

## Model Standards Webinar

June 11, 2020

### Questions and Answers

#### **Background Checks**

***Do the staff ones have to be in the file by June 15th?***

If this is referencing newly required background checks for foster/adopt agencies, the results need to be in the file as of 6/15/20 when the rule was effective.

***Is there a way to know if background checks have been submitted to KOFAX? Sometimes they may get missed being recorded that they were submitted so trying to get a check and balance on this.***

The agency can check with their LS to ensure the background checks have been received.

***What is KOFAX? is this submission different?***

Kofax is the system used for agencies to submit criminal background checks, BCI and FBI to ODJFS for review. All other background checks are to be placed in the employee file or foster/adopt parent file.

***Do AP Searches, Sex Offender Searches, and Background Checks must be repeated for Administrator Officer, etc. or are they only required once?***

This depends on the role. Administrators are considered employees and must complete a BCI check every 4 years. All other checks are required once, prior to hire or appointment.

***When a child in the home turns 18 what is the timeframe for completing the sex offender registry check. Do we do it at recert with other background checks, or is it due on their birthday exactly or what?***

The new background checks will need to be completed prior to the next recertification.

***Do we have to go back and add activity logs stating that we completed the sex offender registry for all foster homes?***

No. As you complete the checks, the SACWIS record is either updated via an activity log or verification depending on when it is done. The verification function is being added to SACWIS soon.

***A new sex offender check needs completed at re-cert.***

Sex offender checks must be completed at each recertification.

***Can you please explain why this information is being required in paper form in the file, in verification, and in an activity log? That seems repetitive.***

The activity log for Sex Offender Searches is to be used until the Sex Offender search is in the verification section in SACWIS. Results must be in the paper file too.

***Do we need to do the Sex offender check on all names? Including maiden names?***

Yes, please use any aliases you have for the individual.

***How do we get a copy of PL348?***

<http://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/FamChild/FCASM/FCASPL/FCASPL-348.stm> It is published within emanuals.

***Any idea when PL348 will be rescinded?***

A subsequent PL has been issued regarding foster/adopt home expirations. Nothing has been rescinded.

***Does the AP search have to be back (received) before employment?***

All background check results must be received and reviewed prior to hire or appointment.

***We've been doing the sex offender search as part of our ARCS search for the past several years for all our staff/foster families. Within this system we receive automatic updates***

***should a person be placed on this list. Does the sex offender need to be re-run for these foster families, or can we enter the date the check was originally run?***

If the search was completed from the national website and proof of that is in the file, then they would not need to be completed again.

***Does this apply to kinship home studies?***

The changes to kinship rules have not yet been made. The criminal background requirements will come over to kinship home studies in 2021.

***Immunizations***

***Realistically there is nothing that anyone must do specifically other than say they are declining for reason of conscience and they are exempted from completing the immunization records?***

That is correct.

***If they are older and do not have an immunization record available, what documentation will be accepted?***

The flu vaccine is annual so this should be obtainable. Also, the pertussis vaccine is not good for a lifetime so would need to be re-administered for an adult, so records should be obtainable.

***How often is the pertussis vac required?***

It is required prior to certification for any homes licensed after June 15, 2020. The CDC recommends every ten years after that dose.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/adults/downloads/fs-vaccines-need.pdf>

***What can we accept as documentation that vaccinations are contrary to their health or religious convictions? Or is the 1653 statement enough?***

JFS 1653 is enough documentation if it is completed.

***Do we have to document vaccination records in SACWIS or just put a copy of the immunization records in the foster parent file?***

There will be a section in SACWIS that needs to be completed on the person record and the records must be in the file also.

***Are we required to enter the immunization record in SACWIS?***

There will be a section in SACWIS that needs to be completed on the person record and the records must be in the file also.

***For homes that have not yet been licensed and have already completed the previous medical will they need to go back to the doctor and complete the new form?***

If a physical exam was completed within 12 months of licensing the home and the JFS 1653 reflects this, nothing further is needed from the doctor. The new form will need to be updated by the applicant. If a physical exam was not completed within 12 months of licensing the home, a new JFS 1653 noting the completion of the physical is needed from the doctor.

***Are adult household members required to submit immunization records?***

Household members are required to submit records to show they have the flu vaccine and the pertussis vaccine.

***At re-certification for a family, the previous rule did not have us require a new 1653 for re-certification. So, with the new rule, would families be required to have new 1653 with the immunization's requirement, including the flu shot, and pertussis?***

No, if the home was licensed before June 15, 2020 the home is grandfathered in and is not required to have the immunizations.

***Are we to enter all the lifetime vaccines or just the flu shots?***

The agency would need to attach the entire shot record for all child household members to the JFS 1653. The adult household members only need to attach records of the flu shot and the pertussis shot.

***The vaccination rule only applies to applicants taking infants and children, not for applicants taking youth who are older?***

The rule applies to foster homes that are licensed and approved to take infants and children with special medical needs.

***Is the SACWIS documentation of immunizations an OPTION or REQUIRED?***

Required if there are vaccinations to document.

***If SACWIS is not going to be updated when the rules and new forms, go into effect how do we document we have met the new standards in the meantime?***

Activity logs should be used to document new requirements.

***To clarify, do you have to have the immunization records if completed and the JFS 1653 or just the immunizations records. This reads OR is this just if there are not immunization records?***

Copies of the immunization records and the new JFS 1653 are to be placed in the foster home record. It is the assessor's responsibility to ensure the home follows all requirements prior to approving a home study.

***So, when our prospective foster parents and their children receive their medicals, the medical professional will deal with the immunization record and we as the home study workers won't have to inquire to see medical records and shot records?***

Copies of the immunization records and the new JFS 1653 are to be placed in the foster home record. It is the assessor's responsibility to ensure the home follows all requirements prior to approving a home study.

***Is licensing looking for an actual physical completed by a physician in the foster parent file? Is there a specific form for this or any form the doctor provides? Or just a check box on the 1653 stating there was a physical is acceptable to meet compliance***

The only required form is the JFS 1653 that needs to be completed by a medical professional verifying the physical exam has been completed.

***Do you define reasons of conscience?***

This is not defined.

***Will this still be a requirement for licensing for a child specific ICPC? Due to it being FC licensing it would still be the same correct?***

Not sure the specific requirement referenced here but if another state is requesting a foster home study be completed, then all the rules and requirements must be completed before a license would be issued.

***If someone indicates they will get flu shot in Fall, do we have to prove in the Fall that this happened?***

The agency should get the documentation once the family does receive the flu shot and put in the record.

***Should a family decline vaccination, particularly the flu shot, just because they don't feel comfortable with it, does that disqualify them from taking in younger placements?***

It does not disqualify them from taking younger placements, but they need to document on the JFS 1653 why they do not receive the vaccinations.

***Should we be using these new medical statement forms for recertifications too?***

Medical statements are not required at recertification. If the agency requires a new medical statement, the new JFS 1653 should be used.

***Because the 1653 is also utilized for completion of adoption home studies, do vaccinations apply to adoptive families only?***

The vaccinations do not apply to adoptive families.

***If the form was already completed would a medical request verifying the physical be enough adding it to the form?***

If the home is being licensed or approved after 6/15/20, the new form must be used. The old form may be attached to the completed new form if the physical exam was completed within 12 months of the home study approval date.

***So, if a family has gotten their medical statement done this week and are going to be approved next Friday, they must get a new medical statement?***

If the home is being licensed or approved after 6/15/20, the new form must be used. The old form may be attached to the completed new form if the physical exam was completed within 12 months of the home study approval date.

***If a family in process has a 1653 completed already, but will not be certified before June 15, will they be required to complete the new 1653?***

If the home is being licensed or approved after 6/15/20, the new form must be used. The old form may be attached to the completed new form if the physical exam was completed within 12 months of the home study approval date.

***If a family started the home study process in February, but is not finished by June 15 and already completed the 1653, will they have to complete the new 1653 form?***

If the home is being licensed or approved after 6/15/20, the new form must be used. The old form may be attached to the completed new form if the physical exam was completed within 12 months of the home study approval date.

***Is the flu/whooping cough requirement for currently licensed people? Or do only newly licensed have to do them?***

The rules apply to homes that are licensed on or after June 15, 2020.

***Will we accept a receipt for a Flu shot from Walgreen's or something from a job site that offer their employees free Flu immunizations?***

Yes

***So, the "grandfather" rule means that currently licensed foster parents do not need to become compliant with any of the vaccination requirements, including the annual flu shot?***

Correct

***For folks licensed prior to 6/15/20 and grandfathered, moving forward would they need to***

***meet the flu and DTAP requirements based on the annual nature of those immunizations as stated in rule?***

If the home was licensed before June 15, 2020 the home is grandfathered in and is not required to have the immunizations.

***Are all foster families currently certified grandfathered in? And any new families licensed after 6/01/20 would we need to get copies of the shot records for all household members?***

If the home was licensed before June 15, 2020 the home is grandfathered in and is not required to have the immunizations.

***Is the flu/whooping cough requirement for currently licensed people? Or do only newly licensed have to do them?***

If the home was licensed before June 15, 2020 the home is grandfathered in and is not required to have the immunizations.

***Please clarify, families approved for children 2 yrs. and up do not have to have the pertussis and flu shot? We must have the immunization record of all children in the household in all cases. Thank you***

Families approved to care for infants and children with special medical needs are required to have the immunizations unless they document why they are not receiving them.

***Just to clarify- none of the forms are available yet? So, the people I need to have fill out the new medical form can't get it until Monday?***

The new forms were posted 6/17/2020.

***When will forms be available?***

The new forms were posted 6/17/2020.

***Regarding annual flu shot requirements, the medical community identifies flu seasons. If we require folks to get the vaccine at licensing time, it may be the very end of the last flu season,***

***and they would then need another when the new flu season starts. Any considerations about this.***

If the flu shot is not available during the licensing period, then the agency would need to document that and ensure the shot is obtained during flu season and document when that occurs.

***If a foster parent to be says we don't believe in vaccinations, we can still place infants if its documented?***

Correct - if the JFS 1653 documents the applicant's reason for not receiving vaccinations.

***Many adults have had several medical providers. If they do not have a copy of their full vaccination record, how to they obtain a copy of their full immunization record?***

The adults are only required to have the flu and pertussis vaccine. These records are the ones that need to be in the file.

***Should we be requiring proof of flu shots for all families approved for children with special medical needs? Or based on the checklist that they are willing to accept special medical conditions? or when they receive a foster placement with special medical conditions?***

If the home is approved to take infants and children with special needs the home is required to meet the immunization requirement prior to placements.

***If the doc says on the medical form that the child is up to date on immunizations, but does not compile the actual immunization record, is that enough?***

No, the rule requires the immunization records to be attached to the JFS 1653.

***If an applicant just states that he does not want to get immunizations/flu shots because he does not "believe in them" and like to "take a more holistic approach to health" is that enough?***

The reasons would need to be documented on the JFS 1653 to meet the requirement.

***Since it is not flu season right now, a family that is in the process of being certified can state they are going to obtain the flu shot in October/November on the form and we can still approve them?***

Yes, you can still approve them, and have it documented on the JFS 1653 and follow up with the family for the documentation later.

***Will we be required to have new medicals completed every year to document the immunization rules?***

The JFS 01653 is only required prior to initial certification.

***Will all homes be required (vaccines, flu, etc.) during recertification process, even if they were grandfathered in? So, 2 years from now, or those needing to be recertified in September 2020.***

If the home was licensed before June 15, 2020 the home is grandfathered in and is not required to have the immunizations.

***The physical exam is only for licensed foster parents correct. The household members do not need the exam or doctor signature.***

All household members are required to complete a JFS 01653. Only the foster/adopt parents are required to have a medical professional complete the JFS 1653.

***Should we be requiring proof of flu shots for all families approved for children with special medical needs? Or based on the checklist that they are willing to accept special medical conditions? or when they receive a foster placement with special medical conditions?***

If the home is approved to take infants and children with special needs the home is required to meet the immunization requirement prior to placements.

***So, when our prospective foster parents and their children receive their medicals, the medical professional will deal with the immunization record and we as the home study workers won't have to inquire to see medical records and shot records?***

The medical professionals will no longer need to be involved in medical forms for household members. The vaccination section is on page one of the medical forms which is completed by

the foster parent or household member. If the foster parent or household member opts to receive the vaccination or verify the vaccination, a copy of the vaccination record would need submitted to the agency with the medical form.

***What are examples of reasons of conscience?***

Any reason the family provides as to why they do not receive vaccinations.

***What advice do you give for us to better inform ourselves about all the vaccination requirements from American Academy of Pediatrics and American Academy of Family physicians?***

There are many sources online containing vaccination recommendations for these authority agencies.

***Should we be requiring proof of flu shots for all families approved for children with special medical needs? Or based on the checklist that they are willing to accept special medical conditions? or when they receive a foster placement with special medical conditions?***

Foster families who care for those specific ages and medical needs are required to have the vaccinations unless they have waived those for the reasons listed. If an infant is placed with a family who has not yet had the flu shot and has not waived the shot, they would be non-compliant until they received the vaccination or waived it. It would be more efficient to require based on their willingness to accept those ages, characteristics.

***Will all homes be required (vaccines, flu, etc.) during recertification process, even if they were grandfathered in? So, 2 years from now, or those needing to be recertified in September 2020.***

Once they are grandfathered, they are not required ever.

***Where do we locate the form that applicants can sign regarding not receiving the flu shot?***

They would document this on the medical statement, JFS 1653.

<http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/>

***The vaccination rule only applies to applicants taking infants and children, not for applicants taking youth who are older?***

The general vaccinations for children are for all foster homes, regardless of the age of children fostered. However, those can be waived for reasons of conscience and medical reasons, and all current foster families are grandfathered in from the vaccination requirement. The flu vaccination requirement is for foster families who will be caring for infants and children with special medical needs. The pertussis vaccination requirement is for families who will be caring for infants. Those requirements can also be waived for reasons of conscience and medical reasons, and all current foster families are grandfathered as well.

***What are acceptable answers for reasons of conscience?***

This could be as simple as the foster parent saying they don't believe vaccinations are beneficial, or anything of the like. There is no threshold stated.

***Where do we locate the form that applicants can sign regarding not receiving the flu shot?***

They would document this on the medical statement. The new form will be available as of June 15th and can be located on JFS Forms Central at: <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/>

## **Pools**

***What does barrier mean.***

The guidance given is that yes, the sides of the above ground pool are considered a barrier.

***Does this include above ground pools and inflatable pools?***

The rule says a barrier on all sides of the pool. If the yard is fenced on three sides, then the home could be the 4th side to complete the barrier on all sides of the pool.

***If the yard is completely fenced in, does the pool have to have separate fence?***

The rule says a barrier on all sides of the pool. If the yard is fenced on three sides, then the home could be the 4th side to complete the barrier on all sides of the pool.

***Regarding the barrier requirement for swimming pools, is a fence that encloses the entire backyard satisfactory, or does another barrier need to be erected around the pool.***

The fence can be around the backyard on 3 sides and the home can be the 4th barrier.

***Do we have to go in and update the description of home for all our families that have pools now or do we do it at their recert?***

Rule does not require a safety audit be completed other than at initial certification, recertification or for an amendment. However, it is recommended during the summer months that safety involving pools be assessed as soon as possible. All homes have been given 120 days from the effective date of the rule to come into compliance with this requirement. That is October 13, 2020.

***At what point are we required to assess the new rules regarding swimming pools and other safety issues? At re-cert? Or are we expected to do this sooner than re-cert?***

Rule does not require a safety audit be completed other than at initial certification, recertification or for an amendment. However, it is recommended during the summer months that safety involving pools be assessed as soon as possible. All homes have been given 120 days from the effective date of the rule to come into compliance with this requirement. That is October 13, 2020.

***If we have families with pools, should we amend the home study now or can we wait until annual review or recert?***

You can amend the safety audit and description of the home at any time in SACWIS.

***How do we address those medium size standalone pools that really can't be emptied each night?***

They must have a filtration system if they cannot be emptied.

***How does this apply to apartment complex pools?***

There has been no change as to when a pool requires to be addressed on a safety audit. If it is required to be addressed, it must meet the new requirements.

***Are we doing an activity log for homes that were previously licensed and have had a pool?***

The pool information is to be addressed in the description of home section within SACWIS.

***If a family has one of the smaller 24 to 30-inch pools that are not always empty they must have a filter/pump, but do they need to have a "barrier" or fence around it?***

Yes

***What's a life saving device defined as besides a ring buoy? Does it need to be in the pool, next to pool, near the pool?***

An extension pole with hook on it, life jackets, lifeguard float, etc.

***Are we doing an activity log for homes that were previously licensed and have had a pool?***

There is no policy on creating activity logs for pools.

***If a family has one of the smaller 24 to 30-inch pools that are not always empty they must have a filter/pump, but do they need to have a "barrier" or fence around it?***

If they are not always emptied, they must have a filter and pump and must have a barrier.

***If we have families with pools, should we amend the home study now or can we wait until annual review or recert?***

There is no policy requirement to amend a home study that has a pool.

***As of June 15th, if things roll out officially this date, how long does a current licensed home have to get their home into compliance with an updated safety audit? Example: pools, when do they have to follow the rule? Is it 3-6 months after or upon their next recert? Sorry if this was answered already.***

All homes have been given 120 days from the effective date of the rule to come into compliance with this requirement. That is October 13, 2020.

***What does barrier mean. Do the sides of an above ground pool count as the barrier?***

Yes, if there is a ladder it would need removed when not in use.

***Are swimming pools that are above ground required to have a barrier on all sides?***

An above ground pool could have the pool as the barrier. If there is a ladder to get in, it would need to be removed when the pool was not in use.

***So, at what point are we required to assess the new rules regarding swimming pools and other safety issues? At re-cert? Or are we expected to do this sooner than re-cert?***

Beginning 6/15

***If the yard is completely fenced in, does the pool have to have separate fence?***

No

**Safety Audit**

***Clarification requested regarding the new rules about "A foster home is to maintain first aid supplies."***

The agency needs to ensure "basic" supplies are present- example- first aid kit

***Is the peeling or chipping paint for the inside of the home only or the outside of the home too?***

Both inside and outside

***Do the safety audit requirements apply to adoption only home studies?***

Yes. The rule is being updated to remove the reference date on the form.

***If I completed a Safety Audit yesterday but my family won't be licensed until June 30 or July 2nd. Will the old Safety audit be accepted for this family?***

The new rules are effective 6/15/2020 and all homes licensed after 6/15/2020 must be compliant with the new rules.

***For homes already certified, how long do they have to come into compliance with the new safety audit requirements?***

All homes have been given 120 days from the effective date of the rule to come into compliance with this requirement. That is October 13, 2020.

***How long does a current licensed home have to get their home into compliance with an updated safety audit? Example: pools, when do they have to follow the rule? Is it 3-6 months after or upon their next recert? Sorry if this was answered already.***

All homes have been given 120 days from the effective date of the rule to come into compliance with this requirement. That is October 13, 2020.

***Will all currently licensed homes need a safety audit, or just at recert?***

A new audit isn't required until recertification, unless the family moves to a new residence. However, the rules are effective which means the home must be compliant.

***What is considered "proper" water temperature?***

Not to exceed 120 degrees.

***Should we schedule assessment visits with our foster families to assess the new safety audit guidelines?***

Best practice, but not required.

***For clarification with chipping paint, does this impact certified foster homes now or only during recertification?***

The rule is effective as of 6/15/20, therefore the requirements are effective. Unlike immunizations, this is not grandfathered. All homes must meet the new safety requirements.

***Can you still license a home if they have chipping or peeling paint as they cannot pass the safety audit?***

The agency must provide the homeowner with the Lead Paint instruction pamphlet if the home has peeling or chipping paint. The agency may mark the question yes on the Safety Audit, once

this is done and then maintain communication with the home to ensure the instructions to remedy the safety issues are followed by the homeowner.

***You want a list of chipping/peeling paint or you want a list if the chipping paint is a potential lead/health hazard?***

The data collection will be for all homes where a Lead Paint instruction pamphlet was provided. ODJFS will be providing additional instruction as to reporting frequency and method soon.

***So, who gets the information if there are homes found to have chipping or peeling paint? Do we give a rules violation if they do have it?***

The agency will send lists of homes quarterly to their licensing specialist for all homes receiving a Lead Paint instruction pamphlet. A rule violation would be warranted if a home failed to follow the instructions. This is a new process; therefore, agencies are encouraged to work with foster/adopt parents who are experiencing this issue. Please feel free to contact your licensing specialist as needed.

***Peeling and chipping paint - includes garage and basement...??***

Yes, it is part of the home.

***Do we just check the temperature on the water heater setting or do we have to use a thermometer and check the water temp coming out of a tap?***

If the hot water tank has a digital setting you could use that to check the temperature setting. The agency may also use a liquid kitchen thermometer to check the temperature of the water from the tap.

***How do you check water heater temperature? Are the degrees listed on water heaters? Or do we need thermometer?***

If the hot water tank has a digital setting you could use that to check the temperature setting. The agency may also use a liquid kitchen thermometer to check the temperature of the water from the tap.

***How do we check water temperature, when it is virtually impossible to get thermometers given COVID-19?***

If the hot water tank has a digital setting you could use that to check the temperature setting. The agency may also use a liquid kitchen thermometer to check the temperature of the water from the tap. You would not be using the types of thermometers used for COVID-19.

***We must check the water heater temp now.***

Effective 6/15/20, water temperature is now part of the required Safety Audit assessment.

***Just a thought as an assessor I run my hand under the water in the home bathroom. It is rarely too hot. when it is turned up over the 120 you feel it immediately. I don't need the thermometer to tell.***

While this is a good tip, the agency will need to verify with a thermometer or a reading of the tank for accurate temperature readings not exceeding 120 degrees.

***Can you clarify if safety audits for new homes is able to be done virtually?***

Safety audits for applicants not yet licensed must be done in person using COVID-19 safety guidelines.

***What if we have a home study in progress and we already did the safety audit of the home on the old form? Do we need to go and re-do the safety audit?***

Yes, the agency would need to use the new safety audit form for any home licensed on or after June 15, 2020.

***We have been doing safety audit's virtually during pandemic. Can we do the update virtually too through June?***

Yes. Any safety audits permitted by the PL to be done virtually, may continue to be completed virtually until the PL is rescinded.

***Can you expand on how we are to have FPs "store alcoholic beverages in a safe manner that prevents the child's access as appropriate for his/her age and development."? I get how to do***

***this for young children, any ideas for homes supporting adolescents and teens? Could it be a "safety" discussion such as the "water safety."?***

A safety discussion is recommended along with some training for foster parents on how best to address the issue. If youth in the home have a history of substance abuse issues, we would also expect this is part of the discussion and taken into consideration when the family discusses their plan for storing alcohol.

***Can an amendment be completed if the carbon monoxide detectors are required to be installed by the fire inspector and this would be outside the 30-day time frame?***

The agency could complete the amendment and note the fire inspector had to install the carbon monoxide detectors. Then when this is completed; the agency can complete an activity log in SACWIS documenting the carbon detectors were installed and on what date.

***For clarification with chipping paint, does this impact certified foster homes now or only during recertification?***

To remedy chipping or peeling paint, the guidance document must be provided to the foster family.

***What about ponds? Do we have anything on them?***

Answer given- Agencies are already required to assess pond safety via 2-7-12 and this has not changed. (C)Outdoor areas on the grounds of or immediately adjacent to a foster home which are potentially hazardous to a foster child placed in the home shall be reasonably safeguarded, considering the age and functioning level of the foster child. Such areas include but are not limited to:

(1) Water areas, including lakes, ponds, rivers, quarries and swimming pools.

***We have been doing safety audit's virtually during pandemic. Can we do the update virtually too through June?***

Yes. Any safety audits that permitted to be virtual via the PL, can continue to be virtual until the PL is rescinded.

## **Training**

***Does this mean the class work is only required and not the hands-on training?***

CPR/First Aid? The foster parents only need to complete the coursework online or in the classroom and do not need to be certified.

***Does this mean no skills test is ok?***

If this is regarding CPR/First Aid, the foster parents only must take the course work and are not required to become certified.

***CPR/First aid required for adoption only?***

First Aid and CPR training is not required for adoption only homes.

***Can you share the link that you found for the American Red Cross online course?***

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/online-safety-classes/all-online-classes>

***The CPR and First Aid training we conducted via live synchronous training during the last 3 months (due to COVID19) does not certify parents in CPR and First Aid. I want to confirm that you said this does not satisfy the current rule and therefore the parents who attended these classes will need to take the course again to be officially certified?***

Foster parents and pre-adoptive infant homes are required to take CPR and First Aid training but are not required to become certified. Since this is permitted to be online training effective 6/15/20, there should be no need for foster parents to re-take the training.

***During the pandemic - online training is eligible for stipend and the agency will receive stipend reimbursement?***

Correct

***If it is being included in the 36 hours, what is being cut out or adjusted?***

OCWTP has included it in their curriculum. You can check with them regarding how the topics are addressed.

***What about people who have already completed preservice but are still in the home study process and will not be licensed before 6/15/20?***

They will need to have the new training requirements prior to licensure.

***Families who have already completed preservice and are in the assessment process must complete CPR/First Aid before we can approve them?***

Correct.

***So, is preservice being updated to include CPR/First Aid?***

Yes. OCWTP is including it.

***Regarding the new rule requiring completion of First Aid/CPR prior to licensing, will online only training that is consistent with AHA and Red Cross curriculum. Both AHA and Red Cross offer their own. The online training does not meet OSHA requirements. Is the online training enough to meet the new rule requirements, and does it matter if the licensing agency is accredited?***

Unsure of the question.

***Does CPR and First Training need to be retaken every recertification period?***

The frequency for CPR/First Aid training as required by rule for specialized and medically fragile foster homes has not been changed. Family level foster homes are not required to take CPR/First Aid training after they are initially licensed.

***Is the CPR/First aid training requiring every two years or just that it is documented that they have taken it at least once?***

The frequency for CPR/First Aid training as required by rule for specialized and medically fragile foster homes has not been changed. Family level foster homes are not required to take CPR/First Aid training after they are initially licensed.

***If I am certified in CPR now but will expire prior to my FH recertification, if I let it expire will it still count that I have completed the course?***

Yes.

***We currently use a video to meet this requirement for COA. Do we need to get our licensing specialist approval to use this training for the state rule requirement? I just wasn't sure if we***

***must use something from the RTC or if we can continue to use this outside of the training center***

Licensing specialists are not able to make exceptions or give approval for training hours outside of rule requirements. All videos, books or training not done online or in a classroom cannot be more than 1/4 of the total hours required.

***Can they still do 100 percent of online trainings during 348 without a trainer...not live. That is what I was told by my licensing specialist***

Correct

***Does it matter if the date expires on the card or just that they take it during their certification period?***

Are you speaking of the CPR card? Certification is not required, only course completion, so the expiration dates no longer have any impact.

***Don't we want people to have those skills so that they can perform them correctly if they need to do it?***

Yes, however certification is not required.

***Is the Red cross online course the only one approved or can they use other sites if they are AHA compliant?***

The requirement is as follows: First aid and a child and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training program such as those training programs offered by the American red cross, the American heart association, or the equivalent.

***Are agencies allowed to go above and beyond and require certification?***

The rule is the minimum standard. Federal guidance on the new Foster Care Model Standards is to ensure barriers are not set up to discourage or prevent the licensing of foster homes. Keeping this in mind, if a recommending agency wants to require CPR certification, policies and procedures must be developed to support this and submitted to ODJFS for approval.

***The cost of the CPR/FIRST AID training through the Red Cross or AHA, who is responsible for paying for this? The potential caregiver? Or the agency?***

Up to the agency

***Are all the prior required preservice topics still required, or were there changes?***

All previous required training topics are still required, in addition to the new topics: CPR and First Aid, Medication administration and Procedures for reporting suspected child abuse or neglect pursuant to section 2151.421 of the Revised Code.

***So, am I understanding correctly that a treatment foster parent can lapse now? So, if they take the course at the beginning of their 2-year license span and at the end of their next 2-year license span there could be almost 4 years between them taking the courses.***

In reference to CPR, this is correct.

***As of June 15, 2020, parents may only get 1/4 of their training hours outside of a classroom (without a trainer present) like books and videos. Prior to June 15, 2020 they were able to get 1/3 of their training hours outside of a classroom. If parents completed a 1/3 of their hours outside of a classroom prior to June 15 but are not yet recertified, do they still get to keep the 1/3 they completed, or do we have to reduce it to a 1/4 to adhere to the new rules effective June 15, 2020?***

If they have not been recertified prior to 6/15/20, the home would need to follow the new rules with the outside of classroom hours being reduced. However, with the COVID-19 PL in effect, the foster home license will not expire. Additional time may be used to catch up training as needed before recertifying the home.

***That is very unfair to expect current home study applicants to do this now that they are already in the process of having their home study completed to now must go back and do the CPR/First Aid Training.***

Understood. They only are required to complete the training. They are not required to be certified.

***It would be nice to have something that helps us with the difference between synchronous trainings and online/web trainings for payment as well as credit for training. This is going to be confusing as it is hard to differentiate between the two by just looking at a certificate. unless there's some way to note the difference which I'm not aware of***

All online trainings/live synchronous training are allowed currently per PL 348.

***Does the agency (assuming we do) reimburse for the CPR if there is a fee to it, whether online or in class?***

If the training meets any of the training allowance requirements in rule 5101:2-5-38, it could be paid by the allowance up to \$15 per hour.

***The Treatment certification requirement was also removed correct?***

For CPR? Yes. Only course completion is required

***Foster parent is certified in CPR/First Aid, but it is due to expire before recert is due. Since certification is no longer required, they let it expire. Can their prior certification count as meeting the new requirement (consider if it expired prior to recert the last time they took the class was 2+ years ago)?***

As of the effective date of this rule, if a currently certified foster caregiver has not completed first aid and CPR training, the caregiver is to complete the training by their subsequent recertification. So, if they have completed it prior this is enough.

***Can you share the link that you found for the American Red Cross online course?***

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/online-safety-classes/all-online-classes>

***How do we get a copy of PL348? The CPR and First Aid training we conducted via live synchronous training during the last 3 months (due to COVID19) does not certify parents in CPR and First Aid. I want to confirm that you said this does not satisfy the current rule and therefore the parents who attended these classes will need to take the course again to be officially certified?***

<http://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/FamChild/FCASM/FCASPL/FCASPL-348.stm> It is published within manuals.

***Is CPR and first aid going to be eligible for stipend and reimbursement?***

Yes

***So currently - during pandemic - online training is eligible for stipend and the agency will receive stipend reimburse?***

See PL 348 <http://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/FamChild/FCASM/FCASPL/FCASPL-348.stm>

***What about the other training topics: medication admin etc.? with the deadline***

Homes not certified prior to the effective date of the rule need to have had training on medication administration.

***Will OCWTP be coming up with content for Medication admin and reporting of abuse and neglect?***

Yes, reporting of child abuse and neglect was included in 2019, and medication administration was also added.

***Are pre-service trainings that were completed through foster parent college reimbursable too?***

Are you speaking to training allowance or stipends? The allowance would need to meet the rule requirements already in place. For stipends, yes, it is reimbursable

***Can we use a nurses or doctor's license then for CPR and FA?***

Same as before the rule change. They must show completion of the course.

***What is going to be removed in the 36 hours to make room for CPR?***

OCWTP combined the adoption content into one session to make room for the new requirements.

***Can you define certification please?***

Certification in CPR is no longer required, only course completion.

***Does CPR and First Training need to be retaken every recertification period?***

Only for specialized foster caregivers.

***If I am certified in CPR now but will expire prior to my FH recertification, if I let it expire will it still count that I have completed the course?***

It depends on your home type. CPR is only required for specialized homes at recert.

***Families who have already completed preservice and are in the assessment process must complete CPR/First Aid before we can approve them?***

Yes, if they are certified after 6/15/20

***Why are you not requiring certification only course completion?***

This was a recommendation of the federal Model Standards for foster homes, and the decision was made to align with this requirement.

***Is preservice being updated to include CPR/First Aid?***

Yes, OCWTP is adjusting preservice to include CPR and First Aid.

***If the CPR training is 2 hours and 45 minutes, would the agency need to provide 15 minutes of preservice training to equal 36 hours?***

Foster Families are required to have 36 hours of training, please reach out to the local RTC regarding hours.

***Can they still do 100 percent of online trainings during 348 without a trainer...not live. That is what I was told by my licensing specialist?***

See PL 348

***Will OCWTP be coming up with content for Medication admin and reporting of abuse and neglect?***

Yes, OCWTP is working on updating training content to include these new requirements.

***So, to clarify, if the parent obtains the course work initially, there is not a specific date that it expires, other than they must obtain it again prior to their recertification approval. Is this accurate?***

What course? CPR? It is only required at initial unless the homes are specialized.

***Does it matter if the date expires on the card or just that they take it during their certification period?***

For CPR? No card is required.

***During the pandemic, FPs will receive stipend for online training and the agency will be reimbursed for paying that FP a stipend. Is this correct?***

Answer given- that's correct.

***Don't we want people to have those skills so that they can perform them correctly if they need to do it?***

Model standards does not require skills, only course completion

***I know you are not on this topic now but as far as Med administration and Reporting of abuse and neglect being added to preservice will OCWTP be coming up with necessary content of those trainings***

Yes

***How do you measure the competency of a person if they do not do the hands-on portion?***

Model standards does not require skills, only course completion

***So, is optional for the agency to reimburse for the online training?***

See PL 348

***Will pre-service classes cover the topics of medication administration and reporting abuse/neglect? Also, how do I ensure that a caregiver who completed pre-service online met these requirements?***

Yes, talk with the RTC or agency that provided the training.

***Is the Red cross online course the only one approved or can they use other sites if they are AHA compliant?***

Other sites are acceptable.

***Are agencies allowed to go above and beyond and require certification?***

At this time, agencies are permitted to go beyond rule however they must not violate current rule or law.

***So, since they have already taken 36 hours of class if they are in process, can we submit for the stipend for these additional required hours?***

Only 36 hours are reimbursable for pre-placement training.

***It would be nice to have something that helps us with the difference between synchronous trainings and online/web trainings for payment as well as credit for training. This is going to be confusing as it is hard to differentiate between the two by just looking at a certificate. unless there's some way to note the difference which I'm not aware of***

Agencies should reach out to the entity that provided the training for clarification.

***The Treatment certification requirement was also removed correct?***

For CPR? Yes. Only course completion

***Do we know if FP College offers online CPR training?***

We are not sure, but the Red Cross does.

***Foster parent is certified in CPR/First Aid, but it is due to expire before recert is due. Since certification is no longer required, they let it expire. Can their prior certification count as meeting the new requirement (consider if it expired prior to recert the last time they took the class was 2+ years ago)?***

It is only required if they are specialized caregivers at recert.

***Is the CPR/First aid training requiring every two years or just that it is documented that they have taken it at least once?***

CPR is only required to be current at initial unless the home is a specialized foster home.

***What is going to be removed in the 36 hours to make room for CPR?***

There has been no change to the required topics for Preservice Training. You may reach out to OWCTP to obtain updates on how the courses are being handled.

***Can you share the link that you found for the American Red Cross online course?***

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/online-safety-classes/all-online-classes>

***What about the other preservice topics that are being added? Is there a GAP class being added?***

New topics have been added into SACWIS as of 7/1/2020, which include Pre-Service: Medication Administration and Pre-Service: Reporting Abuse/Neglect.

***Do we know if FP College offers online CPR training?***

Foster Parent College does not offer online CPR classes

***So, is preservice being updated to include CPR/First Aid?***

Yes

***I know you are not on this topic now but as far as Med administration and Reporting of abuse and neglect being added to preservice will OCWTP be coming up with necessary content of those trainings***

Yes, OCWTP will handle the development of these trainings

***So, since they have already taken 36 hours of class if they are in process, can we submit for the stipend for these additional required hours?***

Answer unknown - this may need to be addressed by IVE Policy.

***Does the agency (assuming we do) reimburse for the CPR if there is a fee to it, whether online or in class?***

If the training meets any of the training allowance requirements in rule 5101:2-5-38, it could be paid by the allowance up to \$15 per hour.

***Sacwis***

***When documenting trainings in SACWIS once the new build goes live, how do we differentiate between a live synchronous training which is eligible for reimbursement versus an online training which is not***

There will be two separate training values in SACWIS as of 9/17/2020: 'Web-Based Training' (to include all self-directed training that is typically not reimbursable) and 'Live Synchronous Training' (that includes an instructor and will be reimbursable). The value of 'Online Training' will be removed from SACWIS. The payment logic will be updated as well to include the Live Synchronous Training for reimbursement.

***If SACWIS is not going to be updated when the rules and new forms, go into effect how do we document we have met the new standards in the meantime?***

Users should complete an activity log as applicable, use available updated paper forms for the file, and enter additional notes and comments in the existing Safety Audit topics and Description of Home. Please check with your licensing specialist for specific questions.

***Is the sex offender search being added to verifications?***

Yes, this will be included in SACWIS Build 4.08, which should be available to users on 9/17/2020

***Did you say when the new SA will be available in sacwis and in print?***

The revised Safety Audit topics and report should be deployed into SACWIS on 9/17/2020.

***Is the sex offender search being added to verifications?***

Yes, this will be included in SACWIS Build 4.08, which should be available to users on 9/17/2020

***If the family does have a pool can't the agency update the DOH in SACWIS without an amendment as Linda stated earlier?***

Yes, an updated Description of Home record can be completed at any time outside of an amendment.

***If I am understanding, the new safety audit will not be ready in SACWIS until September 17<sup>th</sup>?***

Correct, the revised Safety Audit topics and report should be deployed into SACWIS on 9/17/2020.

***Can you please explain why this information is being required in paper form in the file, in verification, and in an activity log? That seems repetitive.***

Users should complete an activity log until such time that the verifications are live in SACWIS (projected to be 9/17/2020), but there shouldn't be a need to complete both.

***How do we document in SACWIS live-synchronous training?***

Document the training and ensure a trainer is listed on the record. This will allow for reimbursement. SACWIS will be enhanced to add additional training methods on 9/17/2020.

## **Miscellaneous**

***Is licensing looking for an actual physical completed by a physician in the foster parent file? Is there a specific form for this or any form the doctor provides? Or just a check box on the 1653 stating there was a physical is acceptable to meet compliance***

The new 1653 form will address this.

***Is the rule for foster parents being 18 instead of 21 starting on the 15th as well?***

This is correct.

***If the form was already completed would a medical request verifying the physical be enough? adding it to the form?***

All foster homes need to meet the current rule requirements when the rules go into effect. If an agency can verify the foster parent meets the requirement without completing a new form, that is acceptable.

***We currently use a video to meet this requirement for COA. Do we need to get our licensing specialist approval to use this training for the state rule requirement? I just wasn't sure if we must use something from the RTC or if we can continue to use this outside of the training center?***

It is not clear by the question which requirement they are referring to.

***Effective date July 15 OR Aug 15??***

The effective date of the rules was June 15, 2020.

***What is defined as "special needs?"***

Special needs are defined in 5101:2-1-01

***So, am I understanding correctly that a treatment foster parent can lapse now? So, if they take the course at the beginning of their 2-year license span and at the end of their next 2-year license span there could be almost 4 years between them taking the courses.***

There is no lapsing in certification spans. If a family upgrades to a higher treatment level, a new two-year span is issued. This has always been the process for certification upgrades.

***The physical exam is only for licensed foster parents correct. The household members do not need the exam or doctor signature.***

Correct

***Will this still be a requirement for licensing for a child specific ICPC? Due to it being FC licensing it would still be the same correct?***

A foster home licensed for ICPC purposes still must meet all certification requirements to become foster parents.