

Navigating Policy

Background Notes

Knowledge of rule and locating rules online will be a regular part of your work as child welfare professional. Oregon Administrative Rule is used to guide practice including specific steps in casework as well as to guide values and principles in decision-making. A caseworker is responsible to know and follow the rules in their daily work in Child Welfare.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Locate rules online at the [DHS policy website](#).
- Notice how the rules are divided into different sections. Which section pertains most to your current job assignment? Read through the titles of the rules and note which ones you will most likely need in your daily job. Read the rules on [Search for and Engagement of Relatives](#) in Division 70. Review how the rule is laid out with definitions followed by the rule. Review the entire rule.
- Find out what the process is in your office for updating information regarding rule changes.
- Talk with a coworker about how rule guides and informs their work.

Resources:

Child Welfare Policy Index:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/cross_index.htm

Division 70:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/division_70.pdf

Discoveries:

- *What are the policies you feel you will be working with the most?*
- *What surprised you about the Search for and Engagement of Relatives policy?*