

“At A Glance”- Regulatory and Licensing Flexibilities for Hurricane Helene

1. Foster Home Licensing Waivers
 - a. Medical examinations for new foster home applications and foster home re-licensure will be waived until 60 days after the expiration of the state of emergency.
 - b. Foster home expiration dates during the state of emergency will be extended to January 1, 2025.
 - c. Fire and building safety inspections for foster home re-licensure will be waived until 60 days after the end of the state of emergency as long as the home had a satisfactory inspection within the last 30 months.
 - d. The requirements for home and yard maintenance and repair, windows and doors screens, household equipment and furniture that need repair, and running water will be waived for 30 days after the expiration of the state of emergency
 - e. During the state of emergency, bedrooms will be able to serve dual function if needed, temporary bedding will be permitted, and drawer/closet space for a child will be able to be waived until 30 days after the expiration of the state of emergency
 - f. Exterior setting and safety will be waived as long as a safety plan addresses how the foster parents will ensure the safety of the child(ren).
 - g. Compliance visits can be completed via telephone or electronically. If phone service or internet is not available, compliance visits can be waived.
2. Child Placing Agencies
 - a. The requirement for a child's Out-of-home family services agreements and person-centered plan to be in the child's agency file within 30 days of placement is waived until 30 days after the state of emergency expires.
 - b. Critical incident reports must be submitted to NC DSS with (7) seven calendar days during the state of emergency.
3. Residential Child-Care
 - a. Submission of corrective action plans after a neglect substantiation will be extended to 60 days during the state of emergency.
 - b. During admission, admission interviews and a written intake study will not be required during the state of emergency.
 - c. The following documents for client files are waived during the state of emergency: intake study, demographic information of child and family, verification of birth, pre-admission medical exam, immunization records, out-of-home family services agreements, court orders, visitation and contact plan, and medical reports
 - d. Recreation and leisure activities are waived to ensure the safety and well-being of children in residential child-care facilities
 - e. Critical incident reports must be submitted to NC DSS within (7) seven calendar days during the state of emergency
4. Emergency Shelter Care
 - a. The following paperwork requirements will be waived during the state of emergency: parent's information, sibling's information, relative's information, information about prior placements, consent for family time/visitation, medical examination, and social summary

- b. The following criteria will be waived during the state of emergency: completed application for services, roles and responsibilities paperwork, expectations during the child's stay, anticipated length of child's stay, and projected goals.