
Aspiranet

~July 2021~

Monthly Regulation Topic

Care & Supervision Options

Community Care Licensing provides requirements and options for care and supervision of foster children when Resource Parents are not available. In recent years, some requirements have been reduced in an effort to minimize obstacles for Resource Parents seeking care for their foster children. As always, Resource Parents are expected to carefully identify and select care givers that are appropriate to provide the level of care and supervision needed to meet each child's needs. Resource Parents are also requested to notify Aspiranet of identified care givers prior to using them.

Options for Care & Supervision include the following:

1. Respite Provider:

- Community Care Licensing (CCL) defines a "Respite Provider" as an approved Resource Family or relative caregiver, a certified foster family or a county licensed foster family home. So in other words, a respite provider is another foster parent.
- Whenever possible it is strongly recommended that Aspiranet families use other Aspiranet families for respite care.
- If considering a non-Aspiranet resource family, Aspiranet must be notified in advance as both Aspiranet and the child's County Social Worker must approve of the identified "Respite Provider" prior to caring for a foster child.

2. Occasional Short Term Babysitter

- By definition a babysitter is used for occasional, short term care and supervision of *less than 24 hours*.
- They are not required to be fingerprinted and receive a background check clearance to supervise children in foster care. However, if a Babysitter resides or frequently visits the Resource Family Home, then RFA fingerprints & background check clearance is required.
- A Babysitter may provide care to a foster child in either the Resource Family's home or the home of the Babysitter.
- A Resource Family must apply the Prudent Parent Standard in selecting a Babysitter. If a Babysitter will provide care and supervision in their own home, the Prudent Parent Standard must be used to determine the Babysitter's home is safe and appropriate for the child and the child's personal rights will be respected.
- It is expected that resource families selecting a Babysitter will have a relationship with the individual that allows for sound decision making as to whether the Babysitter is able to properly provide care and supervision to meet the child's needs.
- A Babysitter may be under 18 years of age, but must have the maturity, experience, and ability necessary to provide adequate care and supervision to a child. A foster youth or non-minor dependent cannot be required to babysit.

3. Alternative Caregiver (Occasional):

- An Alternative Caregiver by definition is used for *occasional* care and supervision and can be for over 24 hours.

- Alternative Caregivers are not required to be fingerprinted and receive a background check clearance to supervise children in foster care. However, if an Alternative Caregiver resides or frequently visits the Resource Family Home, then RFA fingerprints & background check clearance is required. Alternative Caregivers are also required to complete an Alternative Caregiver Information & Agreement form provided by Aspiranet prior to providing care and supervision.
- An Alternative Caregiver may provide alternative care for a foster child in either the Resource Family's home or the home of the alternative caregiver.
- A Resource Family must apply the Prudent Parent Standard in selecting an Alternative Caregiver. If an alternative caregiver will provide care and supervision in their own home, the Prudent Parent Standard must be used to determine the Alternative Caregiver's home is safe and appropriate for the child and the child's personal rights will be respected.
- It is expected that resource families selecting an Alternative Caregiver will have a relationship with the caregiver that allows for sound decision making as to whether the identified caregiver is able to properly provide care and supervision to meet the child's needs.
- Aspiranet must be consulted about the Alternative Caregiver, and the child's County Social Worker must be informed prior to caregiver caring for foster child. This consultation is important as Aspiranet, county social worker or court order may prohibit an Alternative Caregiver from caring for a child.

4. License Exempt Child Care:

By definition "license exempt" child care means a resource family may arrange for child care with an individual who is not required to have CCL day care license or complete a background check clearance.

A Resource Family may arrange for a child to receive care through the following options that fall under **license exempt child care**:

- An individual providing care for only the specific resource family's children, in addition to the individual's own children.
- Any cooperative arrangement between parents for the care of their children when no payment is involved (child care exchange between families or co-op preschool/child care).
- Any arrangement for the care of children by a relative of the resource parent, if contact with that relative is approved by Aspiranet and child's county social worker.

IMPORTANT NOTE: License exempt child care allows for the resource family's friend or relative to provide child care without being fingerprinted, however if the friend or relative resides or frequently visits the Resource Family Home, then RFA fingerprints & background check clearance is required.

- It is expected that resource families selecting a friend or relative under License Exempt Child Care will have a relationship with the care giver that allows for sound decision making as to whether the identified care giver is able to properly provide care and supervision to meet the child's needs.
- Friends/relatives of resource family will be required to complete a License Exempt Child Care Provider Information & Agreement form provided by Aspiranet.

License Exempt child care also includes:

- Extended day care programs operated by schools
- A public recreation program (i.e. City Parks and Recreation Dept., Boys & Girls Club, etc.)
- Any program that provides activities for children of an instructional nature in a classroom-like setting
- Any child day care program that offers temporary child care services to parents (i.e. health club/gym)

5. Licensed Child Care

- As always, for routine, ongoing child care, Resource Families may use licensed home day care or licensed child care facilities.

SEE BELOW FOR DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

CARE & SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS (effective May 2021)					
	Occasional Care & Supervision			Routine Care & Supervision	
	Babysitter	Alternative Caregiver	Respite Provider (Resource Parents only)	Licensed Child Day Care	Licensed Exempt Child Care
For routine child care	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Age requirement	Ideally 18+, but may be under 18 if meets requirements	18+	21+	18+	18+
Fingerprint clearances	No *	No *	Yes, as RP	Yes, per CCL license	No *
Duration	Less than 24 hrs.	Up to 72 hrs. Over 72 hrs. requires ASW & CSW approval	As approved by CSW	May be daily	May be daily
Location	Resource Home or Babysitter home	Resource Home or Alternative Caregiver home	Child's Resource Home or Respite Provider home	Licensed day care home or facility	If using Resource Parent relative/friend - can be Resource Home or friend/relative home
Prudent Parent Standard Required to be Applied	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For determining & selecting babysitter For determining if babysitter home is safe / appropriate for child and personal rights will be respected. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For determining & selecting Alternative Caregiver For determining if Alternative Caregiver home is safe / appropriate for child and personal rights will be respected. 	No Respite Providers <i>by definition are other approved resource families</i> (can be Aspiranet families or other FFA or County approved families)	No	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> For determining & selecting License Exempt child care, including RP's relative/friend For determining if relative/friend's home is safe / appropriate for child and personal rights will be respected.
Requirements of Caregiver	<p>Must have maturity, experience, and ability necessary to provide care/supervision</p> <p><i>If a foster youth:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Babysitting must be included in youth's Service Plan ▪ Youth must take babysitting course ▪ Youth cannot be required to babysit 	<p>Willingness and ability to provide care/supervision and consider child's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Age ▪ Maturity ▪ Behavioral tendencies ▪ Mental & physical health ▪ Medications ▪ Developmental level ▪ Court orders 	<p>No additional req. for Aspiranet families</p> <p><i>If non-Aspiranet family:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must provide copy of current RFA Approval Certificate, certification / license ▪ Prior approval by child's CSW ▪ ASW must contact other FFA/County for family status 	<p>Must provide copy of current day care license</p>	<p>Licensed exempt permits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A parent caring for children of one resource family and own children ▪ Cooperative arrangement between parents with <i>no</i> payment exchanged ▪ Care by a relative, if approved by CSW ▪ Recreation program ▪ Afterschool program operated by school ▪ Short term childcare or class-like program

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** Fingerprint/Background check clearances are required for any individual who resides in the resource family home or is a frequent visitor to and/or regularly providing care and supervision in the resource home.

CARE & SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS

	Occasional Care & Supervision			Routine Care & Supervision	
	Babysitter	Alternative Caregiver	Respite Provider (Resource Parent only)	Licensed Child Day Care	Licensed Exempt Child Care
County Notification / Approval Required	No	Yes and County approval also required for care beyond 72 hrs.	Yes, prior to using Respite Provider	No	Yes
Resource Parent Required Communication to Aspiranet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name/Relationship of Babysitter ▪ The dates of use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dates resource parent(s) to be gone from home ▪ RP emergency contact number ▪ If alternative caregiver to provide care over 72 hours, Aspiranet Social Worker must approve, and ASW to obtain approval from child's CSW. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dates resource parent(s) to be gone from home ▪ The name of the respite provider ▪ Resource parent emergency contact number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name of child care provider ▪ Schedule of use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Name of license exempt program/individual ▪ Schedule of use ▪ RP emergency contact number
Resource Parent Required to Communicate to individual(s) providing care/supervision:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RP's & Aspiranet emergency contact info ▪ Review of emergency procedures ▪ Need to know info of child's emotional, behavioral, medical, physical conditions ▪ Any medication to be administered during the time child is supervised by babysitter (by 18+ only) ▪ Review of personal rights/non allowable forms of discipline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RP's, Aspiranet, & CSW emergency contact info ▪ Review of emergency procedures ▪ Need to know info of child's emotional, behavioral, medical, physical conditions ▪ Any medication to be administered during the time child is supervised by Alt. Caregiver ▪ Review of personal rights/non allowable forms of discipline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RP's & Aspiranet emergency contact info ▪ Review of emergency procedures ▪ Need to know info of child's emotional, behavioral, medical, physical conditions ▪ Any medication to be administered during the time child is supervised by respite provider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RP's & Aspiranet emergency contact info ▪ Need to know info of child's emotional, behavioral, medical, physical conditions, if any ▪ Any medication to be administered during the time child is supervised by Child Care Provider 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RP's & Aspiranet emergency contact info ▪ Need to know info of child's emotional, behavioral, medical, physical conditions, if any ▪ <i>If using Resource Parent's friend/relative:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review of emergency procedures/contacts ▪ Any medication to be administered during the time child is supervised by care provider ▪ Review of personal rights/non allowable forms of discipline

Please sign and return this page to your Aspiranet Social Worker for training credit. My signature below indicates that I have completed the July 2021 "Care & Supervision Options" training.

Signature Foster Parent #1

Date

Print Name Foster Parent #1

Signature Foster Parent #2

Date

Print Name Foster Parent #2

Aspiranet Authorized Signature

Date

Training credit: ____ minutes