THE MEDICAL EXAMS FOR THE

FOSTER PARENT(S), OTHER CHILDREN, AND OTHER ADULTS RESIDING IN THE HOME CANNOT BE COMPLETED FOR THE CHILD/YOUTH IN THE REQUIRED TIME FRAME, THE MEDICAL EXAM(S) MUST BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT NO LATER THAN 45 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE DECLARED CONCLUSION OF THE DISASTER OR EMERGENCY.

- d. THE APPLICATION AND MEDICAL RECORDS MUST BE REVIEWED; ANY ISSUES THAT ARE IDENTIFIED WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH THE APPLICANT. NO PHYSICAL EXAMINATION SHALL BE REQUIRED OF ANY PERSON WHO IN GOOD FAITH RELIES UPON SPIRITUAL MEANS OR PRAYER IN THE FREE EXERCISE OF RELIGION TO PREVENT OR CURE A DISEASE UNLESS THERE IS A REASON TO BELIEVE THE INDIVIDUAL'S PHYSICAL CONDITION IS SUCH THAT THE PERSON WOULD BE UNABLE TO CARE FOR A CHILD/YOUTH.
- e. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT COMPLETE A FOSTER CARE HOME OR ADOPTIVE HOME ASSESSMENT ON A MEMBER OF ITS OWN STAFF. THE WORKER SHOULD CHECK WITH THE SUPERVISOR FOR COUNTY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REGARDING COMPLETING ASSESSMENTS ON COUNTY STAFF.
- f. WATER, IF FROM ANY SOURCE OTHER THAN A REGULAR MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY, SHALL BE TESTED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH WATER QUALITY REQUIREMENTS.
- g. A CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR OF THE FOSTER FAMILY SHALL BE REQUESTED AND MAINTAINED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD.
- h. PURSUANT TO SECTION 19-1-130, C.R.S., A SERVICE PROVIDER MEANS THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, A COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN OR SOCIAL SERVICES, OR A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY. THIS INCLUDES A CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR THAT PROVIDES PLACEMENT-RELATED SERVICES ON A SERVICE PROVIDER'S BEHALF.
 - 1) A SERVICE PROVIDER SHALL PROVIDE PLACEMENT RELATED SERVICES IN A MANNER THAT IS CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TO THE COMPLEX SOCIAL IDENTITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING SUCH SERVICES. COMPLEX SOCIAL IDENTITIES INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO RACE, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, AGE, RELIGION, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, PHYSICAL OR COGNITIVE ABILITY, LANGUAGE, BELIEFS, VALUES, BEHAVIOR PATTERNS, AND CUSTOMS.

NONE OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS MAY BE USED TO CAUSE THE DELAY OR DENIAL OF AN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH, UNLESS THE DELAY OR DENIAL OF THE PLACEMENT IS NOT DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OR WELFARE OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.
 - 2) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES MUST NOT DENY ANY PERSON THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A FOSTER OR AN ADOPTIVE PARENT SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF A REAL OR PERCEIVED DISABILITY, RACE,

CREED, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, MARITAL STATUS, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, OR ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE, INCLUDING HIV, OF THE PERSON OR A MEMBER OF THE PERSON'S HOUSEHOLD; AND,

a) ANY DENIAL TO CARE FOR A SPECIFIC CHILD OR YOUTH THAT INCLUDES ONE OF THE FACTORS ABOVE AS THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL MUST BE DOCUMENTED, MUST HAVE A CLEAR CONNECTION TO THE ABILITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH, AND THE DENIAL TO CARE MUST NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OR WELFARE OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH; OR,

3) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES MUST NOT DELAY OR DENY THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH FOR ADOPTION OR INTO FOSTER CARE ON THE BASIS OF A REAL OR PERCEIVED DISABILITY, RACE, CREED, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, OR ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE, INCLUDING HIV, OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH, UNLESS THE DELAY OR DENIAL OF THE PLACEMENT IS NOT DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OR WELFARE OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH.

~~10. County departments are required to share approved adoptive home assessments within the county system if there is a child(ren) whom the family wants to be considered for possible placement. The family shall make a request in writing providing the name of the county department or child placement agency, address and name of the person who is to receive the home assessment, and appropriate documents. When the county department or child placement agency that completed the home assessment receives the written request, the written home assessment and appropriate documents shall be sent to the other county within five (5) working days at no cost to the family. The county receiving the home assessment shall notify the family within five (5) days that the county department has received the information. The county department placing the child for adoption will be responsible for post placement supervision until the adoption is finalized, unless otherwise negotiated in the placement agreement between the county and the child placement agency.~~

10. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE APPLICANT'S COMPLETION OF THE SAFE™ COMPATIBILITY INVENTORY, LIST CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILD(REN)/YOUTH THAT THE FOSTER PARENT(S) ARE APPROVED TO PROVIDE CARE AND/OR CAN BEST SERVE. THESE INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO AGE, RACE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, AND SPECIFIC NEEDS (SUCH AS MEDICAL, PHYSICAL, AND EMOTIONAL). INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE COMPATIBILITY INVENTORY MUST INDICATE COMPETENCIES IN PARENTING, THEIR AREAS OF INTEREST, AS WELL AS TRAINING OR COACHING NEEDED TO INCREASE SKILLS. THIS MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 7.500.2.A.9. **h** ABOVE. THESE CHARACTERISTICS MUST BE DISCUSSED IN THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT. THE INFORMATION MUST BE EVALUATED AND SUMMARIZED AND ATTACHED TO THE SAFE™ QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II.

AT A MINIMUM, THE SAFE™ COMPATIBILITY INVENTORY MUST BE COMPLETED WITH EACH APPLICANT AT INITIAL CERTIFICATION AND THEN EVERY OTHER YEAR THEREAFTER. IT IS ENCOURAGED THAT SOMEONE WITH KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE CHILD/YOUTH BEING CONSIDERED FOR PLACEMENT IN A FOSTER CARE HOME COMPLETE THE CHILD/YOUTH INVENTORY.

~~11. Child Placement Agencies (CPAs) shall share their home assessments with the county department when a CPA family is providing foster care and wants to be considered for a possible adoptive placement.~~

~~a. The family shall make a written request to the Child Placement Agency, identifying the county department, and the name and address of the county contact that is to receive the home assessment and appropriate documents.~~

~~b. When the Child Placement Agency receives the written request, the written home assessment and appropriate documents shall be sent to the identified county department within five (5) working days.~~

~~c. The county department receiving the home assessment shall notify the prospective adoptive family within five (5) working days that the county department has received the information.~~

11. ASSESSMENT UPDATE

a. IF THERE ARE CHANGES IN THE AGE AND/OR SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH THAT THE COUNTY WILL CONSIDER FOR PLACEMENT WITH THE FOSTER PARENT(S), A RE-EVALUATION OF THE FAMILY WILL BE COMPLETED AND THE ASSESSMENT REVISED.

b. FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER ENTERING THE HOME WITH THE INTENT OF RESIDING IN THE HOME OR PROVIDING CARE IN THE HOME, THERE SHALL BE DOCUMENTATION IN THE PROVIDER RECORD OF A REVIEW OF THE FOLLOWING:

1) CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT RECORDS CHECK IN EVERY STATE WHERE THE ADULT HAS RESIDED IN THE PREVIOUS FIVE (5) YEARS.

2) A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION CHECK COMPLETED FOR THE CBI AND FBI, AND,

3) A COMPARISON SEARCH IN THE COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT THE STATE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT, USING THE NAME AND DATE OF BIRTH WITH AVAILABLE CRIMINAL HISTORY INFORMATION. THE PURPOSE IS TO DETERMINE ANY CRIME(S) FOR WHICH THE ADULT RESIDING IN THE HOME WAS ARRESTED OR CONVICTED AND THE DISPOSITION. THIS SEARCH MUST BE COMPLETED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE CBI AND FBI FINGERPRINT HISTORY CONFIRMS OR DOES NOT CONFIRM A CRIMINAL HISTORY.

4) CBI SEX OFFENDER AND NSOPW SEX OFFENDER CHECKS, INCLUDING KNOWN NAMES, NICKNAMES, AKAs, ADDRESSES, AND A MAP OF THE LOCATION FROM THE RESPECTIVE

DATABASE TO CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME WAS CHECKED.

- 5) IF A NEW INDIVIDUAL EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER IS VISITING OR LIVING IN THE FOSTER CARE OR KINSHIP FOSTER CARE HOME AND INTENDS TO STAY THIRTY (30) CONSECUTIVE DAYS OR LONGER, THE FOLLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN THE TIME FRAMES LISTED BELOW FROM THE DATE THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES LEARNED THAT THE ADULT WAS IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME.
 - a) WITHIN 24 HOURS, THE COUNTY MUST COMPLETE CBI AND NSOPW SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY CHECKS AND DOCUMENT THE INFORMATION INTO THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS AND FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD.
 - b) WITHIN 24 HOURS, A COLORADO CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT CHECK AND A CHECK IN THE STATE JUDICIAL DATABASE MUST BE COMPLETED AND DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS AND THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD.
 - c) WITHIN SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS, THE COUNTY MUST REQUEST CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RECORDS IN ALL OTHER STATES WHERE THE ADULT HAS RESIDED IN THE PAST FIVE (5) YEARS. DOCUMENT THE REQUESTS IN THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS. DOCUMENT ALL RESPONSES IN THE CCWIS AND FOSTER CARE RECORD.
 - d) WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS, A CBI AND FBI FINGERPRINT BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK MUST BE SUBMITTED. DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING THE DATES OF THE CBI AND FBI CHECKS, MUST BE ENTERED INTO THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS. DOCUMENTATION MUST INDICATE THE RESULTS WERE REVIEWED AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES DID NOT HAVE CONCERNS. THIS MAY BE A RECORD OF CONTACT (ROC) NOTE. THE HARD COPY RECORDS MUST BE LOCATED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD.
12. AT ANY TIME AFTER THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD/YOUTH, THE PLACING AGENCY MAY REVIEW THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT, UPDATES, AND ALL BACKGROUND CHECKS OF THE FOSTER PARENT EXCEPT THE FBI CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION REPORT, UNLESS THE APPLICANT AUTHORIZES IT IN WRITING.
13. COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES ARE REQUIRED TO SHARE APPROVED ADOPTIVE HOME STUDIES BETWEEN COUNTIES IF THERE IS A CHILD(REN)/YOUTH WHOM THE FOSTER PARENT(S) WANTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR POSSIBLE PLACEMENT. THE FOSTER PARENT(S) SHALL MAKE A REQUEST IN WRITING PROVIDING THE NAME OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, ADDRESS, AND NAME OF THE PERSON WHO IS TO RECEIVE THE HOME ASSESSMENT, AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS. WHEN THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OR CHILD PLACEMENT

AGENCY THAT COMPLETED THE HOME ASSESSMENT RECEIVES THE WRITTEN REQUEST, THE WRITTEN HOME ASSESSMENT AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE SENT TO THE OTHER COUNTY WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS AT NO COST TO THE FOSTER PARENT(S). THE COUNTY RECEIVING THE HOME ASSESSMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE FOSTER PARENT(S) WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED THE INFORMATION.

THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLACING THE CHILD/YOUTH FOR ADOPTION WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR POST-PLACEMENT SUPERVISION UNTIL THE ADOPTION IS FINALIZED, UNLESS OTHERWISE NEGOTIATED IN THE PLACEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.

14. A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY SHALL SHARE THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT WITH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WHEN A CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY FOSTER PARENT WANTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A POSSIBLE ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT.
 - a. THE FOSTER PARENT SHALL MAKE A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, IDENTIFYING THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT, AND THE NAME, AND ADDRESS OF THE COUNTY CONTACT THAT IS TO RECEIVE THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS.
 - b. WHEN THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY RECEIVES THE WRITTEN REQUEST, THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS SHALL BE SENT TO THE IDENTIFIED COUNTY DEPARTMENT WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS.
 - c. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT RECEIVING THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT SHALL NOTIFY THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) WITHIN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED THE INFORMATION.
 - d. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLACING THE CHILD/YOUTH FOR ADOPTION WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR POST-PLACEMENT SUPERVISION UNTIL THE ADOPTION IS FINALIZED, UNLESS OTHERWISE NEGOTIATED IN THE PLACEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY.

15. POST-ADOPTIVE SERVICES AND CONNECTIONS

THE APPLICANT'S ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST WITH POSSIBLE POST-ADOPTIVE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH SHOULD BE ASSESSED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

 - a. QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIRTH FAMILY;
 - b. LOCATING AND OBTAINING NON-IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIRTH FAMILY;
 - c. SEARCH AND POSSIBLE REUNIFICATION OF THE CHILD/YOUTH WITH THE BIRTH FAMILY; AND,
 - d. WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST THE CHILD/YOUTH WHO WAS ADOPTED WITH

COUNSELING, IF NEEDED, REGARDING ISSUES RELATED TO
ADOPTION.

7.500.3 CHILDREN'S/YOUTH'S RESOURCES [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

- A. Resources for children/YOUTH to be developed by the county department of ~~social or~~ human/SOCIAL services are NON-RELATIVE foster care homes, KINSHIP FOSTER CARE HOMES, receiving homes IF APPLICABLE, ~~specialized group facilities~~, and adoption resources.
- B. A DILIGENT RECRUITMENT PLAN SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE WITH THE CONTENT, FORMAT, AND TIME FRAMES PRESCRIBED. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PLAN AND DEMONSTRATE good faith efforts and due diligence ~~shall be used~~ to recruit AND RETAIN families ~~who~~ THAT reflect the DIVERSE communities AND IDENTITIES of all children/YOUTH ~~in care~~ SERVED BY THE CHILD WELFARE AGENCY.
- C. Facilities for children/YOUTH ~~shall be utilized solely by children/YOUTH~~, shall be licensed or certified, and shall meet necessary local requirements and hold local licenses or permits, AS APPLICABLE. In order to support youth with an independent living stipend, a foster care home may provide a home for a youth that previously resided in foster care in the home on or before the youth's eighteenth (18th) birthday. The youth shall ~~solely~~ occupy a bedroom and ALONE ~~shall not occupy a bedroom with a child and/or youth in foster care~~. The foster care home may accept a negotiated portion of the independent living stipend. Negotiation shall include the youth, caseworker, and foster parent(s).
- D. The county department of ~~social~~/human/SOCIAL services shall audit all current foster care files ~~on an~~ annually basis to verify that all required information is present in the file. Following the annual audit, the county department shall attest in writing that all the required information is present.
- E. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall develop resources for the twenty-four (24) hour out-of-home care of children/YOUTH who otherwise would be inappropriately placed in jail or detention.
- F. A foster CARE home or receiving home certified by the county department of ~~social or~~ human/SOCIAL services ~~or a specialized group facility sponsored by a county department~~ shall receive children/YOUTH only from a county department of ~~social or human services~~, and the certifying county shall approve ~~e~~ each placement.
- G. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall maintain a directory of current, accurate information to identify ALL available placements. The directory shall include available vacancies, licensed or certified capacity, ages, and gender IDENTITY of children/YOUTH accepted by the FOSTER CARE home, or facility, a description of the level of care which the FOSTER CARE home or facility can provide, and ~~a listing of any special services that it can~~ ARE provided.
- H. CARE OF CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE HOMES WHEN CARE IS ALSO PROVIDED FOR ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
 1. THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL MEET ALL CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IN SECTION 7.500.
 2. THE CAPACITY OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME WHEN ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARE ALSO IN CARE SHALL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF FOUR (4) PERSONS REQUIRING CARE THROUGH THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AND/OR THE ADULT

INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SYSTEM.

- a. WHEN A YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE TURNS EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE AND IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ADULT RESIDENTIAL SYSTEM THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING (HCPF), THE YOUTH SHALL BE CONSIDERED AN ADULT RECEIVING CARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPACITY. IF THE COUNTY OR STATE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES HAS LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CARE AND PLACEMENT OF THE YOUTH TURNING EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE, THE INDIVIDUAL WILL BE CONSIDERED A CHILD FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAPACITY.
 - b. CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE AND WHO ARE ENROLLED IN THE CHILDREN'S HABILITATION RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM (CHRP), MAY LIVE IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME WITH A COMBINED MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING A HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES (HCBS) WAIVER. THIS MAY INCLUDE ONE (1) HCBS-CHRP CLIENT AND TWO (2) HCBS-PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DD) OR HCBS-SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES (SLS) WAIVER PARTICIPANTS, OR TWO (2) HCBS-CHRP PARTICIPANTS AND ONE (1) HCBS-DD OR HCBS-SLS WAIVER PARTICIPANTS LIVING IN THE SAME FOSTER CARE HOME.
 - c. ALL CHILDREN/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, CHILDREN/YOUTH UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) LIVING IN THE HOME WHO ARE NOT IN FOSTER CARE, AND ALL ADULTS BEING CARED FOR THROUGH THE ADULT INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SYSTEM CANNOT EXCEED A COMBINED CAPACITY OF TEN (10).
3. WHEN A YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE IN THE HOME TURNS EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE (18), IF THE YOUTH IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ADULT RESIDENTIAL SYSTEM, BACKGROUND CHECKS IN SECTION 7.500.2.A.5.a.1, MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE YOUTH AND A SAFE™ UPDATE MUST BE COMPLETED AS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 7.500.A.7.

7.500.31 Foster Care Homes [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

Foster care homes ~~are~~ MUST BE certified by county departments of human/~~or~~ social services, ~~foster care homes associated with~~ Child Placement Agencies ~~are certified by the~~ OR A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE WITH A FOSTER CARE PROGRAM.

- A. A foster care home provides temporary ~~or long-term~~ care for children/YOUTH who must live outside their own homes and are in need of protection and/or supervision, including those children/YOUTH with physical ~~handicaps~~ or developmental disabilities when target group eligibility and out-of-home placement criteria are met. Receiving homes are a type of foster care home which provide temporary care of children/YOUTH.
- B. Foster parents shall be recruited who demonstrate a genuine interest in and knowledge of children/YOUTH and a concern for their ~~proper~~ care and well-being. A county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall recruit within its own county and may recruit in adjacent counties ~~with the approval of the director of the county department of the adjacent county.~~
- C. Within five (5) working days after initial inquiry, the CASE worker shall discuss with THE prospective applicant(s) general information regarding foster ~~parenting~~ CARE requirements and the DATE OF THE upcoming orientation/INFORMATION MEETING.
- D. An orientation/INFORMATION MEETING shall be held to discuss the application and

certification process for prospective foster parent applicants within six (6) weeks after THE initial inquiry. THE ORIENTATION/INFORMATION MEETING MAY BE COMPLETED INDIVIDUALLY.

- E. A foster CARE home must be certified- AND Pursuant to an application for CERTIFICATION ~~a certificate~~, the county department of human/~~or~~-social services shall assess a foster CARE home; ~~however~~ EXCEPT:
1. A staff member of a county department of human/social services shall not be certified ~~by the county in which he/she is employed~~ to operate a foster CARE home BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS EMPLOYED due to conflict of interest. A WAIVER CAN BE FILED IF THERE IS AN UNDUE HARDSHIP WHICH CREATES A SUBSTANTIAL AND UNNECESSARY BURDEN ON THE APPLICANT, THE FAMILY, COMMUNITY SERVED, OR THE RULE IS TOO STRINGENTLY APPLIED.
 2. A staff member of a county department of human/~~or~~-social services may be certified by another county, but may not receive children/YOUTH placed by the county in which ~~he/she~~ THE INDIVIDUAL is employed.
 3. No county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall certify a foster CARE home of a relative of any staff member of the Child Welfare Division or unit. If the foster CARE home is certified by another county department, the referring county department may place children/YOUTH in the foster CARE home upon written agreement of the two (2) county department directors or designees.
 4. If a relative of a staff member of the county, who is not an employee of the county Child Welfare Division or unit, ~~makes application~~ APPLIES to be a foster care home for the county department, then the application shall be reviewed by the county department director OR DESIGNEE to determine ~~whether~~ WHETHER a conflict of interest exists and the director OR DESIGNEE shall provide written approval or denial and the justification for the decision. The documentation shall be attached to the application.
- F. A county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES may receive an application for a ~~certificate~~ CERTIFICATION and complete a ~~foster home~~ SAFE™ assessment for an applicant living in an adjacent county only after the county director of the adjacent county or ~~his/her~~ designee gives approval for the other county department to complete the SAFE™ assessment and issue the certificate. County departments may only certify a foster home in a nonadjacent county with the written permission of both county directors or THEIR designees.
- G. ~~The county department of human or social services shall require verification of an individual's lawful presence in the United States, as provided in general eligibility requirements as found in Section 3.140.11 (9 CCR 2503-1), in order to approve an application to operate a foster home.~~ LAWFUL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES IS NOT REQUIRED TO OPERATE A FOSTER CARE HOME. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL NOT VERIFY AN APPLICANT'S LAWFUL PRESENCE TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION TO OPERATE A FOSTER CARE HOME.
- H. A county department of human/~~er~~ social services shall not accept an application to operate a foster CARE home from an individual who is currently certified by a child placement agency to operate a ~~family~~ FOSTER care home until that individual has terminated the certification by the child placement agency.
- I. Reference checks for the applicant and all adults residing in the home:

~~AnY applicant~~ APPLICATION ACCEPTED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL(S) OR COUPLE WHO WISHES TO BE CERTIFIED TO OPERATE ~~for certification for~~ a foster care home SHALL BE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S APPROVED FORM. ~~and all adults residing in the home shall provide the county department of human or social services from whom the certification is sought with a list of all child placement agencies and county departments of human or social services that previously certified the applicant or any adult residing in the home.~~

Each adult shall sign a release of information; and, the county department of human/~~er~~ social services from whom the certification is sought shall conduct a reference check of each adult residing in the home by contacting all of the child placement agencies and county departments of ~~human or social services~~ identified before issuing the ~~certification~~ CERTIFICATE for the foster care home. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE AND IS NOT LIMITED TO:

1. THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCIES AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS WHERE THE APPLICANT PREVIOUSLY APPLIED OR WAS CERTIFIED, INFORMATION ABOUT PRIOR OR CURRENT LICENSING FOR CHILD CARE AT THE TIME OF THE APPLICATION, THE AGENCY THAT ISSUED THE CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE, AND THE TYPE OF CARE THE CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE AUTHORIZED.
- J. No director or staff member of a county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES or CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY ~~governing body for a Specialized Group Facility (SGF) sponsored by the county department~~ shall contact or recruit foster CARE homes currently certified by another county department or child placement agency for the purpose of becoming a foster CARE home ~~or specialized group facility~~.
- K. A county director or ~~his/her~~ THE designee may take the following actions for prospective or current kinship foster care home providers. Decisions shall be made case-by-case and the safety and well-being of a child/YOUTH ~~and/or youth~~ placed in the FOSTER CARE home shall not be compromised, THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR THE DESIGNEE MAY:
1. Waive non-safety certification standards for kinship foster care providers ~~defined in Section 7.708.14 and~~ referenced in 7.708.7 (12 CCR 2509-8);
 2. Require special conditions for certification that address the safety or well-being needs for a child/YOUTH ~~or youth~~;
 3. Limit or restrict a certificate; and/or,
 4. Require a written agreement for compliance that addresses safety and well-being needs for a child/YOUTH ~~or youth~~.

7.500.311 Training and Foster Home Assessment [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

- A. ~~Prior to certification, the county department of human or social services shall complete the single SAFE assessment of foster and adoptive homes as outlined in Section 7.500.2.~~
- BA. Training, Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Five-Year Child Abuse and Neglect Records Check Requirements.
1. Prior to the placement of a child and/or youth, initial training shall be provided through the statewide core curriculum, county department of human/~~er~~ social services, ~~or~~ LICENSED COLORADO CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, OR AN ORGANIZATION APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE (DCW).

- a. Each applicant shall complete twelve hours of core training. Core training shall include, at a minimum, the following ~~ten~~ primary topic~~s~~CONTENT areas:
- 1) General overview of foster care;
 - 2) Administrative RULES, LAWS, and legal issues;
 - 3) ~~Why children and youth get placed in out-of-home care~~THE IMPACT OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT;
 - 4) Parenting and family dynamics;
 - 5) Key concepts of child growth and development;
 - 6) ~~Importance of the team approach;~~ADDRESSING CHILD/YOUTH BEHAVIORS;
 - 7) ~~Individual differences, such as ethnicity and culture~~IMPORTANCE OF THE TEAM APPROACH;
 - 8) ~~Discipline~~CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 7.701 (12 CCR 2509-8), INCLUDING individual differences, such as RACE, ethnicity, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, AND EXPRESSION, ABLEISM, and culture;
 - 9) ~~Effects of fostering on the foster family; and,~~DISCIPLINE;
 - 10) ~~Working with the biological family~~EFFECTS OF FOSTERING ON THE FOSTER FAMILY;
 - 11) THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CHILDREN/YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS, INCLUDING REGULAR VISITATION;
 - 12) REASONABLE AND PRUDENT PARENT STANDARD;
 - 13) TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 7.701.400;
 - 14) MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION;
 - 15) HEALTH ISSUES IN FOSTER CARE, INCLUDING HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE;
 - 16) THE RIGHT OF A CHILD OR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE TO HAVE FAIR AND EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL AVAILABLE SERVICES, PLACEMENT, CARE, TREATMENT, AND BENEFITS, AND TO NOT BE SUBJECTED TO DISCRIMINATION OR HARASSMENT ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED DISABILITY, RACE, CREED, RELIGION, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, GENDER EXPRESSION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, ANCESTRY, OR ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE, INCLUDING HIV, OF THE CHILD

OR YOUTH;

- 17) THE RIGHTS OF SIBLINGS IN FOSTER CARE, LOCATED IN § 19-7-203, C.R.S.; AND,
- 18) UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF A CHILD WELFARE EDUCATION LIAISON, AS DESCRIBED IN § 22-32-138(2), C.R.S.

b. In addition to twenty-seven hours of pre-certification training, which includes twelve hours of core training, each foster parent shall be certified in First Aid ~~or the equivalent~~, and CPR for the ages of the children and/or youth in placement. INITIAL CPR TRAINING MUST BE COMPLETED IN A CLASSROOM WITH MANUAL DEMONSTRATION OF RESUSCITATION. INDIVIDUALS IN THE DIRECT MEDICAL OR EMERGENCY RESPONDER FIELD MAY HAVE CPR AND FIRST AID WAIVED IF THEIR IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR AFFIRMS THAT THE APPLICANT IS A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL THAT PERFORMS THESE SKILLS.

- 1) If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency, the foster parent(s) cannot take the First Aid class in a classroom with the first aid trainer, the First Aid training may be completed online. The foster parent(s) must then complete the classroom training with the first aid trainer as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.
- 2) If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency, the foster parent(s) cannot take the CPR class in a classroom with the CPR trainer, and the foster parent(s) has successfully completed a CPR class within the last five (5) years, the foster parent(s) may take the CPR class online. The foster parent(s) must then complete the classroom training with a CPR instructor as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.

~~e. Complete a background check required in Section 7.500.2, A., 8.~~

cd. The county department of human/~~or~~ social services shall train foster parents how to determine whether to approve the child's/YOUTH'S/~~or youth's~~ participation in an extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, or social activity consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard, based upon criteria in section 7.701.200 (12 CCR 2509-8).

2. Ongoing Training

- a. Each applicant shall have twenty (20) hours of ongoing training every year, except specialized providers outlined in Section 7.708.65.E (12 CCR 2509-8). The training shall be relevant to fostering the children and/or youth being served in the foster care home or kinship foster care home.
- b. If there are children and/or youth in the home and training is not completed, no additional children and/or youth shall be placed until training is complete. Children and/or youth who are currently in placement shall not be disrupted due to this requirement.

CB. Exceptions to the Training and CBI, FBI, and Five-Year Child Abuse and Neglect Records Check Requirements

An exception to the rules may be made for emergency "child specific" placements identified in Section 7.304.21.D.2.f.7.304.21.E.2.f, and for non-emergency "child specific" placements in Section 7.500.312.E.D. These are defined as placements where the child/YOUTH has a prior relationship to the applicant.

1. The applicant may have ~~NINETY~~^{sixty} (60) calendar days from the date of application to complete training.
2. In the event of an emergency "child specific" placement in a previously uncertified home, prior to or at the time of the placement the county department of ~~human or social services~~ shall receive the completed Original Application to Care for Children AND YOUTH. In addition, the county staff and the applicant shall review and sign the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home".

DC. If a provisional certificate will be issued because a "child specific" emergency placement is required in a previously non-certified home, prior to or at the time of the placement the county department of ~~human or social services~~ shall receive the completed Original Application to Care for Children AND YOUTH, and the county staff and the applicant shall review and sign the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home", and submit fingerprints and current processing fee to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation. WHEN A CHILD/YOUTH THAT WAS IN FOSTER CARE IS TO BE PLACED WITH A FOSTER PARENT THAT IS NO LONGER CERTIFIED, A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED IF IT IS IN THE CHILD'S/YOUTH'S BEST INTEREST TO RETURN TO THE FOSTER CARE HOME.

The following shall be ~~initiated~~COMPLETED by the county department of ~~human or social services~~ as soon as possible for PRIOR TO an emergency "child specific" placement of a child/YOUTH ~~and/or youth~~. THE COUNTY SHALL complete a background check for each adult (EIGHTEEN (18) years and older) living in the home for the following:

1. ~~Child abuse/neglect records in every state where any adult residing in the home has lived in the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application;~~
2. ~~Fingerprint based criminal history record information checks from the CBI and the FBI as soon as possible and consistent with Section 7.304.21.D.2.f.7.304.21.D.2.f.3) (12 CCR 2509-4);~~
31. Review the court case management system at the State Judicial Department and include a copy in the provider record; ~~and,~~
42. The CBI sex offender registry, ~~and the national sex offender public website NSOPW operated by the United States Department of Justice, and include a copy in the provider record using:~~
 - a. Known names, NICKNAMES, AKAs, and addresses of each adult residing in the FOSTER CARE home; and,
 - b. Address only of the provider's home WITH A MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASES TO CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS OF THE HOME HAS BEEN CHECKED;

53. CCWIS (TRAILS) SCREEN PRINTS, INCLUDING PRIOR NAMES, NICKNAMES, AND AKAS, AND COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS IN THE TIME FRAMES IDENTIFIED BELOW:
4. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT RECORDS CHECKS IN EVERY STATE WHERE ANY ADULT RESIDING IN THE HOME HAS LIVED IN THE FIVE (5) YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF APPLICATION SHALL BE INITIATED NO LATER THAN SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS FOLLOWING PLACEMENT; AND,
5. FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION CHECKS FROM THE CBI AND THE FBI SHALL BE INITIATED NO LATER THAN FIVE (5) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH ARE PLACED IN THE HOME OR NO LATER THAN FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH ARE PLACED IN THE HOME WHEN DOCUMENTED URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES EXIST, CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 7.304.21.E.2.f (12 CCR 2509-4).

ED. If a provisional certificate will be issued because a non-emergency "child specific" placement is required in a previously non-certified home:

1. The county department of human/ or social services shall submit fingerprints to CBI and FBI and complete all other background checks prior to placement of the child/YOUTH and/or youth, consistent with Section 7.500.2.B.1-7.500.2.A.5, except that child abuse and neglect records in other states where an adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the application shall be initiated no later than seven (7) working days following placement; and,
2. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/ OR SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL Review the completed "Original Application to Care for Children AND YOUTH" and the CWS-7A "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home" with the provider, and collect the signed documents.

7.500.312 Issuance/Denial of Certificate [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

Every application used in the state of Colorado for employment with a child care provider or facility, or for the certification of a foster home, shall include the following notice to the applicant:

"Any applicant who knowingly or willfully makes a false statement of any material fact or thing in the application is guilty of perjury in the second degree as defined in Section 18-8-503, C.R.S., and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished accordingly."

EACH APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE VERIFICATION OF A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN) OR AN INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (ITIN) ISSUED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

After the completion of the home SAFE™ assessment, the county department shall take one of the following certification actions:

- A. A one (1) year time-limited certificate shall be issued when it is determined that the applicant is competent, has completed the necessary training, and is in compliance with the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708. The certificate issue date is the date that the assessment is completed and the foster CARE home is in compliance with Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708.
 1. The number and age of children/YOUTH for whom the FOSTER CARE home is certified shall be determined by the size of the home and the Rules Regulating

Foster Care Homes, the applicant's previous experience, and parenting skills, AND INPUT FROM THE FOSTER PARENT.

2. Before a certificate is issued, the county department shall review the foster care facility contract and agreement with the foster parents. The contract and agreement must be signed by each applicant prior to certification. If a child/YOUTH is placed and care paid by the county department, rules found in the provider rules IN section 7.417.1 (12 CCR 2509-5) ~~of this manual~~ shall be utilized.
- B. A provisional certificate shall be issued for child specific homes if the home is temporarily unable to conform to all appropriate regulations upon proof by the applicant that attempts are being made to comply with the appropriate regulations.
1. A provisional certificate may be issued TO ALLOW THE APPLICANT to complete required training or in the event that an emergency placement into a previously uncertified home is required. If the applicant does not complete training within six months after application, no additional children/YOUTH can be placed in the home until this requirement is met. The reasons for the issuance of a provisional certificate shall be displayed on the certificate. The Department will not reimburse for children/YOUTH placed in a provisionally certified foster care home more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of application.
 2. The provisional certificate shall be issued for no more than six months from the date it is determined that time will be needed to ~~complete~~ **COMPLY WITH** the regulations or that care is to begin. Only one original provisional certificate may be issued to a foster home at one location address. ~~The Department will not reimburse for children/YOUTH placed in a provisionally certified foster care home more than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of application.~~
- C. The application shall be ~~withdrawn~~ **CLOSED** when the applicant no longer chooses to pursue certification.
- D. The application shall be denied for one or more of the following reasons:
1. ~~When it is determined that the applicant is not competent to operate a family foster home, or is unable or unwilling to comply with the regulations within three months of application.~~
 21. PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-6-905(10), C.R.S., ~~when the individual or person who resides with the applicant has been determined to be insane or mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction and, should~~ **IF THE** ~~an order pursuant to Part 3 or Part 4 of Article 14 of Title 15, C.R.S., or Section 27-65-109(4) or 27-65-127, C.R.S., AN ORDER specifically finding that the mental incompetency or insanity is of such degree that the applicant is incapable of operating a RESIDENTIAL OR DAY TREATMENT CHILD CARE FACILITY, family child care home, foster care home, child care center,~~ or child placement agency, the record of such determination and entry of such order being conclusive evidence thereof.
 32. If the person applying for the certificate **OR A PERSON WHO RESIDES AT THE HOME** has been convicted of any of the crimes defined in a-e, below. "Convicted" means a conviction by a jury or a court and ~~shall~~ **also include** a deferred judgment and sentence agreement, a deferred prosecution agreement, a deferred adjudication agreement, an adjudication, and a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. This does not apply to a diversion, deferral or plea for a juvenile who participated in diversion (defined in ~~Section 19-1-103(44),~~ 19-2.5-102, C.R.S.), and does not apply to an adult who successfully completed the child abuse and/or neglect diversion program (defined in

Section 19-3-310, C.R.S.).

- a. Child abuse, as specified in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S.
 - b. A crime of violence, as defined in Section 18-1.3-406, C.R.S.
 - c. An offense involving unlawful sexual behavior, as defined in Section 16-22-102(9), C.R.S.
 - d. A felony, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on the record to include an act of domestic violence, as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.
 - e. A felony involving physical assault, battery or a drug-related offense within the five years immediately preceding the date of application for a certificate.
43. No certificate to operate a foster care home shall be issued by a county department ~~of~~ human/~~or~~ social services if the person applying for such certificate or a person who resides with the applicant at the foster care home has shown a pattern of misdemeanor convictions within the ten (10) years immediately preceding submission of the application. "Pattern of misdemeanor" ~~shall include consideration of Section 26-6-108(2), C.R.S., regarding suspension, revocation and denial of a license, and~~ shall be defined as:
- a. Three (3) or more convictions of 3rd degree assault as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., and/or any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by any court on the record to include an act of domestic violence as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; or,
 - b. Five (5) misdemeanor convictions of any type, with at least two (2) convictions of 3rd degree assault as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., and/or any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by any court on the record to include an act of domestic violence as defined in Section 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.; or,
 - c. Seven (7) misdemeanor convictions of any type.
54. Any offense in any other state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements listed in ~~2-4~~ 1-3.
- E. The application may be denied or the foster care certification suspended, revoked or made probationary PURSUANT TO SECTION 26-6-914, C.R.S., for one or more of the following reasons, if the person applying for the certificate or any individual living with the applicant or employed by the applicant: ~~has (also see Section 7-708.21):~~
1. ~~Been~~ IS convicted in Colorado or in any other state of any felony, or has entered into a deferred judgment agreement or a deferred prosecution agreement in Colorado or in any other state to any felony, other than those offenses specified in Section 26-6-905(8) ~~26-6-104(7)~~, C.R.S., or child abuse, as specified in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S., the record of conviction being conclusive evidence thereof, notwithstanding Section 24-5-101, C.R.S.; or,
 2. ~~Been~~ IS convicted of third degree assault, as described in Section 18-3-204, C.R.S., any misdemeanor, the underlying factual basis of which has been found by the court on any record to include an act of domestic violence, as defined in Section 18-6-800.3,

C.R.S., any misdemeanor violation of a restraining order, as described in Section 18-6-803.5, C.R.S., any misdemeanor offense of child abuse as defined in Section 18-6-401, C.R.S., or any misdemeanor offense in any other state, the elements of which are substantially similar to the elements of any one of the offenses described in this paragraph; or,

3. ~~Used any controlled substance as defined in Section 12-22-303(7), C.R.S. or consumed any alcoholic beverage or been under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic beverage during the operating hours of the facility. This shall not apply to foster care homes, unless such use or consumption impairs the foster parent's ability to properly care for children; or,~~ USES ANY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 8 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES INCLUDING RETAIL MARIJUANA, OR CONSUMES ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DURING THE OPERATING HOURS OF THE FACILITY OR IS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DURING THE OPERATING HOURS OF THE FACILITY; OR,
4. ~~Been~~ IS convicted of unlawful use of a controlled substance as specified in Section 18-18-404, C.R.S., unlawful distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, sale, or possession of a controlled substance as specified in Section ~~18-18-403.5~~ OR 18-18-405, C.R.S., or unlawful offenses relating to marijuana or marijuana concentrate as specified in Section 18-18-406, C.R.S.; or,
5. Consistently fail~~ed~~ to maintain standards prescribed and published by the Colorado Department of Human Services; or,
6. Furnish~~ed~~ or ~~made~~ MAKES any misleading or any false statement or report to the Colorado Department of Human Services; or,
7. Refuse~~d~~ to submit to the Colorado Department of Human Services any reports or refuse~~d~~ to make available to the Department any records required by it in making AN investigation of the facility for licensing purposes; or,
8. Fail~~ed~~ or refuse~~d~~ to submit to an investigation or inspection by the Colorado Department of Human Services or to admit authorized representatives of the Department at any reasonable time for the purpose of investigation or inspection; or,
9. Fail~~ed~~ to provide, maintain, equip, and keep in safe and sanitary condition premises established or used for child care pursuant to standards prescribed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Colorado Department of Human Services or by ordinances of regulations applicable to the location of the foster care home; or,
10. Willfully or deliberately violate~~d~~ any of the provisions of PART 9 OF FOSTER CARE, RESIDENTIAL, DAY TREATMENT, AND CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY LICENSING ~~the Child Care Licensing Act~~; or,
11. Fail~~ed~~ to maintain financial resources adequate for the satisfactory care of children served in regard to upkeep of premises and provision for personal care, medical services, clothing, and other essentials in the proper care of children; or,
12. ~~Been~~ IS charged with the commission of an act of child abuse or an unlawful sexual offense, as specified in Section 18-3-411(1), C.R.S., if:
 - a. THE ~~such~~ individual has admitted committing the act or offense and the

admission is documented or uncontroverted; or,

b. ~~THE an~~ Administrative Law Judge finds that such charge is supported by substantial evidence; or,

13. ~~Admitted~~ to an act of child abuse or if substantial evidence is found that the licensee, person employed by the licensee, or person who resides with the licensee in the foster home has committed an act of child abuse, as defined at 19-1-103(1), C.R.S.; or,

14. ~~Been~~ IS the subject of a negative licensing action.

15. ~~Intentionally misused~~ MISUSES funds: the individual(s) making the expenditure decision had deliberate, willful, and intentional disregard for the fiduciary responsibility for how public funds are to be used for children placed in foster care or adoptive homes.

F. ~~A certified~~ kinship FOSTER care certificate shall be issued when it is determined the applicant has met requirements outlined in Section 7.500.31.

G. DENIAL OF AN ORIGINAL OR RENEWAL APPLICATION.

1. WHEN AN ORIGINAL OR RENEWAL APPLICATION IS DENIED, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES MUST NOTIFY THE APPLICANT IN WRITING OF THE DENIAL AND MAIL IT TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE APPLICATION. THE DENIAL LETTER SHOULD BE SENT BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO VERIFY THE DATE THE APPLICANT RECEIVED THE DENIAL LETTER. **IN ADDITION TO SENDING THE LETTER BY CERTIFIED MAIL, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO USE ANOTHER METHOD TO COMMUNICATE THE INFORMATION TO THE APPLICANT.** IF THE APPLICANT CHOOSES TO APPEAL THE DECISION, A REQUEST BY THE APPLICANT FOR A HEARING MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE APPLICANT RECEIVED THE NOTICE OF DENIAL.

7.500.313 Supervision AND SUPPORT ~~[Rev. eff. 1/1/16]~~

A. Supervision and ~~monitoring~~ SUPPORT of the identified needs of the foster home shall ~~be carried out~~ OCCUR according to the following ~~schedule~~:

A face-to-face contact shall be made in the foster care home with AT LEAST ONE (1) FOSTER PARENT PRESENT ~~the foster parent(s)~~ at least ONCE A MONTH WHILE ~~every month when~~ children/YOUTH are in placement PLACED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME. Documentation of such contact shall be entered in the ~~State Department's automated system~~ CCWIS in the contacts for the provider and/or the ~~foster~~ children/YOUTH placed in the FOSTER CARE home. The purpose of the contact is to PROVIDE SUPPORT AND answer questions that the foster parent has about the program, to indicate to the foster parent(s) ANY CONCERNS THE county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES HAS ~~concerns~~ about the operation of the FOSTER CARE home, and to observe child care/INTERACTION WHEN POSSIBLE. ~~If the face-to-face contact is not possible, the reasons must be documented in the provider file and a telephone contact must be made. In the event face-to-face contact cannot be made, the maximum number of allowable days between face-to-face contacts shall not exceed forty five (45) calendar days.~~

1. IF THE FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE REASONS MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD AND AN ALTERNATE CONTACT MUST BE MADE. THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ALLOWABLE DAYS BETWEEN FACE-TO-FACE CONTACTS SHALL NOT EXCEED FORTY-FIVE (45) CALENDAR DAYS.
 2. FOR A TWO (2) FOSTER PARENT FOSTER CARE HOME, EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO MEET WITH BOTH FOSTER PARENTS. IF A FOSTER PARENT IS UNABLE TO BE PRESENT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME, THE REASON A FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT IS NOT FEASIBLE SHALL BE DOCUMENTED IN THE CCWIS. ALL FOSTER PARENTS MUST HAVE FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME QUARTERLY DURING THE YEAR AND DOCUMENTED IN THE CCWIS. FOR EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, A WAIVER MAY BE SUBMITTED.
 3. IF A CHILD/YOUTH IS NOT PRESENT DURING THE SUPPORT VISIT, AND IT IS DOCUMENTED, THE OBSERVATION OF CHILD CARE/INTERACTION IS NOT NEEDED. AT A MINIMUM ANNUALLY, THE SUPPORT CASEWORKER MUST OBSERVE THE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE FOSTER PARENT, THE CHILD/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE, AND ANY OTHER CHILD/YOUTH LIVING IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME.
- 2B. PRIOR TO RECERTIFICATION, ~~An annual supervisory ON-SITE visit shall~~ MUST be made to the foster CARE home TO PREPARE FOR RECERTIFICATION. ~~A written report~~ DOCUMENTATION of the ~~supervisory visit shall~~ MUST be given to the foster parent TO DOCUMENT ANY NECESSARY ACTION NEEDED TO COMPLETE RECERTIFICATION. ~~and a copy~~ THE DOCUMENTATION MUST BE maintained in the ~~case~~ PROVIDER file, INCLUDING THE CCWIS. ~~If a review of the physician's plan indicates a need for an annual examination, a new statement from the physician is required at that time. A written notice of noncompliance with the regulations will be left with the foster parents or sent to the foster parents within fifteen (15) working days of the supervisory visit if there is noncompliance. Compliance must be achieved within the time frames indicated on the written compliance notice.~~
- BC. If a county department of HUMAN/social services no longer chooses to place children/YOUTH in the foster CARE home, the county department shall follow one or more of the following procedures:
1. ~~A provisional certificate may be allowed to expire if the foster family chooses not to submit a certification renewal application; or,~~
 21. The county department must send a written statement to the FOSTER PARENT ~~home~~ explaining that the county DEPARTMENT will no longer place children/YOUTH in the FOSTER CARE home ~~for foster care~~ and that the FOSTER PARENT ~~home~~ must not accept any children/YOUTH for care from other sources; or,
 32. The county department must meet with the foster parents and ask them to sign a statement that they are withdrawing from the foster CARE ~~home~~ program; or, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST SEND A LETTER TO THE FOSTER PARENTS REQUESTING THE FOSTER PARENTS TO SIGN AND RETURN A STATEMENT THAT THEY ARE WITHDRAWING FROM THE FOSTER CARE PROGRAM.
 43. ~~The county department must send a letter to the foster parents requesting the foster parents to sign and return a statement that they are withdrawing from the foster home program.~~THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE THE CERTIFICATION AND PROVIDE THE FOSTER PARENT WITH WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE RIGHT TO APPEAL.

7.500.314 ~~Renewal or Continuation~~Notice [Rev. off. 4/1/12]

The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall send a renewal notice to the foster parents at least ninety (90) calendar days prior to the expiration of a certificate.

- A. If the foster parents wish to continue to provide care, the renewal notice shall be completed and returned to the county department prior to the expiration of the certificate.
- B. If the renewal notice is received by the county department prior to the expiration of the certificate, the renewal notice is timely and the certificate continues TO BE valid until action is taken by the county department.
- C. If the renewal notice is received after the expiration of the certificate, the renewal notice is untimely~~and the certificate is no longer valid~~. IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLANS TO PURSUE RECERTIFICATION, ~~the untimely~~ renewal notice MAY be acted upon as an original application ~~shall~~ OR THE COUNTY MAY FOLLOW THE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURE(S) REFERENCED IN SECTION 7.500.315.B.1-3.-

7.500.315 ~~Recertification~~ Action

- A. ~~Upon receipt of a timely renewal application for a certificate, and prior to the expiration of the certificate.~~ TIMELY RENEWAL MEANS A RENEWAL APPLICATION NOTICE WAS RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PRIOR TO OR ON THE DATE OF THE EXPIRATION OF THE CERTIFICATE. IF ALL REQUIREMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED THE FOSTER CARE HOME SERVICE SHALL BE ENTERED INTO THE CCWIS AND THE APPROVAL STATUS IS ENTERED AS PENDING FOR NO MORE THAN NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE RECEIVED. The county department of human/social services must complete the following actionS to determine if continued certification is appropriate:

- 1. Review the ~~physician's plan~~HEALTH ASSESSMENT.

If the governor or local government declares a disaster or emergency, and because of the declared disaster or emergency the medical exams for the foster parent(s), other children, and other adults residing in the home cannot be completed for the child/youth in the required time frame, the medical exam(s) must be completed as soon as possible, but no later than 45 calendar days after the declared conclusion of the disaster or emergency.
- 2. Complete searches on the CBI sex offender registry and THE ~~national sex offender public website~~ NSOPW operated by the United States Department of Justice and include a copy in the provider record using the following criteria, at a minimum:
 - a. Known names, NICKNAMES, AKAs, and addresses of each adult residing in the FOSTER CARE home; and,
 - b. Address only, of the foster CARE home, INCLUDING A MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASE TO CONFIRM THAT THE ADDRESS OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME HAS BEEN CHECKED.
- 3. Review the following information, for the applicant(s) and all adults residing in the FOSTER CARE home. AS APPLICABLE, PROVIDE A COPY IN THE PROVIDER RECORD OF:
 - a. Any child abuse and/or neglect ~~allegations~~ REFERRALS or ~~investigations~~

ASSESSMENTS in the previous year;

- b. ~~-Any arrest or conviction records in the previous year; and,~~
 - c. Any other involvement with the foster family with the county department of ~~human or social services;~~; AND,
 - d. THE COLORADO COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.
4. If the foster parent or any adult living in the foster CARE home left the state for three (3) consecutive months or longer, a new FBI fingerprint-based criminal history record information check shall be conducted.
 5. Evaluate the foster ~~care~~ PARENT'S ~~homes'~~ current and past compliance with the Rrules Rregulating Ffoster CARE Hhomes.
 6. Conduct aN ANNUAL ONSITE ~~supervisory~~ visit in accordance with Section 7.500.313~~7.A7.2-4~~;
 7. Complete a ~~Structured Analysis Family Evaluation SAFE™ (S.A.F.E.)~~ update to document the status of the foster family, including changes that have occurred AND SIGNATURE AND DATE FROM SECTION A OF THE UPDATE FORM.
 8. Complete a CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home"; and,
 9. IF ALL REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, Aa one year time-limited certificate shall be issued. The certificate issue date is the date that the foster CARE home is in compliance with the "Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes"; or,
 10. ~~A probationary certificate shall be issued with the specific reasons listed on the certificate and on the CWS-7A, "Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services in a Foster Care Home"; or~~ IF THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE IS DENIED, THE PROCESS FOR DENIAL OF A RENEWAL APPLICATION IS THE SAME AS THE PROCESS FOR DENIAL OF AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION.
 11. ~~The renewal application for the certificate is denied. The process for denial of a renewal application is the same as the process for denial of an original application.~~ THE CERTIFICATE INFORMATION SHALL BE ENTERED INTO THE CCWIS.
 12. ~~The certificate information shall be entered into the state automated case management system.~~
- B. A RENEWAL APPLICATION NOTICE IS UNTIMELY IF IT IS RECEIVED AFTER THE DATE THE FOSTER CARE HOME CERTIFICATE EXPIRED. SECTION 7.406.1.C (12 CCR 2509-5) AUTHORIZES STATE REIMBURSEMENT WHEN THE CHILD IS WITH A PROVIDER IN POSSESSION OF A VALID CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE, WHEN ONE IS REQUIRED. NO ADDITIONAL CHILDREN/YOUTH MAY BE PLACED IN THE HOME UNTIL IT IS FULLY CERTIFIED. CHILDREN/YOUTH WHO ARE CURRENTLY IN PLACEMENT ARE NOT DISRUPTED IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WISHES TO CONTINUE CERTIFICATION. THE OPTIONS ARE:
1. THE FOSTER CARE HOME SERVICE MAY BE ENTERED INTO THE CCWIS WITH THE APPROVAL IN PENDING STATUS. ALL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS; OR,

2. IF COMPLETION OF ALL REQUIREMENTS WILL TAKE LONGER THAN FIFTEEN (15) WORKING DAYS AN EMERGENCY APPEAL MAY BE FILED BY THE CERTIFYING COUNTY DEPARTMENT. IF THE EMERGENCY APPEAL IS DENIED, THE HOME IS NOT CERTIFIED AND IS CONSIDERED CLOSED.
3. A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED ONLY IF NONE WAS PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR THE SAME ADDRESS. THE FOSTER CARE HOME MUST BE CERTIFIED WITHIN NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS OR THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL BE CLOSED.
4. IN ANY SUBSEQUENT CERTIFICATION YEAR IF AN UNTIMELY RENEWAL APPLICATION NOTICE IS RECEIVED AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE CERTIFICATE, THE FOSTER PARENT MUST COMPLETE AN ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND MEET ALL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.
 - a. A PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED ONLY IF NONE WAS PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR THE SAME ADDRESS. FOLLOW 7.500.315.B.3; OR,
 - b. IF THE COUNTY PLANS TO CERTIFY THE HOME, SECTION 7.406.1.C APPLIES.

BC. A foster CARE home certificate is no longer valid whenever one of the following situations exists:

1. A ~~certified~~ foster family moves to a new address.
2. A foster ~~family~~ PARENT decides to withdraw from the foster ~~home~~ CARE program and confirms ~~the same~~ IT in writing.
3. A certificate has been revoked or the renewal application has been denied.
4. A certificate has expired AND NO ACTION IS TAKEN PURSUANT TO 7.500.315.B.1-3.

7.500.316 Inter-county Transfer or Move of A Foster CARE Home [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

- A. When a foster family moves to a new location within the county of residence or within a new county, the family must make a timely notification AT LEAST THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE MOVE TO the CURRENT certifying county ~~prior to the move~~ by submission of an original application.
- B. When a foster family moves to a new residence in the same county, the county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall inspect the new residence to assure compliance with the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708 (12 CCR 2509-8).

Certification action which results in issuance of a certificate shall be COMPLETED ~~dated~~ in the following WAY ~~fashion~~:

1. A certificate shall commence the date that the county department determines that there is compliance with the ~~Minimum Rules and Regulations for~~ REGULATING Foster CARE Homes, Section 7.708.
2. The county department may issue a CHILD SPECIFIC provisional certificate if the FOSTER CARE home is temporarily unable to conform to all appropriate rules of the Rules Regulating Foster Care Homes, Section 7.708, upon proof by the foster parents

that attempts are being made to comply with the appropriate regulations. The reasons for the issuance of the provisional certificate will be displayed on the certificate. The provisional certificate may not exceed ninety (90) calendar days from the date it is determined that time will be needed to meet the rules. Only one original provisional certificate may be issued to a foster CARE home at one location address. THE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT REIMBURSE FOR CHILDREN/YOUTH PLACED IN A PROVISIONALLY CERTIFIED FOSTER CARE HOME MORE THAN NINETY (90) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION.

- C. When a foster family ~~who has foster~~ WITH children/YOUTH in FOSTER CARE placement moves to another county, the county of original residence ~~shall immediately~~ MAY forward to the ~~county where the family moves~~ the record on the foster CARE home and children/YOUTH in placement, ~~and ask that~~ TO THE county WHERE THE FOSTER FAMILY MOVES AND ASK THAT COUNTY to certify and supervise the home in the new location.
- D. When a foster family ~~who has foster~~ WITH children/YOUTH in FOSTER CARE placement moves to an adjoining county, the county of original residence shall immediately OR WITHIN TWO (2) BUSINESS DAYS, notify the adjoining county and may ask permission to continue to certify and supervise the FOSTER CARE home. Upon notification from the second county of its approval, certification assessment of the foster CARE home shall be completed by the original county, and a ~~permanent or~~ provisional certificate issued.
- E. IF A FOSTER CARE HOME TRANSFERS TO A COUNTY DEPARTMENT FROM ANOTHER AGENCY OR TRIBAL FOSTER CARE PROGRAM, A SAFE™ ASSESSMENT UPDATE MAY BE COMPLETED IF THE PREVIOUS ENTITY PROVIDES THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND ALL SUBSEQUENT UPDATES.

7.500.317 Complaint Investigations [Rev. eff. 4/1/12] RESPONSE to a NOTIFICATION of an ALLEGATION of ABUSE and/or NEGLECT or ANOTHER TYPE of CONCERN in a COUNTY FOSTER CARE HOME

- A. ~~When a complaint of child abuse and/or neglect is received by the agency county department about a certified facility, the local investigating authority and the placement workers of children in the home shall be notified immediately. Investigation shall be made according to the procedures outlined for investigation of institutional abuse as found in the Program Area 5 Section.~~
 - 1. ~~A determination shall be made immediately whether children should remain in placement or if other children should be placed in the home while the investigation is in progress.~~
 - 2. ~~The results of the investigations shall be summarized and included in the foster home facility file. This may be in the form of the final written report completed by the investigating county.~~
 - 3. ~~Upon receipt of the written report from the investigating county, the certifying county shall make a determination within three working days whether there will continue to be future use of the home. The foster home shall be notified in writing and the notification recorded in the foster home facility file as to the decision regarding future use of the home. If the foster home certificate is closed, suspended or revoked, the county department shall notify the Colorado Department of Human Services in writing.~~
 - 4. ~~The final decision regarding the future use of the foster home shall be confirmed in writing to the home and recorded in the foster home facility file within ten (10)~~

~~working days of the receipt by the certifying agency of the final written report of a child abuse investigation. If the county department continues to certify a foster home where there has been a confirmed report for medium or severe child abuse or neglect, the county department must notify the State Department in writing within three (3) business days and submit justification for keeping the foster home certified.~~

- A. WHEN NOTIFICATION OF A REFERRAL ALLEGING ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN A COUNTY FOSTER CARE HOME IS RECEIVED AND IT HAS NOT BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ASSESSMENT, THE CERTIFYING COUNTY FOSTER CARE SUPPORT WORKER SHALL TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:
1. REVIEW THE REFERRAL TO DETERMINE IF THERE ARE CERTIFICATION CONCERNS IDENTIFIED.
 - a. IF NO CERTIFICATION CONCERNS ARE IDENTIFIED, DOCUMENT RECEIPT OF THE REFERRAL IN RESOURCE NOTES IN THE COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CCWIS).
 - b. IF CONCERNS ARE IDENTIFIED, THE FOSTER CARE SUPPORT WORKER WILL COMPLETE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND THE INCIDENT. THIS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:
 - 1) MEET WITH THE FOSTER PARENT;
 - 2) IDENTIFY ANY CORRECTIONS OR MODIFICATIONS THAT NEED TO BE INCORPORATED AND PROVIDE ANY TRAINING, OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MITIGATE CONCERNS; AND,
 - 3) DOCUMENT ANY ACTIONS TAKEN.
- B. WHEN NOTIFICATION OF A REFERRAL ALLEGING ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT IN A COUNTY FOSTER CARE HOME HAS BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ASSESSMENT, THE CERTIFYING COUNTY'S FOSTER CARE SUPPORT WORKER AND/OR DESIGNATED STAFF SHALL TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:
1. A DETERMINATION SHALL BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ASSESSMENT CASEWORKER, WHETHER CHILDREN/YOUTH SHOULD REMAIN IN PLACEMENT IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME; AND,
 2. WHETHER OTHER CHILDREN/YOUTH SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE HOME WHILE THE ASSESSMENT IS IN PROGRESS.
 3. THE RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT SHALL BE SUMMARIZED AND INCLUDED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD MAINTAINED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT. THIS MAY BE IN THE FORM OF THE FINAL WRITTEN REPORT COMPLETED BY THE COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSESSMENT.
 4. UPON RECEIPT OF THE WRITTEN REPORT FROM THE COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT, THE CERTIFYING

COUNTY SHALL MAKE A DETERMINATION WITHIN THREE (3) WORKING DAYS REGARDING CONTINUED USE OF THE HOME. THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF THE DECISION AND THE NOTIFICATION RECORDED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD MAINTAINED BY THE CERTIFYING COUNTY. IF THE FOSTER CARE CERTIFICATE IS CLOSED, SUSPENDED, OR REVOKED, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL DOCUMENT THIS IN THE CCWIS.

5. THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING FUTURE USE OF THE FOSTER CARE HOME SHALL BE CONFIRMED IN WRITING TO THE FOSTER PARENT AND RECORDED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME RECORD WITHIN TEN (10) WORKING DAYS OF THE RECEIPT BY THE CERTIFYING AGENCY OF THE FINAL WRITTEN REPORT OF A CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT ASSESSMENT.
 - a. IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT CONTINUES CERTIFICATION OF A FOSTER CARE HOME WHERE THERE HAS BEEN A CONFIRMED REPORT OF MEDIUM OR SEVERE CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT, WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION AND ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP MUST BE IDENTIFIED. THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE MUST SIGN THE STATEMENT THAT INCLUDES THE JUSTIFICATION AND FOLLOW-UP.
 - b. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST NOTIFY THE CHILD WELFARE DIRECTOR AND FOSTER CARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR AT THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE IN WRITING WITHIN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS AND SUBMIT THE JUSTIFICATION AND FOLLOW-UP FOR MAINTAINING THE FOSTER CARE HOME CERTIFICATION.
 - c. THE STATEMENT MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN NOTES IN THE REFERRAL FOR THE PROVIDER.
56. Administrative proceedings to modify, limit, or revoke the certificate will be initiated by the certifying agency within 30 calendar days of notification of any adverse decision regarding ~~future~~ CONTINUED use of the FOSTER CARE home.
67. After the State Institutional Abuse REVIEW Team (IART) ~~reviews~~ EVALUATES the ~~investigating county~~ FINDING AND ASSESSMENT BY THE COUNTY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ASSESSMENT. The State Institutional Abuse REVIEW Team may recommend ~~that a~~ follow-up REVIEW ~~investigation~~. A FOLLOW-UP IS A REVIEW OF THE ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT ~~be~~ completed BY THE CERTIFYING COUNTY TO DETERMINE IF THE AGENCY HAS CULPABILITY BASED ON PRACTICES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES, IF ANY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS WERE VIOLATED IN THE FOSTER CARE HOME, OR BY THE FOSTER CARE PROVIDERS. The county shall ~~advise the State Department of actions taken by~~ entering a report into the ~~State Department's automated system~~ CCWIS within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the State Institutional ABUSE REVIEW Team's request. FOLLOW-UP MUST BE DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD.
- BC. Other types of complaints OR IDENTIFIED CONCERNS shall be ~~investigated~~ REVIEWED AND ADDRESSED by the certifying COUNTY ~~authority~~. The ~~investigation~~ COUNTY'S shall result in a ~~determination~~ REVIEW of THE CONCERN SHALL BE DOCUMENTED ~~whether the complaint is~~

~~valid and, if so APPLICABLE, what corrections or modifications the FOSTER CARE home must make. The results of the investigation shall be confirmed in writing within ten (10) working days TO THE FOSTER PARENT AND DOCUMENTED IN THE PROVIDER RECORD IN THE CCWIS.~~

7.500.32 Specialized Group Facilities [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

- A. ~~Specialized group facilities provide long term or emergency care of children who must live away from their own homes and who can benefit from group interaction, need a more therapeutic setting than that provided in a foster home, and need the experience of strong peer relationships.~~
- B. ~~A specialized group home and specialized group center are defined in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. A specialized group home and specialized group center shall be licensed by the state department.~~
- C. ~~The recruitment of specialized group facilities shall center on the recruitment of primary caregivers who meet the requirements of primary caregiver as stated in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities and are capable of working closely with the department and a variety of other agencies.~~
- D. ~~The county department which establishes and sponsors a specialized group facility shall assign a department staff member to be the supervisor of that facility who meets the requirements as stated in the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities. The supervisor shall develop policies for the facility pursuant to the regulations prior to issuance of the original license.~~
- E. ~~Requirements for the Operation of Specialized Group Homes or Specialized Group Centers~~
 - 1. ~~The specialized group facility shall be sponsored and supervised by a county department of social/human services or a child placement agency.~~
 - 2. ~~The supervisory responsibilities of the sponsoring agency are:~~
 - a. ~~To be knowledgeable with the rules regulating specialized group facilities; and,~~
 - b. ~~Participate in the development and application process to include verifying that the original application submitted is complete with all required signatures and submitted in a timely manner; and,~~
 - c. ~~Ongoing assessment of the specialized group facility for quality of care issues; and,~~
 - d. ~~Annual evaluations of the governing body, unless the governing body and the sponsoring agency are the same agency; and~~
 - 3. ~~The sponsoring agency shall be responsible to ensure that state rules are followed regarding:~~
 - a. ~~The hiring, training and scheduling staff; and,~~
 - b. ~~Placement decisions including, but not limited to, appropriateness of placement and least restrictive environment; and,~~

c. ~~_____~~ The documentation, reporting and corrective action of critical incidents.

7.500.321 _____ Application and Study for an Original License [Rev. eff. 4/1/12]

A. ~~_____~~ If the county department establishes and plans to sponsor a specialized group facility and the governing body for the specialized group facility is the applicant for the license, both the county department and the governing body must sign the original application. An original application which is totally complete and a fee shall be submitted to the State Department, including a written plan for the supervision of the specialized group facility. The name of the supervisor for the specialized group facility must be identified on the application.

B. ~~_____~~ The county department shall complete a study of the specialized group facility which shall consist of at least the following:

1. ~~_____~~ An assessment of character and suitability of the primary caregivers, including at least a review of the State Department's automated system as to the applicant and persons who reside with applicant in the facility, with written approval by such persons, receipt of statements from references and physician, review of existing case records, evaluation by a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker documented by a written statement that includes all items listed at Section 7.709.22, J, 1-16; and documentation of the prior work experience of the primary caregiver with children in out-of-home care.

2. ~~_____~~ Statement from references and physician for each staff member working at the specialized group home or center.

3. ~~_____~~ The State Department shall require any applicant or licensee and any person eighteen (18) years of age or older who resides with the applicant or licensee in the specialized group facility or who works in the specialized group facility to obtain and review:

a. ~~_____~~ Fingerprint-based criminal history record information checks from the CBI and the FBI as required in Section 7.701.33 in all circumstances.

b. ~~_____~~ Child abuse/neglect records in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the date of application;

c. ~~_____~~ The CBI sex offender and National Sex Offender public website operated by the United States Department of Justice by:

1) ~~_____~~ Known names and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and

2) ~~_____~~ Address only of the home

3) ~~_____~~ A comparison search on the Court Case Management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for which an applicant or other adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search shall be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history and record confirms or does not confirm a criminal history. (See section 7.500.24)

4) ~~_____~~ All background checks shall be documented in the state automated case management system

4. ~~An on-site facility inspection, documented in writing, which determines that the facility is in compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.~~
 5. ~~Written approval received by the county department from the local health, fire, and zoning departments.~~
 6. ~~A CWS 7A, Individual Provider Contract for Purchase of Foster Care Services and Foster Care Facility Agreement, shall be signed by the primary caregivers.~~
 7. ~~Completion of policies for the operation of the specialized group home.~~
- C. ~~The group home primary caregivers who have not previously received twelve (12) hours of "core" training shall receive twelve (12) hours of training within the first twelve (12) months following the submission of the application.~~
- D. ~~The application form requires that several attachments be submitted. The application is incomplete and the license cannot be issued until these are submitted. The county department must also submit the following with the application:~~
1. ~~Documentation of experience, the medical statement, reference statements and written statement from a certified psychologist, psychiatrist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker regarding the primary care giver.~~
 2. ~~The name of each staff member, dates of receipt of medical statements and references.~~
 3. ~~Written and dated documentation that an on-site home inspection has been made and the facility is in compliance with the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.~~
- E. ~~The license will not be issued until the State Department has received an approving written report from the fire, health, and zoning departments as required by the General Rules for Child Care Facilities, Section 7.701.34. Approvals may be verified by signature of the inspector on the application form.~~

7.500.322 — Supervision

~~The group home supervisor shall provide supervision for the group home or group center pursuant to the Minimum Rules and Regulations for Specialized Group Facilities.~~

7.500.323 — Complaint Investigations [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

~~Complaints of child abuse or neglect and other complaints about a specialized group facility shall be investigated and documented in the same manner as for foster homes.~~

7.500.324 — Dual Licenses and Certificates [Rev. eff. 1/1/16]

- A. A home may be licensed and certified to provide both day-CHILD care and CERTIFIED FOR foster care simultaneously. This is known as a dual care provider. Dual care providers utilized by county departments of human/social services are certified by the county for foster care and licensed by the State for day-CHILD care.
1. If a foster CARE home wishes to accept children for dayCHILD care on a regular basis, the home-PROVIDER shall apply for a license for dayCHILD care from the Colorado Department of Human Services EARLY CHILDHOOD and pay the prescribed fee.

2. If the foster CARE home wishes to provide ~~day~~CHILD care, the certifying agency must approve.
 - a. The county department shall complete a justification statement ~~as to how~~ DESCRIBING HOW the needs of all children/YOUTH will be met and protected in this home if certified for foster care and licensed for ~~day~~CHILD care, which shall be filed in the case record.
 - b. The county department shall document in the case record the specific number of children for combined use of the home, specific number of children as a ~~day~~ CHILD care home, and a specific number of children/YOUTH in foster care.
3. A home that is licensed for ~~day~~CHILD care may only be certified for foster care for one (1) child/YOUTH or for a group of siblings.
4. A county DEPARTMENT that has a foster care home that is ~~certified for foster care and~~ also licensed for ~~day~~CHILD care must notify the ~~Division of Child Care~~COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD when any of the following situations occur in the foster CARE home:
 - a. A complaint is received; or,
 - b. A child abuse AND/OR NEGLECT ASSESSMENT ~~investigation~~ occurs; or,
 - c. A ~~Stage II~~FOLLOW-UP REVIEW ~~investigation~~ occurs; or,
 - d. A ~~foster~~ child(~~ren~~)/YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE is removed from the home because of abuse AND/OR NEGLECT allegations; or,
 - ~~e. The foster CARE home certificate is changed to probationary; or,~~
 - fe. The foster CARE home certificate is revoked or closed.
5. A county DEPARTMENT that has a foster CARE -home that is ~~certified for foster care~~ and also licensed for ~~day~~CHILD care must submit the following reports to the COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD:
 - a. All complaint ~~investigation~~ reports; and,
 - b. All child abuse/NEGLECT ~~investigation~~ASSESSMENT reports; and,
 - c. All FOLLOW-UP-~~Stage II~~ REVIEW~~investigation~~ reports.

~~7.500.33 – 7.500.34 (None)~~

7.500.33 SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER QUALIFICATIONS (HOME STUDY)

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTITIONERS AND THEIR SUPERVISION WHEN COMPLETING HOME STUDY ASSESSMENTS.

- A. COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES STAFF OR CONTRACT VENDORS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

1. A SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER MUST HAVE A BACHELOR'S, MASTER'S, OR DOCTORATE DEGREE FROM A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN A HUMAN SERVICE OR MENTAL/BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RELATED FIELD, SUCH AS PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, FAMILY STUDIES, SOCIAL WORK, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, AND/OR COUNSELING; AND BE SUPERVISED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MEETS BOTH THESE EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK-RELATED REQUIREMENTS OF THREE (3) YEARS EXPERIENCE IN CHILD PLACEMENT, CHILD PROTECTION, FOSTER CARE, OR ADOPTION.
- B. ALL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS COMPLETING A SAFE™ HOME STUDY MUST RECEIVE SUPERVISION FOR EACH SAFE™ ASSESSMENT BY A SUPERVISOR TRAINED IN SAFE™ PROTOCOL, SAFE™ SUPERVISION, AND WHO MEETS THE EDUCATIONAL AND WORK-RELATED REQUIREMENTS IN 7.500.33.A.1. APPROVED PRACTITIONERS COMPLETING A SAFE™ HOME STUDY MUST UTILIZE THE SAFE™ SUPERVISORY PROCESS AS OUTLINED BY THE CONSORTIUM FOR CHILDREN. IF THE SAFE™ SUPERVISION PROTOCOL IS NOT FOLLOWED, THE HOME STUDY WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED A VALID SAFE™ HOME STUDY. THERE IS NO EXCEPTION.
 - C. ALL INDIVIDUALS FUNCTIONING AS A SAFE™ SUPERVISOR MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE SAFE™ TWO-DAY CERTIFICATION TRAINING, SAFE™ SUPERVISOR TRAINING, AND COMPLETED SAFE™ REFRESHER TRAININGS TIMELY.
 - D. SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS WHO ARE SUPERVISORS MUST ALSO RECEIVE SUPERVISION FROM A SEPARATE QUALIFIED SAFE™ SUPERVISOR FOR EACH SAFE™ ASSESSMENT COMPLETED. THE SUPERVISOR VERIFIES THAT THIS HOME STUDY WAS CONDUCTED WITH DUE PROFESSIONAL DILIGENCE AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH COLORADO LAW AND THE RULES ADOPTED BY THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.
 - E. THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN AN APPROVED CONTRACT VENDOR LIST OF HOME STUDY REPORT PROVIDERS.
 1. ALL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS THAT ARE ON THE CONTRACT VENDOR LIST MUST PROVIDE VERIFICATION OF A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSCRIPT, RESUME, ATTESTATION OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES, SAFE™ ASSESSMENT TRAINING, SAFE™ SUPERVISOR TRAINING (IF APPLICABLE), AND CURRENT INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY INSURANCE.
 - a. INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT VENDORS MUST SUBMIT PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE IN AN AMOUNT REASONABLE AS RELATED TO THEIR EXPOSURE TO RISK.
 2. AN INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT VENDOR MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT RISK ASSESSMENT TO THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IF REQUESTED.

7.500.34 (NONE)

7.500.35 Adoption Resources

7.500.351 Applications and Adoption Services [Rev. eff. 3/2/11]

- A. WHEN A SAFE™ ASSESSMENT OR SAFE™ UPDATE IS INTENDED FOR ADOPTION, THE ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED NINETY (90) WORKING DAYS FROM RECEIVING THE COMPLETED BACKGROUND CHECKS.

COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES AND CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCIES SHALL BE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE COURT THE RESULTS OF A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK WHEN IT REVEALS THAT THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT WAS CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR OF:

- 1 CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT;
- 2 ANY CRIME AGAINST A CHILD, INCLUDING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY;
- 3 ANY CRIME, THE UNDERLYING FACTUAL BASIS OF WHICH HAS BEEN FOUND BY THE COURT ON THE RECORD TO INCLUDE AN ACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 18-6-800.3, C.R.S.;
- 4 VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 18-6-803.5, C.R.S.;
- 5 ANY CRIME INVOLVING VIOLENCE, RAPE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, OR HOMICIDE; AND,
- 6 ANY FELONY DRUG-RELATED CONVICTION WITHIN, AT A MINIMUM, THE PAST FIVE YEARS. FELONY DRUG-RELATED CONVICTIONS AT LEAST TEN YEARS PRIOR TO THE APPLICATION DO NOT NEED TO BE REPORTED.
- 7 NO PERSON CONVICTED OF A FELONY OFFENSE SHALL BE ALLOWED TO ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH, EXCEPT A PERSON MAY BE ALLOWED TO ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH IF:
 - a. THE APPLICANT HAS HAD NO FURTHER ARRESTS OR CONVICTIONS SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORIGINAL CONVICTION;
 - b. THE APPLICANT HAS NOT BEEN CONVICTED OF A PATTERN OF MISDEMEANOR, AS DEFINED BY RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES AT SECTION 7.500.312.D.3.a-c; AND,
 - c. THE COURT ENTERS A FINDING CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 19-5-210(2)(d), C.R.S., THAT THE ADOPTION IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD.

AB. Recruiting and Inquiries

1. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES recruits adoptive homes that reflect the racial, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds for all waiting children/YOUTH. The county DEPARTMENT shall make reasonable efforts to recruit families of the same ethnic, cultural, and racial background as the children/YOUTH Awaiting adoption PURSUANT TO THE MULTIETHNIC PLACEMENT ACT (42 U.S.C. 5115a)
2. The county department provides information about adoption services within the county department and services available through other adoption agencies and organizations. Requests for ~~studies~~ SAFE™ ASSESSMENTS for children/YOUTH from private sources shall be referred to private agencies.
3. PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~Families~~ approved for ~~international~~ INTERCOUNTRY adoption and waiting for adoptive placement can be simultaneously approved for adoption with public and A LICENSED private adoption agency ~~ies~~ as

long as both agencies are aware AND IN AGREEMENT ~~of~~ WITH the arrangement.

- a. The PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~family~~ shall inform the public agency of its current relationship with the LICENSED private CHILD PLACEMENT agency that approved it for ~~an international~~ INTERCOUNTRY adoption.
- b. The PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~family~~ shall sign a release ~~for~~ OF information from the private CHILD PLACEMENT agency to be provided to the county department of their choice. The released information shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - 1) Current SAFE™ ASSESSMENT ~~home study completed in the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE™) format~~ by the private agency;
 - 2) Documentation of training completed by the ~~family~~ PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S).
- c. The county DEPARTMENT shall ~~do~~ COMPLETE A SAFE™ UPDATE ~~an update of the home study using the SAFE™ home study format~~ and clarify the ~~type~~ CHARACTERISTICS of child **REN**/YOUTH for whom the PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~family~~ would be approved ~~via~~ USING the county's DEPARTMENT'S approval process.
- d. The county DEPARTMENT must obtain the following new information from the PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~family~~:
 - 1) References;
 - 2) HEALTH ASSESSMENTS ~~Physicals~~;
 - 3) Background check for each adult AGE eighteen (18) and older living in the home, for the following:
 - ia) Fingerprint-based criminal history checks from the CBI and FBI as required in section 7.701.33 in all circumstances.
 - ii.b) Child abuse/neglect records in every state where the adult has resided in the five (5) years preceding the date of application.
 - iii.c) The CBI Sex Offender and ~~National Sex Offender public website~~ NSOPW operated by the United States Department of Justice by:
 - i. Known names, NICKNAMES, AKAs, and addresses of each adult residing in the home; and,
 - ii. Address only of the home, INCLUDING A MAP FROM THE RESPECTIVE DATABASES TO CONFIRM IT HAS BEEN CHECKED.
 - iv.d) A comparison search on the COLORADO Court Case Management system at the State Judicial Department, using the name and date of birth with available criminal history information for each adult eighteen (18) years and older living in the home. The purpose is to determine any crime(s) for

which an applicant or other adult residing in the home was arrested or convicted and the disposition. This search shall be completed regardless of whether the CBI and FBI fingerprint history and record confirms or does not confirm a criminal history (~~See section 7.500.24~~).

- e) WITHIN **NINETY (90)** DAYS PRIOR TO FINALIZATION OF AN ADOPTION, COMPLETE ALL BACKGROUND CHECKS INCLUDING: CCWIS, COLORADO COURT CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, CBI AND FBI FINGERPRINT BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION CHECK, CBI SEX OFFENDER CHECK AND NSOPW.
- 4) All background checks shall be documented in the ~~state automated case management system~~ CCWIS.
- i.a) The county DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES shall continue to follow its ~~regular~~ policies and procedures in considering the PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~family~~ for potential placements.
 - ii.b) The ~~family~~ PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) shall sign an agreement with both the public and private agency stating that the ~~family~~ PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) WILL ~~shall~~ inform either agency when there is a potential placement. The agreement shall state the following:
 - 4i. All parties understand and agree ~~that the agency not placing the child/YOUTH will put the family~~ THE HOME OF THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR ANY NEW PLACEMENTS “~~on hold~~” for a minimum of six (6) months following the date that the child/YOUTH is placed in the ~~family’s~~ home;
 - 2ii. At the end of the six (6) month period “~~on hold~~”, THAT THE HOME IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR NEW PLACEMENTS, all parties including the ~~family~~ PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) AND BOTH the PUBLIC AND LICENSED PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCY ~~two agencies and any other person or persons who have a vested interest in the adoptive placement of the child/YOUTH, shall meet to discuss~~ DETERMINE AND DOCUMENT whether ~~or not~~ the “~~on hold~~” THE NON AVAILABILITY period should continue; ~~and the reason(s) behind that decision;~~
 - 3iii. The placing agency shall complete a ~~home study~~ SAFE™ update ~~using the SAFE format~~ regarding the progress and appropriateness of the new placement and make recommendations for ANY further adoptive placements; ~~in the future;~~
 - 4iv. The non-placing agency shall COMPLETE A SAFE™ update ~~its home study using the SAFE format,~~ ADDRESSING THE PLACEMENT OF A CHILD/YOUTH INTO THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE HOME ~~with the same criteria such that the non-placing agency has~~

~~made its own recommendations for further placements.~~

- ii.c) ~~The public agencies~~ COUNTY DEPARTMENT shall advise THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) ~~families~~ that THE SAFE™ ~~home studies~~ ASSESSMENT completed for ~~public agencies~~ COUNTY DEPARTMENT ~~Sare~~ IS not suitable to determine the appropriateness for INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION. ~~placement with children from other countries.~~

THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL ADVISE THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT(S) THAT A PRIVATE LICENSED ADOPTION AGENCY MUST COMPLETE THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AS REFERENCED IN 7.351.4.

- iii.d) ~~The public agency~~ COUNTY DEPARTMENT shall assure that the required information is included in either the private agency's ~~home study~~ SAFE™ ASSESSMENT or in the SAFE™ update completed by the ~~public agency~~ COUNTY DEPARTMENT.

5) Applications

- i.a) The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL ONLY ~~accepts~~ applications for the adoption of children/YOUTH ~~only~~ from persons who meet the requirements of ~~the~~ Colorado statute, who have expressed an interest in the placement of ~~a~~ child/YOUTH THROUGH THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT. ~~who might be available at the time of the application.~~

- ii.b) The applicants shall be informed that submitting an application does not guarantee that ~~an~~ SAFE™ ASSESSMENT WILL BE COMPLETED ~~assessment shall be performed~~ or a child/YOUTH placed with them.

- ~~iii.c)~~ The county DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY ~~notifies~~ the PROSPECTIVE adoptive parent(s) of the disposition of the application ~~in a timely manner.~~ WITHIN SIX (6) MONTHS.

- iv.d) ~~The county department of human/social services shall require verification of an individual's lawful presence in the United States, as provided in general eligibility requirements as found in Section 3.140.11 (9 CCR 2503-1), in order to approve an application for a child's adoption.~~ LAWFUL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES IS NOT REQUIRED TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHILD/YOUTH'S ADOPTION. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL NOT VERIFY A PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT'S LAWFUL PRESENCE TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR A CHILD/YOUTH'S ADOPTION.

- v.) ~~The county department of human/social services shall require the individual applying to adopt a child(ren) to notify the Department when the Structure Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) home study will be used in the next six months for a second parent adoption.~~

vi.e) Requirements for Adoption

- 4i. ~~A single foster home or adoptive~~ SAFE™ assessment as outlined in Section 7.500.2 must be completed prior to the child/YOUTH being placed with the intent of adoption.
- 2ii. The assessment must include a visit to the home and a separate interview of the potential adoptive parent(s), AND ALL Other adults living in the home shall be interviewed.
 - a. AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, THE SAFE™ PRACTITIONER MUST CONDUCT A MINIMUM OF ONE (1) JOINT INTERVIEW WITH ALL APPLICANTS, ONE (1) INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW WITH EACH CHILD/YOUTH RESIDING IN THE HOME. FOR A SINGLE APPLICANT, A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) INTERVIEWS IS REQUIRED; AND,
 - b. THE SAFE™ PRACTITIONER MUST ENSURE THE SECOND INTERVIEW, AND ANY SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEWS, OF THE ADULTS, SHALL NOT BE PERFORMED UNTIL AT LEAST THREE (3) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE PREVIOUS INTERVIEW.

6) APPROVAL

- a) AN APPLICANT(S) SHALL BE MADE AWARE OF THEIR STANDING WITH THE AGENCY. IF THERE ARE SERIOUS CONCERNS DURING THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PROCESS WHICH CANNOT BE RESOLVED, THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONER SHALL DISCUSS THESE CONCERNS AND THE DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE APPLICANT(S). THE APPLICANT(S) SHALL BE ENCOURAGED TO WITHDRAW IF THIS IS ADVISABLE. IF THE APPLICANT(S) DOES NOT WITHDRAW, THEN THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL SEND A DENIAL LETTER WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE RIGHT TO APPEAL.
- b) WHEN A SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL:
 - i. INFORM THE APPLICANT IN WRITING OF THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING THEIR APPLICATION WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) WORKING DAYS FROM THE DATE THE DECISION IS MADE.
 - ii. SEND WRITTEN NOTIFICATION TO THE APPLICANT, WHICH INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- a. THE APPLICATION TO ADOPT IS APPROVED.
- b. THE AGE, GENDER, AND ANY SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED.
- c. ANY OTHER CONDITIONS OF THE APPROVAL THAT PERTAIN.
- d. THE SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT IS AVAILABLE ONLY FOR THE ADOPTION OF A CHILD(REN)/YOUTH PLACED BY A COLORADO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES OR CHILD(REN)/YOUTH PLACED IN COOPERATION WITH AN AGENCY LICENSED TO PLACE CHILDREN/YOUTH FOR ADOPTION.
- e. THE APPLICANT'S RIGHT TO A REVIEW OF THE DECISION BY THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH FOR WHICH THE PROSPECTIVE PARENT(S) IS APPROVED.
- f. THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES OF CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH COULD IMPACT AN ADOPTION.

7) ~~Qualifications for Completing Adoptive Home Study Reports~~

- ~~a. In the application for inclusion as a vendor to complete adoptive home studies, each county department, qualified individual, or child placement agency must provide documentation concerning education, training, years of experience, and knowledge regarding adoptive placement and supportive services provided to children/YOUTH with special needs or are being supervised by an individual who meets the qualifications.~~
- ~~b. Any county department staff, qualified individual, or child placement agency staff shall meet the following qualifications or be supervised by an individual who meets the qualifications to conduct adoptive home studies for children/YOUTH in the custody of county departments being placed for adoption:

 - ~~i. Bachelors, masters, or doctorate degrees) in a human service related field, such as psychology, sociology, child development, social work, health and education, from an accredited college or university; and, three years' experience in child placement, child protection, foster care, or adoption.~~~~

- ~~ii. If an individual that does not meet the experience requirement, an individual who meets the above criteria must be supervised BY him or her.~~
- ~~iii. Individuals presently involved in the field who do not meet the above experience criteria or do not have access to direct supervision in their agency must purchase supervision time by someone who meets the above criteria. Individuals will be given three years from the date of enactment of this rule to obtain the necessary experience.~~
- ~~iv. Individuals who are current employees of the county department or a child placement agency and have a BA or BS degree with a minor in psychology, sociology, mental health, rehabilitation, or education and five years of experience in human services, three of which must have been in child placement, child protection, foster care or adoption, may apply to be on the vendor list.~~
- ~~v. Individuals who are current employees of the county department or a child placement agency with a BA or BS degree and ten years OF experience, three (3) of which must have been in child placement, child protection, foster care or adoption, may apply to be on the vendor list.~~
- ~~vi. A designated qualified individual may conduct a SAFE home study for an individual that is planning a second parent adoption. An individual that is not an employee of a county department of human /social services or a licensed child placement agency, who is involved with the adoption of a child/YOUTH from a county department, must be approved and listed on the State Department's vendor list.~~

7) DENIAL OF APPLICANT BASED ON ASSESSMENT

THE DECISION TO DENY APPROVAL OF THE APPLICANT'S SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT SHALL BE A JOINT DECISION INVOLVING AT LEAST THE CASEWORKER AND THE SUPERVISOR. THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

- a) SEND THE APPLICANT(S) WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE DENIAL WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) WORKING DAYS OF THE DECISION.
- b) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE REASONS FOR THE DENIAL AT THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST.
- c) NOTIFY THE APPLICANT OF THE RIGHT TO A REVIEW BY THE COUNTY DIRECTOR OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE

IF THE APPLICANT(S) IS DISSATISFIED WITH THE DECISION.

8) ~~Approval~~

- a. ~~The county department director or the director's designated agent shall approve adoptive assessments on the form, Approval of Adoptive Home. The assessment and the approval shall not be done by the same person.~~
- b. ~~Applicants shall be kept aware of their status with the agency. If there are serious concerns during the assessment process which cannot be resolved, the study worker shall discuss these concerns and the decision of whether or not to proceed with the family. The clients shall be encouraged to withdraw if this is advisable.~~
- c. ~~When an adoptive assessment has been approved the county shall:~~
 - i. ~~Inform the applicants in writing of the final decision regarding their applications within 15 working days from the date the decision is made.~~
 - ii. ~~Send written notification to the applicant(s), which includes the following:~~
 - 1. ~~That the application to adopt is approved.~~
 - 2. ~~The age, sex, and any special characteristics of the child(ren) which will be considered for them.~~
 - 3. ~~Any other conditions of the approval which pertain.~~
 - 4. ~~That the adoptive assessment is available only for the adoption of a child(ren) placed by a Colorado county department of social services or a child(ren) placed in cooperation with an agency licensed to place children for adoption.~~
 - 5. ~~The applicants' right to a review of the decision by the county director or the director's designee of the type of child for which the parent(s) is approved.~~
 - 6. ~~The applicants' responsibility to inform the county department of significant changes of circumstances which could impact their adopting.~~

8) REEVALUATION OF ASSESSMENT

IF A CHILD/YOUTH HAS NOT BEEN PLACED IN THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE HOME WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE DATE OF THE APPROVAL OF THE SAFE™ ADOPTION ASSESSMENT, THE ASSESSMENT SHALL BE REEVALUATED TO DETERMINE IF THE HOME IS TO REMAIN ACTIVE FOR CONSIDERATION OF A CHILD/YOUTH, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UNTIL A PLACEMENT IS MADE OR THE CASE IS CLOSED. REEVALUATION SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING:

- a) A CURRENT HEALTH ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED FOR EACH FAMILY MEMBER. THE ASSESSMENT IS VALID FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWO (2) YEARS. HEALTH ASSESSMENTS MAY BE COMPLETED BY A LICENSED DOCTOR OF MEDICINE OR OSTEOPATHY, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR NURSE PRACTITIONER.

IF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HAS CONCERNS ABOUT THE HEALTH OF ANY FAMILY MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE PREVIOUS HEALTH ASSESSMENT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE AN UPDATED HEALTH ASSESSMENT.

- b) DOCUMENTATION OF ANY CHANGES IN THE HOME AND FAMILY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO FINANCES, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, ILLNESSES, PREGNANCY, AND CURRENT INFORMATION, WHERE APPLICABLE, ON GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT, AND ACTIVITIES OF CHILDREN/YOUTH IN THE HOME.
- c). CHANGES, IF ANY, IN THE PREFERENCES IN THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH TO BE ADOPTED, THE REASON FOR THE CHANGE, AND THE APPLICANT'S CAPACITY TO PROVIDE FOR THE LONG TERM NEEDS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED.
- d) DETERMINATION WHETHER TO CONTINUE APPROVAL OF THE HOME.

~~9) Denial of Applicant Based on Assessment~~

~~The decision to deny approval of the applicant(s) adoption assessment shall be a joint decision involving at least the worker and the supervisor. The county shall do the following:~~

- ~~a. Send the applicant(s) written notice of the denial within fifteen working days of the decision.~~
- ~~b. The county shall have a face to face interview to discuss the reasons for the denial if the family requests a meeting.~~

~~c. Notify the applicant(s) of their right to a review by the county director or the director's designee if they are dissatisfied with the decision.~~

9) SECOND OR ADDITIONAL UPDATE TO ASSESSMENTS

IF A PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT CHOOSES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ANOTHER ADOPTION WITH THE SAME LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY, THE FOLLOWING APPLIES:

- a) IF THE LAST SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS WITHIN THREE (3) YEARS OF THE APPROVAL DATE OF THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT, A SUBSEQUENT SAFE™ UPDATE SHALL BE COMPLETED. THE UPDATE SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE (1) JOINT INTERVIEW WITH THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE APPLICANTS OR AN INTERVIEW WITH THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE APPLICANT, AND ONE (1) INTERVIEW WITH EACH ADULT MEMBER OF THE HOUSEHOLD, AND AN AGE/DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE INTERVIEW WITH EACH CHILD/YOUTH. AT LEAST ONE (1) INTERVIEW WITH THE FAMILY MUST BE CONDUCTED IN THE HOME. THE INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS WITH THE ADOPTIVE APPLICANTS MUST BE COMPLETED ON THE SAME DATE. ALL INTERVIEWS SHALL BE DOCUMENTED.
- b) IF THE PERIOD OF TIME SINCE THE APPROVAL OF THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS LONGER THAN THREE (3) YEARS, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT SHALL BE COMPLETED WITH EMPHASIS ON ADOPTION.

~~10) Reevaluation of Assessment~~

~~If a child has not been placed in the adoptive home within one year from the date of the approval of the adoption assessment, the assessment shall be reevaluated if the home is to remain active for consideration of a child, and annually thereafter until a placement is made or the case is closed. Reevaluation shall consist of at least the following:~~

- ~~a. Statement every two years from a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy, regarding the current physical condition of the applicants and others living in the home. The county department shall have the discretion to require an updated medical report prior to the two year standard.~~
- ~~b. Documentation of any changes in the home and family, finances, employment, housing, illnesses, pregnancy, and current information, where applicable, on growth, development, and activities of children in the home.~~
- ~~c. Changes, if any, in the kind of child desired, the reason for the change, and the family's capacity to provide for the child currently requested.~~

~~d. Determination of the appropriateness to continue approval of the home.~~

10) UPDATE TO ASSESSMENTS WHEN THE APPLICANT CHOOSES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AN ADOPTION THROUGH A DIFFERENT LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY:

- a) WHEN THE FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT IS RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM THE ORIGINATING AGENCY WITH AN UPDATE WITH AN APPROVAL DATE OF LESS THAN ONE (1) YEAR, THE NEW AGENCY MAY EITHER COMPLETE:
 - i. A SAFE™ UPDATE OF THE ORIGINAL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT OR, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT.
 - ii. IF THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT OR UPDATE APPROVAL DATE IS MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR OLD, A FULL SAFE™ ASSESSMENT MUST BE COMPLETED AS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 7.500.2.

11) ~~Second or Additional Assessments~~

~~If a family has previously adopted a child and applies to adopt an additional child, the assessment shall be a comprehensive study unless the original assessment is available. The second or any additional assessment shall include the following:~~

- ~~a. A minimum of one personal contact with the applicant(s) in which the parents are interviewed alone, as well as together with the children in order to enable the worker to observe the interaction between the parent(s) and child(ren).~~
- ~~b. An in depth discussion of motivation for adoption of an additional child, changes in family relationships since the last assessment, the development of the applicant's child or children, the effect of another adoption on the children already in the family, kind of child to be considered, current family information, medicals, and photographs of the family.~~

11) FOSTER PARENT ASSESSMENTS

- a) THE SAFE™ ASSESSMENT ALONG WITH A SAFE™ UPDATE FOCUSING ON THE ABILITY OF THE PARENT TO MEET THE SPECIFIC NEEDS AND TO PARENT THE CHILD(REN)/YOUTH PLACED FOR ADOPTION WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR ADOPTION. THE CASEWORKER WILL CHECK THE ADOPTION BOX ON THE STATE PRESCRIBED APPLICATION.
- b) THE CASEWORKER SHALL DISCUSS THE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WITH THE FOSTER PARENT, FOCUSING ON THE NEEDS OF THE CHILD/YOUTH AND THE FOSTER PARENT'S ABILITY TO MEET THOSE

NEEDS AS ADDRESSED IN SECTION 7.306.4 (12 CCR 2509-4).

12) Foster Parent Assessments

- a. ~~The single assessment completed on a foster family for foster care will be accepted for adoption. The worker will check the adoption box on the single application form and, if appropriate, write a brief update.~~
- b. ~~The worker shall discuss the subsidy program with the foster parents, focusing on the child's special needs and the family's ability to meet those needs.~~

12) INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

- a) NON-PUBLIC INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTIONS SHALL ONLY BE COMPLETED ACCORDING TO THE CHILDREN'S CODE AND SECTION 7.710 (12 CCR 2509-8).

13) ~~Inter-country Adoption~~

- ~~a. Non-public foreign adoptions shall comply with the Children's Code.~~
- ~~b. County departments complete assessments for foreign adoption only on authorization of the state department adoption program supervisor.~~

7.500.352 Fees

- A. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL inform ~~persons~~ INDIVIDUALS applying to adopt ~~what~~ THE fees THAT may be involved in adopting through the county. Fees are based on the ability to pay for the adoptive services rendered by the county department which provides the SAFE™ home assessment services. ~~Although the fees may be waived, a~~ A fee MAY BE charged to a family AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT cannot exceed \$800 for the initial home study and \$500 for an update. Fees for the yearly reevaluation shall not exceed \$200 unless special circumstances exist and approval is granted by the county director or his/her designee.
- B. A NON-DISCRIMINATORY FEE STRUCTURE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT. The fee is established on ability to pay or cost of service, whichever is less.
- C. Fees will be charged to OUT-OF-STATE PROSPECTIVE adoptive PARENTS ~~families coming~~ SEEKING TO ADOPT A CHILD/YOUTH FROM ~~into~~ Colorado or PROSPECTIVE COLORADO PARENTS SEEKING TO ADOPT ~~who receive~~ a child/YOUTH from another state, in accordance with the adoption services provided. If the child/YOUTH being placed is in the custody of a public agency and receiving services through the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC), the ~~family~~ PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS shall not be charged a fee.
- D. No fee is charged to ~~persons~~ INDIVIDUALS or families whose income is below the poverty level, as established by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or who are recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Colorado Works PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, or state/and county-funded assistance payments.

- E. Fees may be waived in whole or in part by the county department which provides the ~~home assessment~~ SAFE™ ASSESSMENT AND OTHER RELATED ADOPTION services when such fees pose a barrier to the adoption of ~~special needs~~ children/YOUTH for whom a county department is financially responsible. IF THE FEE IS WAIVED, THE WAIVER SHOULD BE DOCUMENTED IN THE COUNTY RECORD. If an PROSPECTIVE adoptive ~~family~~-PARENT, for whom the fee has been waived, decides not to adopt a child/YOUTH ~~with special needs~~, then ~~they~~-THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT-~~are to~~ MAY BE REQUIRED TO pay the appropriate fee. ~~If the fee is waived, the waiver should be documented in the county record.~~
- F. When an assessment is court ordered, the PROSPECTIVE adoptive parents ~~shall~~-MAY be charged a fee for a home assessment, supervision, or a report to the court in accordance with the above fees.

7.500.353 Case Records [~~Rev. eff. 8/1/06~~]

- A. The Adoptive Family Record will contain all documentation required for approval for adoption, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ~~such as~~ THE application, SAFE™ ~~home~~ ASSESSMENT, SAFE™ UPDATES, REQUIRED BACKGROUND CHECKS, ~~assessment~~, and medicals INFORMATION.
- B. The county department maintains a record for each adoptive family approved for the placement of a child/YOUTH. Upon completion of the legal adoption of a child(ren)/YOUTH, the ~~family's~~ record shall be closed and maintained in a secure location at the county DEPARTMENT in order to preserve confidentiality as required by ~~statute~~§19-5-305, C.R.S.
- C. Any material contained in the ~~family's~~ record regarding a child/YOUTH placed with and adopted by the family shall be maintained at the county DEPARTMENT with the ~~family's~~ adoption record. After the decree of adoption has been issued, the county department shall not retain information in an open record which will link the adoptive family with the child's/YOUTH'S original identity except information necessary to maintain the ~~subsidized~~ adoption ASSISTANCE record.
- D. Access to Adoption ~~Assessments~~-INFORMATION AND RECORDS
 - 1. Prior to filing A petition to adopt:
 - a. The records of prospective adoptive parents are confidential, as provided in ~~Section~~§ 26-1-114(1), C.R.S., ~~as amended~~.
 - b. The county department shall not provide records of prospective adoptive parent(S) to an individual or agency, other than another Colorado county department involved in the adoptive process, without the written permission of ~~the~~-EACH prospective ADOPTIVE parents, ~~including husband and wife~~, if both are involved in the adoption process.
 - c. The county department shall ~~not release~~-PROVIDE a copy of the SAFE™ ~~home~~ assessment to the prospective adoptive parents-~~FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE ACCURACY OF THE ASSESSMENT. Adoptive parents who wish to read their home assessment must make a written request to the county department signed by husband and wife, if both are involved in the adoptive process. The parts of the home assessment to be made available shall include any information provided by the prospective parents and the written social assessment made by the county department or licensed child placement agency.~~
 - d. ~~The following shall not be made available to the prospective adoptive parents:~~

- 1) ~~Medical and health reports.~~
- 2) ~~Reports of psychiatric and psychological evaluations.~~
- 3) ~~Scholastic records of the prospective adoptive couple or members of the family.~~
- 4) ~~Reports of contacts with references.~~
- 5) ~~Any other pertinent third party information.~~

2. After filing A petition to adopt:

- a. The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES will provide court reports on adoptions TO THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS AS outlined in Colorado statute § 19-5-209(1), C.R.S.
- b. ~~Records and papers~~ AND INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT DURING ~~in~~ relinquishment and/OR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS in adoption proceedings shall be confidential ~~as outlined in~~ PURSUANT TO Colorado statute ~~Section~~ § 26-1-114(1), C.R.S.

7.500.354 Correspondence with Out of State Agencies ~~[Rev. eff. 8/1/06]~~

All correspondence with AN out-of-state child placement AGENCY~~ies~~ regarding adoption shall be forwarded to the selected COLORADO CHILD PLACEMENT agency for routing to ~~an~~ THE out-of-state child placement agency.

7.500.355 Purchase of Adoption Services from LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT Agency Providers ~~[Rev. eff. 8/1/06]~~

~~On behalf of a child/YOUTH,~~ The county department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES may elect to purchase ~~from agency providers any one or all of the following~~ FROM LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY PROVIDERS: pre-placement services, ~~recruitment services, home assessment/evaluation~~ SAFE™ ASSESSMENT services, placement services, post-placement services, AND post-finalization/PERMANENCY services.

THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST HAVE A WRITTEN AND SIGNED CONTRACT WITH THE LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT AGENCY THAT DETAILS THE SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED, THE FEES TO BE PAID FOR THE SERVICES, AND THE APPROPRIATE TIME FRAMES FOR THE SERVICES TO BE CONCLUDED.

A. Eligible Cases

1. Children/YOUTH for whom adoption services may be purchased by a county department shall be children/YOUTH WHO ARE ~~freed for adoption~~ AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION, AND for whom an adoptive home is not available, and whom are listed with the Colorado Adoption Resource Registry (CARR).
2. All children/YOUTH in need of adoptive placement must be listed with the CARR or a request for exclusion must be submitted to the CARR (**See Section 7.306.13 IN 12 CCR 2509-04**).
3. IN THE CASE OF A CHILD/YOUTH WHO IS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION AND HAS COMPLEX NEEDS AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT WISHES TO PURCHASE OR

CONTRACT FOR PRE-PLACEMENT ASSESSMENT, THE COUNTY MAY DO SO PRIOR TO THE CHILD/YOUTH'S INFORMATION BEING SUBMITTED TO THE CARR. ~~The county department wishes to purchase a pre-placement ADOPTION assessment from an agency provider, in a case of a child whose functioning, in the judgment of the county department, is particularly difficult to assess and/or services to legally free the child, prior to the child's information being submitted to the CARR.~~

4. Services for ~~special needs~~ children/YOUTH WITH COMPLEX NEEDS WHO ARE not yet AVAILABLE ~~free~~ for adoption may be purchased by a county department when in the judgment of that department it is anticipated and likely that the child/YOUTH will become ~~free~~ AVAILABLE for adoption. Adoption services purchased for these children/YOUTH shall be limited to pre-placement, recruitment, and home assessment services.

B. Case Referral

1. Eligible cases shall be referred to the LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider for purchase of part or all of the adoption SERVICES. ~~process.~~
2. In its agreement, the county department shall require that the LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider shall write a case plan for providing adoptive services to the referred child/YOUTH reflecting the joint planning. This plan shall include objectives, specific desired outcomes, and target dates. Regular progress reports shall be submitted to the county department by the agency provider, and shall address all of the requirements of the case plan.

C. Service Hour Rate

Payment for purchased adoption services shall be on an actual cost basis, up to a specified maximum for each adoption component. The rate shall be based on the base service hour cost of the agency provider, which is the allowable program costs divided by case service hours in the program (i.e., hours spent by professional staff in performing adoption services on a case).

D. Provider Billing and Fees

1. Billing for adoption services provided shall be case-specific and component-specific. That is, the county department shall accept bills from the agency provider only on those cases on which it has entered into an agreement with the county department and only for the component(s) of the adoption process which the county department has agreed to purchase.
2. In its agreement with the agency provider for a ~~given~~ SPECIFIC CHILD/YOUTH client, the county department shall require that payment ~~by the department shall be the sole ONLY payment the provider shall receive from any source for the services provided to the department's client under the contract. This provision shall not affect the assessment of client fees by the agency provider for other clients and for other services not included in the agreement with the department.~~ THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT MUST REQUIRE THAT PAYMENT FOR CHILD/YOUTH SPECIFIC ADOPTION SERVICES BE PAID UNDER SINGLE PAYMENT CONTRACTS.

E. Payment to Provider

1. Payment shall be made to the agency provider for those components provided and billed.
2. Payment to the provider shall be for satisfactory completion of the duties required by the agreement.

- 3. In the case of disrupted placements, the LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider shall be paid for actual time spent on the case, not to exceed the maximum allowed for the component(s) utilized to that point in the placement. This payment shall be at the rate of the approved service hour cost as reflected in the component computation.

F. Reimbursement to THE County Department OF HUMAN/SOCIAL SERVICES

The State COLORADO Department of Human Services shall reimburse the county department for purchase of adoption service expenditures under approved agreements PURSUANT TO SECTION 7.406.1.NN (12 CCR 2509-5).

G. Provider Agreement and Requirements

- 1. The county department and the LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider shall enter into a provider agreement for adoption services to be purchased.
- 2. The county department shall monitor the provision of services under the purchase of adoption services agreement.
- 3. The LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency provider shall be responsible to the county department for the quality of services provided under the agreement. For pre-placement, home assessment/evaluation, placement, and post-placement service components, the agency provider shall meet the standards for service quality as per the licensing regulations for adoption agencies.
- 4. County departments shall purchase adoption services only from LICENSED CHILD PLACEMENT agency providers who give assurance in their agreement that the purchased services shall be delivered only by staff who meet the following minimum qualifications: FOR NON-DIRECT SERVICE COMPONENTS, FOR EXAMPLE, RECRUITMENT AND LEGAL SERVICES:
 - c. SOME BACKGROUND SHOWING AWARENESS OF AND SENSITIVITY TO ADOPTION ISSUES; AND,
 - d. AT LEAST ONE (1) YEAR OF EXPERIENCE AND/OR A DEGREE APPROPRIATE TO THE SERVICE BEING PURCHASED AND (FOR LEGAL SERVICES) A LICENSE TO PRACTICE IN THEIR SPECIALTY FIELD.
- 5. ~~For non-direct service components e.g. recruitment and legal services, providers shall have:~~
 - a. ~~Some background showing awareness of and sensitivity to adoption issues; and,~~
 - b. ~~At least one year of experience and/or a degree appropriate to the service being purchased and (for legal services) a license to practice in their specialty field.~~

7.500.356 [Repealed eff.11/01/2015]
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