



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for  
Human Services

December 21, 2021

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**DEAR DIRECTORS OF PRIVATE CHILD PLACING AGENCIES AND RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE FACILITIES**

**ATTENTION: Directors, Program Managers and Child Welfare Professionals**

**SUBJECT: EXPIRING - WAIVERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR LICENSING**

**REQUIRED ACTION:**  Information Only  Time Sensitive  Immediate

On April 16, 2020, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) issued information in Directors Letters regarding the provision of flexibilities for foster care licensing, adoption and residential childcare licensing, made allowable by Executive Order in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis. These flexibilities and subsequent waiver of licensing regulations are now winding down and will expire effective January 5, 2021. After January 5, 2021, there will no longer be any regulatory flexibility in these areas.

For all foster home licensing this will include waivers regarding fire inspections, medical exams, capacity, and quarterly home visits for licensing. For private Child Placing Agencies this will also include monthly face-to-face contacts, weekly supervision requirements, and timeframes for medical and dental exams.

For residential childcare licensing this will include waivers regarding training requirements. For residential childcare and for residential maternity care this will include waivers regarding required in-person contacts.

For private adoption agencies this will include waivers regarding face-to-face in-home visits for all pre and post placement assessment.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your assigned Program Consultant or Linda Waite at [linda.waite@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:linda.waite@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lisa Cauley in cursive.

Lisa Cauley  
Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services  
Division of Social Services

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 2401 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2401

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-6340 • FAX: 919-715-0168

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Cc: Susan G. Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations  
Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency  
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations  
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing  
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention

Attachments: DCDL CWS-08-20; DCDL CWS-09-20; DCDL CWS-10- 20  
CWS-46-2021