



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Shevaun L. Harris
Secretary

DATE: September 25, 2023

TO: Community Directors
Child Protection Directors
Community-Based Lead Agency CEOs

FROM: Kate Williams, Assistant Secretary for Child & Family Well-Being ^{KN}

SUBJECT: Administrative Code Updates

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to provide notification of recent changes to Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) that impact Florida’s Child Welfare System of Care. This memorandum is part of the Office of Child and Family Well-Being’s new process to increase communications to ensure stakeholders are provided timely notification of changes, updates, or other information that may impact our work.

BACKGROUND: The following amendments, repeals, and new rule creations have recently occurred:

Chapter/Section	Title	Effective Date	Change
65C-15.016	Staff Functions and Qualifications	3/1/2023	Rule amended to 1) incorporate the most recent “Affidavit of Good Moral Character” form, 2) add personnel file documentation requirements, and 3) add personnel qualification requirements.
65C-15.017	Personnel	3/1/2023	Repealed. Personnel qualification requirements were moved to 65C-15.016, F.A.C.
65C-16.001	Definitions	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.002	Adoptive Family Selection	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.004	Recruitment, Screening and Application Process/Adoptive Applicants	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.005	Evaluation of Applicants	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.012	Types of Adoption Assistance	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.013	Determination of Maintenance Subsidy Payments	11/7/2022	Rule amended to align with changes to s. 409.166, F.S. regarding difficult to place children.

2415 North Monroe Street, Suite 400, Tallahassee, Florida 32303-4190

Mission: Work in Partnership with Local Communities to Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families, and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency

MEMO: Administrative Code Updates

September 25, 2023

Page 2

Chapter/Section	Title	Effective Date	Change
65C-16.013	Determination of Maintenance Subsidy Payments	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.0131	Determination of Extension of Maintenance Subsidy Payments	11/7/2022	Rule amended to align with changes to s. 409.166, F.S. regarding difficult to place children.
65C-16.131	Determination of Extension of Maintenance Subsidy Payments	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.015	Non-Recurring Adoption Expenses	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.019	Intervention in Dependency Cases	7/20/2023	Amendments are to align with changes in s. 409.166, F.S. regarding a difficult-to-place child pursuant to Chapter 2022-55, Laws of Florida.
65C-16.021	Adoption Benefits for Qualifying Employees of State Agencies and other Eligible Applicants	11/22/2022	Rule amended to align with new statutory provisions in section 409.1664, F.S. regarding adoption benefits for state employees and other eligible applicants.
65C-27.001	Definitions	2/7/2023	Repealed. Section 39.407, F.S. removed the Department's rulemaking authority to implement timeframes for completion of suitability assessments.
65C-27.002	Timeframes	2/7/2023	Repealed. Section 39.407, F.S. removed the Department's rulemaking authority to implement timeframes for completion of suitability assessments.
65C-28.004	Comprehensive Placement Assessment	12/25/2022	Repealed. New rule created 65C-28.024, F.A.C. related to placement transitions pursuant to new statutory language.
65C-28.005	Changing Placements	12/25/2022	Repealed. New rule created 65C-28.024, F.A.C. related to placement transitions pursuant to new statutory language.
65C-28.008	Relative Caregiver Program Requirements	5/23/2023	Rule amended to conform with new statutory language under s. 409.145(3) because of Chapter 2022-68, Laws of Florida.
65C-28.009	Transition to Adulthood	12/25/2022	Rule amended to conform with new statutory language regarding transitions to adulthood pursuant to sections 39.6035, 39.701, 409.14515 and 414.56, F.S.
65C-28.022	State Institutional Claims for Damages Caused By Children in Out of Home Care	11/22/2022	Rule amended to clarify the process by which claimants may request and receive restitution for medical injury and/or property damage caused by children in out of home care.
65C-28.024	Placement Transitions	12/25/2022	New rule created related to placement transitions pursuant to new statutory language. This rule replaces rules 65C-28.004 and 65C-28.005.

MEMO: Administrative Code Updates

September 25, 2023

Page 3

Chapter/Section	Title	Effective Date	Change
65C-30.013	Judicial Reviews and Court Reports	3/1/2022	Rule amended to add information that shall be included in the Judicial Review Social Study Report.
65C-30.019	Missing Children	06/05/2023	Rule amended to clarify the procedure and practice requirements necessary regarding Take Into Custody or Pickup Orders for missing children in out-of-home care. Amendments add MDT staffing requirements for missing children that are recovered pursuant to 39.4022 F.S.
65C-30.023	Multidisciplinary Team Meetings	12/25/2022	New rule created regarding multidisciplinary team staffing pursuant to new statutory language.
65C-42.001	Definitions	1/3/2023	Rule amended to address post-secondary education services and support along with aftercare services that are available to a young adult pursuant to 409.1451, F.S.
65C-42.002	Post-Secondary Education Services and Support	1/3/2023	Rule amended to address post-secondary education services and support along with aftercare services that are available to a young adult pursuant to 409.1451, F.S.
65C-42.003	Aftercare Services	1/3/2023	Rule amended to address post-secondary education services and support along with aftercare services that are available to a young adult pursuant to 409.1451, F.S.
65C-45.002	Levels of Licensure	12/25/2022	Rule amended to improve standards for licensure of foster homes and to conform with statutory language in s. 409.175, F.S.
65C-46.012	Age Differential Waiver for Placement in Group Care	7/27/2022	Rule amended to eliminate barriers and align with current practice.

ACTION REQUIRED: Please share this memorandum with all appropriate staff in the Regions, Circuits, Community-Based Care Lead Agencies, and Case Management Organizations. To view copies of the latest rules, please visit <https://www.flrules.org/>.

CONTACT INFORMATION: If you have questions or need clarification regarding this memorandum, please contact Jessica Andrews, Policy Director, at (850) 717-4671 or Jessica.Andrews@myflfamilies.com.