

Foster Parent Bill of Rights
Crosswalk

Regulatory and Licensing and Permanency Planning	
Foster Parent Bill of Rights	Current Manual
<p>To serve as a respected member of the child welfare team, regardless of religion, race, color, creed, gender, gender identity, marital status, national origin, age, physical handicap, or sexual orientation. Foster parents will also honor children placed in their homes by respecting their values, confidentiality, culture, religion, and sexual orientation and gender identity.</p>	<p>Foster parents shall develop partnerships with children and their parents or guardians, help children maintain and develop relationships that will keep them connected to their pasts, and help children placed in the home build a positive self-concept and positive family, cultural, and racial identity Page 90 (PP manual)</p>
<p>To receive information about the responsibilities of foster parents and access to support services</p>	<p>PLACEMENT PROVIDER (LICENSED OR KINSHIP) Every required contact with placement providers must:</p> <p>Adequately assess the needs of the placement provider on an ongoing basis; and</p> <p>Identify any services needed to help the placement provider provide appropriate care and supervision to ensure the safety and well-being of the child(ren) placed in the home. Page 15 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Required training and resources to ensure preparedness for caring for children experiencing loss and trauma</p>	<p>Trauma-Informed Partnering for Safety and Permanence Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting- (TIPS-MAPP) training is a 10-week training curriculum that is used as a tool in the mutual assessment of prospective foster and adoptive parents in their ability to successfully provide trauma-informed care for children in</p>

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	county child welfare services agency custody. Page 90 (PP manual)
Access to the Division of Social Services and licensing agency policies, including traveling with children in- and out-of-state, family visits and time, supervised and unsupervised, complaint and grievance policies, and confidentiality	Not currently specified in policy manual. Will be addressed in updated manual.
Any known information to help better care for children, including health and behavioral health history, disability, exposure to trauma, and educational needs	Educating individual foster parents and placement providers regarding the specific needs of the child or youth for whom they are providing care Page 88 (PP manual)
To receive, at any time during which a child is placed with the foster parents, additional or necessary information that the county department of social services has that may be relevant to the care of the child	Maintaining close communication with foster parents, group home staff, and GALs to assure that information is shared on a timely basis Page 88 (PP manual)
Advance notice of scheduled meetings and appointments regarding case planning and care of the child.	Take into consideration the work schedules of the foster and birth parents as well as children's schedules, especially if there is a need for child care while the adults discuss parenting issues Page 91 (PP manual)
Active participation in the decision-making process regarding the child	Involving foster parents in planning and decision making for children in county child welfare agency custody. Page 2 (PP manual) PPR Teams are valuable tools for assessing the strengths and needs of families and children in the early phase of permanency planning. By involving the child's family, relatives, and other kin, foster parents, community supports, and all the agencies involved with the child and family in an early assessment process, everyone involved

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	<p>can understand clearly the reasons for child’s removal. Everyone also can understand the issues that need to be resolved for reunification to occur or, if reunification is not the plan, the child’s need for permanency. Page 119</p> <p>Foster parents and other placement providers have the most current and complete knowledge of the child’s adjustment in foster care. They play a vital role in the planning and decision-making regarding the child’s future. They should always be strongly encouraged to attend and participate fully in the Permanency Planning Family Services Agreement planning and review meetings. Page 121 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Reasonable notice, subject to the circumstances of each particular case, to a foster parent with regard to the removal of a child from the foster home</p>	<p>Any time there is a change in circumstances in the case, contact should be made with all adult caretakers in the home Page 51 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Participation in transition planning when it is in the best interest of the child</p>	<p>Decision making around providing long-term care for children, through adoption, guardianship, and APPLA should be made with both caretakers in the home to ensure agreement with the permanent plan. In addition, any time there is a change in circumstances in the case, contact should be made with all adult caretakers in the home Page 51 (PP manual)</p>
<p>24/7 emergency contact information in the event of crisis or emergency</p>	<p>Placement providers must be provided county child welfare services agency contact information. At the time of placement, when the county child welfare services agency provides agency contact information, the placement provider</p>

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	<p>should be reminded to contact the agency when, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any child injury or medical issue; • Any child significant behavioral issue; • Any disclosure by the child regarding incidents of abuse and/or neglect; Any scheduled or canceled child appointments; and/or • Any challenge that could have an impact on the stability of the placement. <p>Page 215 (Cross Functions)</p>
<p>Referral to resources for dealing with loss and separation when children return home to their parents</p>	<p>Not currently specified in policy manual. Will be addressed in updated manual.</p>
<p>Be notified of any costs or expenses that may be eligible for reimbursement</p>	<p>Not currently specified in policy manual. Will be addressed in updated manual.</p>
<p>Have timely allocation of resources, including submission of child care vouchers and a monthly stipend that meets or exceeds the rate established by the Division of Social Services</p>	<p>Not currently specified in policy manual. Will be addressed in updated manual.</p>
<p>Receive notice of hearings regarding the child placed in the foster home and to be heard in court, either verbally or in writing, as provided for in G.S. 7B-906.1</p>	<p>The court should provide the juvenile’s caregiver the opportunity to address the court regarding the juvenile’s wellbeing.</p> <p>Page 116 (PP manual)</p>

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<p>Receive information regarding the professionals working with the child, including any physicians, therapists, teachers, and other school personnel</p>	<p>The placement provider must be appropriately prepared for the placement by providing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical information about the child(ren); • Any medications, glasses, hearing aids, etc.; • Any upcoming appointments the child(ren) will need to attend; • Necessary information regarding the child(ren)'s educational needs; • Specific information regarding the child(ren)'s behaviors; • Any other strengths and needs of the child(ren); and • Any other information that will make the transition less traumatic for the child(ren) <p>Page 215 (Cross Functions)</p>
<p>Have input in court and be included as a valued member of the child's team, including the right to be informed by the Clerk of Court of periodic reviews of the juvenile case of a child in foster care at least 15 days before each review, and the right to provide input, verbal or written, during periodic reviews of any information that may be relevant to a child's best interests so that the court may use that information in forming its opinion on the case</p>	<p>The court should provide the juvenile's caregiver the opportunity to address the court regarding the juvenile's wellbeing.</p> <p>Page 116 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Provide input to and seek out support from the Division of Social Services, including the right to request respite as needed or to request a break between placements</p>	<p>One of the best tools to manage placement disruption is to plan for placement supports such as regular and consistent respite care. The county child welfare worker should have sufficient contact with the placement provider to know when conditions exist that could lead to disruptions.</p> <p>Page 35 (PP manual)</p>

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<p>Reasonable opportunities to be consulted with and considered in the scheduling of home visits, therapies, and other meetings related to the child that the foster or resource parents are allowed or required to attend</p>	<p>Take into consideration the work schedules of the foster and birth parents as well as children’s schedules, especially if there is a need for child care while the adults discuss parenting issues Page 91 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Request a change in licensing workers</p>	<p>Not currently specified in policy manual. Will be addressed in updated manual.</p>
<p>Be considered as prospective adoptive placement after a termination of parental rights hearing or relinquishment pursuant to G.S. 7B-1112.1</p>	<p>Adoption by foster parents is often an appropriate plan, especially if the child has developed a close relationship with the foster family. Such a plan has the benefit of providing continuity for the child with a family that they already know without requiring an additional move. Increasingly, foster families are working with the team toward reunification efforts and are encouraged to consider committing to the child permanently through adoption if reunification is not possible. Page 109 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Provide or withhold permission from, without prior approval of the county department of social services, guardian ad litem, or court, the child in the foster parents' care to participate in normal childhood activities based on a reasonable and prudent parent standard in accordance with the provisions of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act</p>	<p>When a juvenile is in the custody or placement responsibility of a county department of social services, the placement provider may, in accordance with N.C.G.S. 131D-10.2A, provide or withhold permission, without prior approval of the court or county department of social services, to allow a juvenile to participate in normal childhood activities. Page 7 (PP manual)</p>
<p>Request a shared parenting agreement that includes clear expectations and appropriate boundaries for all parties</p>	<p>Clear boundaries and ground rules for the contact should be discussed and set with input from the birth family, the foster family, and the county child welfare</p>

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	services agency. Page 92 (PP manual)
To request contact information be kept confidential by the supervising agency when safety concerns are present	Not currently specified in policy manual. Will be addressed in updated manual.