

Foster Parent's Rights

From: Oklahoma Statutes Citationized Title 10. Children Chapter 72 – Oklahoma Foster Care and Out-of-Home Placement Act. Section 7206.1 – Statement of Foster Parent's Rights.

A statement of resource parent's rights shall include, but not be limited to, the right to:

Dignity, respect and consideration

Be treated with dignity, respect, and consideration as a professional member of the child welfare team.

Training

Be notified of and be given appropriate, ongoing education and continuing education and training to develop and enhance resource parenting skills.

Support services for foster child

Be informed about ways to contact the state agency or the child-placing agency in order to receive information and assistance to access supportive services for any child in the resource parent's care.

Reimbursement

Receive timely financial reimbursement for providing foster care services. Be notified of any costs or expenses for which the resource parent may be eligible for reimbursement.

Information about foster child's treatment and services

Be provided a clear, written explanation of the individual treatment and service plan concerning the child in the resource parent's home, listing components of the plan pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Children's Code and the Oklahoma Foster Care and Out-of-Home Placement Act. Receive, at any time during which a child is placed with the resource parent, additional or necessary information that is relevant to the care of the child.

Notification of meetings

Be notified of scheduled review meetings, permanency planning meetings and special staffing concerning the foster child in order to actively participate in the case planning and decision-making process regarding the child.

Provide input regarding services for foster child

Provide input concerning the plan of services for the child and to have that input be given full consideration in the same manner as information presented by any other professional on the team.

Communication with other care providers

Communicate with other resource parents in order to share information regarding the foster child. In particular, receive any information concerning the number of times a foster child has been moved and the

reasons why, and the names and telephone numbers of the previous resource parent if the previous resource parent has authorized such release.

Communication with other members of foster child's treatment team

Communicate with other professionals who work with the foster child within the context of the team including, but not limited to, therapists, physicians, and teachers.

Information about foster child and birth family permanency plan

Be given, in a timely and consistent manner, any information regarding the child and the child's family which is pertinent to the care and needs of the child and to the making of a permanency plan for the child. Disclosure of information shall be limited to that information which is authorized by the provisions of Article V of the Oklahoma Children's Code for foster parents and Article VII of the Oklahoma Juvenile Code.

Information about changes in services plan for foster child

Be given reasonable notice of any change in or addition to the services provided to the child pursuant to the child's individual treatment and service plan.

Notice of /reason for plan to terminate placement

a. Be given written notice of:
plans to terminate the placement of the child with the resource parent pursuant to Section 7208 of this title, and the reasons for the changes or termination in placement, and

b. The notice shall be waived only in emergency cases pursuant to Section 7208 of this title.

Notification of foster child's court hearings

Be notified by the applicable state agency in a timely and complete manner of all court hearings, including notice of the date and time of any court hearing, the name of the judge or hearing officer hearing the case, the location of the hearing, and the court docket number of the case.

Notification of court and placing agency decisions

Be informed of decisions made by the court, the state agency or the child-placing agency concerning the child.

Preferential consideration as placement for foster child returning to care

Be considered as a preferred placement option when a foster child who was formerly placed with the resource parent is to re-enter foster care at the same level and type of care, if that placement is consistent with the best interest of the child and other children in the resource parent's home.

Fair, timely impartial investigation of complaint

Be provided a fair, timely, and impartial investigation of complaints concerning the resource parent certification.

Fair, impartial hearing of decisions regarding status of resource home

Be provided the opportunity to request and receive a fair and impartial hearing regarding decisions that affect certification retention or placement of children in the home.

Parental substitute authority

Be allowed the right to exercise parental substitute authority.

Fair access to appeals process

Have timely access to the state agency's and child placement agency's appeals process and the right to be free from acts of harassment and retaliation by any other party when exercising the right to appeal.

Foster Parent Hotline

Be given the number of the statewide toll-free Foster Parent Hotline established in Section 7204 of this title.

Access to grievance process

File a grievance and be informed of the process for filing a grievance.