



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for
Human Services

April 25, 2022

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF PRIVATE LICENSED CHILD PLACING AGENCIES**

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS,
MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

**PURPOSE: COURT: ROLES AND OBLIGATIONS OF FOSTER PARENTS | A LEARNING
SITE FOR NC FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS AND KINSHIP CAREGIVERS**

On September 1, 2021, Session Law 2021-132 was enacted which established new training requirements for foster parents. As part of the licensure process, foster parents must complete a pre-service training that includes a module, created, developed, and made available by the Department which explains the roles and obligations of foster parents in judicial proceedings. The new module, *Court: Roles and Obligations of Foster Parents*, is now available.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The module, *Court: Roles and Obligations of Foster Parents*, discusses the roles of key players in court, types of court hearings in child welfare, responsibilities of foster parents, and the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights. It is an online, self-paced training available on FosteringNC.org, and is accessible 24/7. The course can be found at: [Court: Roles and Obligations of Foster Parents | A learning site for NC foster and adoptive parents and kinship caregivers \(fosteringnc.org\)](http://FosteringNC.org)

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

Beginning May 1, 2022, all **new** foster parent application packets will be required to have a certificate of completion included for each person applying for licensure.

Current licensed foster parents will need to complete this course as part of the re-licensure process and the certificate of completion must be submitted with the re-licensure packet.

COURSE AVAILABILITY:

County child welfare agency social workers and private agency social workers can complete the module on FosteringNC.org beginning April 18, 2022. All social workers who work with foster parents are strongly encouraged to complete the course. For county child welfare agency social workers, the completion of this course will count towards required annual training hours. The course will also be available on NCSWLearn in the future.

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
REGULATORY and LICENSING SERVICES**

LOCATION: Building 17 • 952 Old U.S. Highway 70 • Black Mountain, NC 28711

MAILING ADDRESS: 952 Old U.S. Highway 70 • Black Mountain, NC 28711

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 828-232-3160 * FAX: 828-669-3365

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Kinship placement providers can complete the module on FosteringNC.org beginning April 18, 2022. We strongly encourage county child welfare agencies to share the course information and link with all kinship placement providers.

If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Franck, Foster Home Licensing Manager, at jodi.franck@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Kimaree Sanders, MSW, MPA
Interim Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory
North Carolina Division of Social Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Lisa Tucker Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family, and Adult Services
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Tammy Shook, Interim Deputy Director for Child Welfare Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention
Carla McNeill Section Chief for Permanency

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