

## FOSTERING CONNECTIONS

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families issued additional guidance on required changes to the Title IV-B and Title IV-E State Plans as a result of amendments made by the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, P.L. 110-351 on July 9, 2010 (PI-10-11). Listed below are highlights of the provisions and the actions taken by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to maintain compliance with Title IV-B and Title IV-E.

### KEY PROVISIONS AFFECTING PRACTICE

Sections	Provisions	Effective Date of Provisions	Action
<p><b>Section C: Transition Plan for Emancipated Youth</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop transition plan 90-days prior to youth reaching age 18.</li> <li>• Plan must be personalized and include information on housing, health insurance, education, opportunities for mentors, support services, work force supports and employment services.</li> <li>• Case plans must include description of programs and services help youth age 16 or older prepare for transition from foster care to independent living.</li> <li>• Permanency hearings for youth 16 or older must address services needed to assist youth to make transition from foster care to independent living.</li> <li>• Not required if youth will leave foster care more than 90 days before youth's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.</li> <li>• Can't be delayed to age 18 or older.</li> <li>• Include information in plan on designating someone to make health care treatment decisions on behalf of youth in foster care if youth unable to do so and does not want relative to make decisions.</li> <li>• Child can have option to execute a health care power of attorney, health care proxy, or other document.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Effective:</b> October 1, 2010</p>	<p><b>Transition Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family, Children, and Adult Services Procedure Letter No. 183 entitled <i>Transition Plan for Children Aging out of Foster Care</i> issued on October 5, 2009 addressed original provisions.</li> <li>• OAC 5101:2-42-19 and 5101:2-42-66.2 were amended and came out of clearance on August 24, 2010. Clearance comments currently being responded to.</li> <li>• Training – Video-conference held August 17, 2010; Webinar scheduled September 23, 2010.</li> <li>• Case Plan – JFS 01410, Section 5, # 8 requires agency to identify programs and services to assist child to prepare for transition from substitute care to independent living for children 16 year of age or <b>older</b>.</li> <li>• Health care power of attorney- Addressed in amendment to OAC 5101:2-42-19 which just came out of clearance.</li> </ul>

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## PI-10-11 (July 9, 2010)

Sections	Provisions	Effective Date of Provisions	Action
<p><b>Section F: Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan</b></p>	<p>he/she attended prior to removal the rationale for the decision shall be documented in the case plan.</p> <p><b>Payment for School Transportation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster care maintenance payments can include the cost of reasonable travel for the child to remain in the same school he/she was attending prior to placement in foster care. This would apply to circumstances in which the child was subsequently moved to another foster care placement.</li> <li>• Reasonable travel costs are to be determined by the state.</li> <li>• State can determine method of payment (part of foster care maintenance payment or a separate transportation payment to a transportation provider).</li> <li>• Part of the Child and Family Services Plan (IV-B) shall include a Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan for oversight and coordination of health care services for children in foster care with Medicaid and other health care providers.</li> <li>• The Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan shall address schedule of initial and follow-up health screenings, procedures for updating medical information, ensuring continuity of health care services, oversight of prescription medicines, and method for consulting and involving physicians and other professionals in assessing health and well-being of children in foster care and determining appropriate medical treatment for children.</li> <li>• The Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan must be submitted as part of the Child and Family Services Plan (must include information of how health care experts were selected to develop the plan and how the Medicaid agency was involved in development of the Plan).</li> <li>• The Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan</li> </ul>	<p><b>Effective:</b> <b>October 1, 2010</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>By</b></p> <p><b>September 30, 2010</b> updated Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan</p>	<p><b>Payment for School Transportation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OAC 5101:2-47-01 <i>Administration of the Title IV-E Foster Care Maintenance Program (FCM)</i>, effective <u>September 1, 2009</u>, included requirements governing FCM reimbursement costs for school transportation in Paragraph (F)(9).</li> <li>• Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan is currently being revised to include additional requirements.</li> </ul>

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**PI-10-11 (July 9, 2010)**

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			<p><i>plan for children in custody or under protective supervision to include requirement to make efforts to place siblings together and if placed separately requires visitation plan between siblings. Rule still needs to go through clearance, public hearing and JCARR.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Revising JFS 01413 Comprehensive Assessment Planning Model- I.S. Case Review and instructions to reflect amendments in OAC 5101:2-38-05 and OAC 5101:2-39-10. Working with SACWIS on this.</i></li> <li>• <i>Amending OAC 5101:2-39-01 Removal of a child from his or her own home to include making reasonable efforts to place siblings together or provide for frequent visitation through preparation of a visitation plan. Rule still needs to go through clearance, public hearing and JCARR.</i></li> <li>• <i>Amending OAC 5101:2-39-10 PCPA case plan for children in custody or under protective supervision to include a requirement for developing a visitation plan when siblings are not placed together. Rule still needs to go through clearance, public hearing and JCARR.</i></li> <li>• <i>Revising JFS 01413 Comprehensive Assessment Planning Model- I.S. Case Review and instructions to reflect amendments in OAC 5101:2-38-05 and OAC 5101:2-39-10. Working with SACWIS on this.</i></li> </ul>

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**PI-10-11 (July 9, 2010)**

Sections	Provisions	Effective Date of Provisions	Action
<p><b>Section J: Adoption Assistance, Reinvestment, and Adoption Tax Credit</b></p>	<p><b>Adoption Assistance Eligibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May claim reimbursement when licensing standard is met through variance which is defined as “constituting an alternative equivalent method to meet the standard.”</li> <li>• May claim administrative funds when child is placed in a relative foster home whose application for licensure is pending.</li> <li>• May claim administrative funds for items such as beds, cribs, smoke detectors that are needed in order to license or approve a foster family home.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Effective: October 1, 2010</b></p>	<p><b><u>Adoption Assistance Eligibility</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OAC 5101:2-49-02 <u>Adoption Assistance Eligibility Criteria, effective April 1, 2010</u>, addressed criteria.</li> </ul>