

Policy Transmittal

Office of Child Welfare Programs



Laurie Price, Deputy Director, Office of Child Welfare Programs

Authorized signature

Number: CW-PT-18-016

Issue date: 5/7/2018

Topic: Foster Care

Due date: 5/7/2018

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New policy
 Policy change
 Policy clarification
 Executive letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual update
 Other: Sibling Visit and Contact Plan

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type} | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children’s Residential Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Policy/rule title:	DHS Child Welfare Procedure Manual - Chapter 4: Services to Children Section 35: Rights of Children and Youth in Foster Care		
Policy/rule number(s):		Release number:	
Effective date:	January 1, 2018	Expiration date:	
References:	OR Laws 2017, ch 36, §§ 1-5, Application of the Sibling Bill of Rights Act Transmittal, CF 0262, CF 0263, CF/CW 0831		
Web address:			

Discussion/interpretation: The Procedure Manual has been updated to give guidance on the application of the Oregon Foster Children’s Sibling Bill or Rights. This information is captured in [Chapter 4: Services to Children, Section 35: Rights of Children and Youth in Foster Care](#). The Oregon Foster Children’s Sibling Bill of Rights also prompted the creation of the Sibling Visit and Contact Plan form contained within the new [CF/CW 0831](#). The Sibling Visit and Contact Plan is covered in the Procedure

Manual and further information on the new Visit and Contact Plan [CF/CW 0831](#) can be found in the [May 2, 2018, Information Transmittal](#).

The Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights gives children and youth in foster care specific rights designed to protect and strengthen their bond with siblings. The Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights ([ORS 418.606 to 418.608](#)) was signed into law by Gov. Brown in May 2017, and the related administrative rules were effective January 1, 2018. For more information on the related policy and rule changes, please refer to the January 25, 2018 transmittal, [Application of the Sibling Bill of Rights Act](#).

Resources and remaining processes:

In January 2018, packets of the poster [CF 0262](#), the tip sheet [CF 0263](#), and a letter describing the new law and its requirements were mailed to each Child Welfare branch. Branch offices can order additional copies through the FORMS drive. The poster and tip sheet are available on the forms drive in both English and Spanish. The updated Procedure Manual is posted, and the new Visit and Contact Plan form [CF/CW 0831](#) is available on the forms drive.

A computer-based training is in development, and classroom trainings are scheduled in May 2018.

Training/communication plan:

A computer-based training for caseworkers and caregivers will be released through iLearn in the spring. In-person trainings for workers and caregivers will occur throughout the state in May 2018, and registration is set up through iLearn. The training dates and locations are listed below:

- 5/8: Pendleton, OR
- 5/10: Beaverton, OR
- 5/14: Eugene, OR
- 5/15: Albany, OR
- 5/22: Portland, OR

Local/branch action required: Ensure all relevant Child Welfare Staff comply with the requirements of the Oregon Foster Children's Sibling Bill of Rights as outlined in Chapter 4, Section 35 of the Procedure Manual.

Central office action required: N/A

Field/stakeholder review: Yes No

If yes, reviewed by: Administrative rules were developed with field and stakeholder input.

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

Contact(s): Nicole Stapp, Foster Care Policy & Community Liaison or Carrie van Dijk,
Youth Transition Specialist

Phone: (971)719-0123 or (503)945-5807 | Fax: (503)945-6969

Email: Nicole.Stapp@state.or.us or Carrie.Vandijk@state.or.us