

Policy Title:	Assessment of Safety Service Providers – OAR			
Policy Number:	I-AB.7 413-015-1200 thru 1230		Effective Date:	7-01-10

Approved By: *on file*

Date Approved: 7-01-10

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Reference(s):

- ORS 419B.005
- ORS 418.747
- ORS 419B.005 through .020
- I-AB.1 Introduction to CPS Rules, OAR 413-015-0100 thru 0125
http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/i-ab1.pdf
- I-AB.4 CPS Assessment, 413-015-0400 through 0410
http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/i-ab4.pdf
- I-AB.6 Access to Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS) in Local Child Welfare Offices, OAR 413-015-1100 through 1125
http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/i-ab6.pdf
- I-E.1.1 Search for and Engagement of Relatives, OAR 413-070-0060 through 0087
http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/i-e11.pdf

Form(s) that apply:

- None referenced.

Rules:

413-015-1200

Purpose

- (1) The purpose of these rules, OAR 413-015-1200 to 413-015-1230, is to describe the Department's responsibility to assess an individual for consideration as a *safety service provider* and to determine whether the individual is suitable as a *safety service provider*.
- (2) An individual employed by an agency providing services to a family through a current contract with the Department is not covered under these rules.
- (3) Requirements for the assessment of an individual for the purpose of ongoing connection

and support with a *child* or certification as a *relative caregiver* or *foster parent* are not covered under these rules.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 418.005

Stats. Implemented: ORS 418.005

413-015-1210

Definitions

The following definitions apply to OAR 413-015-1200 to 413-015-1230:

- (1) "Caseworker" means a Child Welfare employee assigned primary responsibility for a *child* or young adult served by Child Welfare.
- (2) "Child" means a person under 18 years of age.
- (3) "CPS worker" means a Child Protective Services (CPS) worker who is an employee of Child Welfare and has completed the mandatory Department training for child protective service workers.
- (4) "Department" means the Department of Human Services, Child Welfare.
- (5) "Foster parent" means an individual who operates a home that has been approved by the Department to provide care for an unrelated *child* or young adult placed in the home by the Department.
- (6) "LEDS" means Law Enforcement Data System, the computerized criminal history information system maintained by the Oregon State Police.
- (7) "Ongoing safety plan" means a documented set of actions or interventions that manage a child's safety after the Department has identified one or more safety threats to which the *child* is vulnerable and determined the parent or caregiver is unable or unwilling to protect the *child*. An *ongoing safety plan* can be in-home or out-of-home and is adjusted when necessary to provide the least intrusive interventions.
- (8) "Protective action" means an immediate, same day, short-term plan sufficient to protect a *child* from a *safety threat* in order to allow completion of the CPS assessment.
- (9) "Relative caregiver" means an individual who operates a home that has been approved by the Department to provide care for a related *child* or young adult placed in the home by the Department.
- (10) "Safety service provider" means a participant in a *protective action* or *ongoing safety plan* whose actions, assistance, or supervision help a family in managing a child's safety.
- (11) "Safety threat" means family behavior, conditions, or circumstances that could result in harm to a *child*.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 418.005

413-015-1220

Assessment of an Individual's Involvement in Safety Management

- (1) To assess an individual as a *safety service provider* for a specific family in a *protective action* or an *ongoing safety plan*, a *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must take all of the following actions:
 - (a) Identify and contact an individual who is a prospective *safety service provider*.
 - (b) Gather information from the individual regarding his or her:
 - (A) Relationship with the *child* and the child's family; and
 - (B) Willingness and ability to fulfill the specific role and responsibilities of a *safety service provider* for the identified family.
 - (c) Provide the individual with information regarding the specific role and responsibility of the individual to assist in managing a child's safety.
 - (d) Search the Department's information system and review any historic information regarding the individual that may be useful in assessing the individual's ability to be a *safety service provider*.
 - (e) Conduct a criminal records check on the individual, provide notice as described in Child Welfare Policy I-AB.6, "Access to Law Enforcement Data System in Local Child Welfare Offices" OAR 413-015-1100 to 413-015-1125, and review the individual's criminal history to assess the individual's ability to be a *safety service provider*.
- (2) After the *CPS worker* or *caseworker* has considered all the information gathered pursuant to section (1) of this rule, the *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must determine the individual's suitability as a *safety service provider*. In making this determination, the worker must consider whether the individual is willing and able to:
 - (a) Assist in managing the safety of the *child*;
 - (b) Cooperate with any restrictions on contact between the *child* and others;
 - (c) Support, verbally and through actions, the *protective action* and *ongoing safety plan*; and
 - (d) Fulfill the identified role and responsibilities required of the individual in a *protective action* or an *ongoing safety plan*.
- (3) A *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must consult with and receive approval from a supervisor prior to engaging an individual as a *safety service provider* whenever the individual's past circumstances, conditions, or behaviors include one of the items listed in the subsections of this section so long as those circumstances, conditions, or behaviors do

not impact negatively the individual's ability to fulfill the specific role and responsibilities in managing a child's safety:

- (a) A record of *child* abuse or neglect;
 - (b) A criminal history; or
 - (c) A history of drug or alcohol abuse.
- (4) The *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must document in the Department's information system:
- (a) The basis for the determination regarding whether an individual is suitable as a *safety service provider*, and
 - (b) The supervisor who provided the approval required in section (3) of this rule.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 418.005

Stats. Implemented: ORS 418.005

413-015-1230

Safety Service Provider Approval

- (1) The *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must inform an individual who has been considered and selected as a *safety service provider* that the individual has been approved as a *safety service provider*. The *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must further inform an approved *safety service provider* that the role of a *safety service provider* --
- (a) Is temporary; and
 - (b) The role or responsibilities may change if the Department obtains new information that changes the determination that the individual is suitable to manage a child's safety, prevents the individual from fulfilling the role identified in assisting to manage a child's safety, or a *safety threat* changes, is eliminated, or can be managed by a child's parent or guardian.
- (2) The *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must inform an individual who has been considered but has not been selected as a *safety service provider* that the individual has not been approved to be a *safety service provider*.
- (3) When an individual has been informed that the individual is approved or not approved as a *safety service provider* or the determination that an individual is approved changes, if the status change results in a change in the *protective action* or *ongoing safety plan*, the *CPS worker* or *caseworker* must refer to OAR 413-015-0435 and OAR 413-015-0450.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 418.005

Stats. Implemented: ORS 418.005

Procedures that apply:

- None referenced.

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Policy History

- None. New rule set.