

Temporary Certification

Background Notes

Oregon has been a long time leader and proponent of placing children with relatives at removal from the birth parent. DHS rule directs staff to consider relatives as the placement of preference, but in making placement decisions be guided by the best interest of the child. ASFA also mandates that we assess relatives in the same way we do non-relative placements. Oregon is guided in the assessment of potential resource families by rules entitled [Standards for Foster Parents and Relative Caregivers and Potential Adoptive Resources](#).

This activity gives the worker a chance to observe the assessment of a relative placement, learn the required paperwork and debrief the decision with their mentor. Research shows positive outcomes in placement of children with relatives. Ensuring safety prior to placement by checking criminal history, obtaining references, inspecting the home, and assessing family dynamics are the necessary steps toward a successful, safe, stable placement for the child.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Read the above rules and locate the requirements for a temporary certificate of approval.
- Ask your Supervisor to assist you in connecting with another staff who is working on a temporary certificate.
- Arrange with the staff member to observe the process of completing the requirements for a temporary certification and review the required paperwork the staff member completes.
- Review the process, paperwork and your impression of the home with your Supervisor and clarify any questions you have.

Resource:

Division 200:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/division_200.pdf

Discoveries:

- *Find out how relatives and kin are assessed for a temporary certificate and placement. How comfortable is the worker with the process certificate?*
- *What steps are taken to ensure safety for the child being placed?*
- *What support does the agency offer to the new caregiver and how well prepared is the caregiver to care for the children being placed with them?*
- *Ask the worker to explain what training is available to new caregivers.*
- *What specific requirements in the Standards for Foster Parents and Relative Caregivers and Potential Adoptive Resources rule did you learn about?*