

Policy Transmittal

Office of Child Welfare Programs



Deena Loughary, Child Safety Manager

Authorized Signature

Number: CW-PT-20-017

Issue Date: 09/17/2020

Topic: Protective Services

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):

- New Policy
 Policy Change
 Policy Clarification
 Executive Letter
 Administrative Rule
 Manual Update
 Other:

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"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please specify</i>): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs | |

Rule Title/Number:	Child Protective Services - 413-015-0015 and 413-015-0422. Monthly Contact and Monitoring Child and Young Adult Safety - 413-080-0051 and 413-080-0054.
Procedure Chapter/Section:	Chapter 3: "Assessment" Sections 1, 3, 4, and 9. Chapter 4: "Managing Child Safety In and Out of Home" Section 9
Effective Date:	09/01/2020

Who: CPS and permanency workers and their supervisors.

When: September 1, 2020

Know Your Why: Too many of Oregon's infants die in sleep related deaths, some of which are preventable. Educating and engaging an infant's parents and caregivers effectively requires a community response. Child Welfare is a critical part of the child safety community and adding the requirement of workers to observe and assess the sleep environments of infants aligns with our responsibility and commitment to assure child safety.

What: After receiving feedback to the changes made to procedure, administrative rule has been written and procedures have been updated related to safe sleep requirements. In addition to making changes to rule and procedure for safe sleep practices, some changes to rule were updated to improve clarity and consistency with statute regarding notifications on reports of abuse involving open cases.

Specifically, the following rules have been changed:

Rules

OAR 413-015-0115 “Definitions”

- Added the term “infant”

OAR 413-015-0422 “Gather Safety Related Information through Interview and Observation”

- Added observing and assessing the sleep environment of an infant while observing and assessing the home environment

OAR 413-080-0051 “Addressing Safety Threats and Reports of Abuse on an Open Case”

- Reworded for clarity and consistency with statute

OAR 413-080-0054 “Monthly Face-to-Face Contact Requirements”

- Added requirements specific to observing and assessing sleep environments when conducting face-to-face contacts in the home of a parent or guardian with an infant.
- Added requirements for inquiring, engaging, and educating families about safe sleep practices.
- Added requirement to support the family’s problem solving efforts to reduce sleep related risks.
- Added documentation requirements for observations of the sleep environments

Procedure Manual

Chapter 3, Section 1: CPS Assessment

- Reworded the section on sleep environments for infants for clarity and conciseness

Chapter 3, Section 3: Assessment

- Changed language to improve clarity

Chapter 3, Section 4: Initial Contact with the family

- Clarified language and organization
- Provided more specific guidance and practice considerations to support workers

Chapter 4, Section 9: Monitor the Child Welfare case plan through required contacts

- Clarified language and provided more specific guide and practice considerations to support workers
- Added in specific requirements for observing sleep environments of infants in substitute care

Implementation:

The implementation of safe sleep related changes has been conducted in several phases, with this being the final step.

Training:

The Safe Sleep training continues to be available in iLearn.

Feedback/Questions:

Direct questions to the child safety and permanency consultants assigned to your local office.

Local/Branch Action Required: Review with staff.

Field/Stakeholder Review:

Yes No

If yes, reviewed by:

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on the drafts, including numerous staff who reached out, Child Welfare Policy Council, Peer Advisory Review Committee, and members of the Rule Advisory Committee

If you have any questions about this policy or procedure, please contact:

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