

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

**TITLE 89: SOCIAL SERVICES
CHAPTER III: DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
SUBCHAPTER b: PROGRAM AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT
PART 340 FOSTER PARENT CODE
SECTION 340.50 FOSTER PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Section 340.50 Foster Parent Responsibilities

- a) *A foster parent's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:*
- 1) *The responsibility to openly communicate and share information about the child with other members of the child welfare team.*
 - 2) *The responsibility to respect the confidentiality of information concerning foster children and their families and act appropriately within applicable confidentiality laws and regulations.*
 - 3) *The responsibility to advocate for children in the foster parent's care.*
 - 4) *The responsibility to treat children in the foster parent's care and the children's family with dignity, respect, and consideration.*
 - 5) *The responsibility to recognize the foster parent's own individual and familial strengths and limitations when deciding whether to accept a child into care; and the responsibility to recognize the foster parent's own support needs and utilize appropriate supports in providing care for foster children.*
 - 6) *The responsibility to be aware of the benefits of relying on and affiliating with other foster parents and foster parent associations in improving the quality of care and service to children and families.*
 - 7) *The responsibility to assess the foster parent's ongoing individual training needs and take action to meet those needs.*
 - 8) *The responsibility to develop and assist in implementing strategies to prevent placement disruptions, recognizing the traumatic impact of placement disruptions on a foster child and all members of the foster family; and the responsibility to provide emotional support for the foster children*

and members of the foster family if preventive strategies fail and placement disruptions occur.

- 9) *The responsibility to know the impact foster parenting has on individuals and family relationships; and the responsibility to endeavor to minimize, as much as possible, any stress that results from foster parenting.*
- 10) *The responsibility to know the rewards and benefits to children, parents, families, and society that come from foster parenting and to promote the foster parenting experience in a positive way.*
- 11) *The responsibility to know the roles, rights, and responsibilities of foster parents, other professionals in the child welfare system, the foster child, and the foster child's own family.*
- 12) *The responsibility to know and, as necessary, fulfill the foster parent's responsibility to serve as a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse or neglect under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act; and the responsibility to know the child welfare agency's policy regarding allegations that foster parents have committed child abuse or neglect and applicable administrative rules and procedures governing investigations of those allegations.*
- 13) *The responsibility to know and receive training regarding the purpose of administrative case reviews, client service plans, and court processes, as well as any filing or time requirements associated with those proceedings; and the responsibility to actively participate in the foster parent's designated role in these proceedings.*
- 14) *The responsibility to know the child welfare agency's appeal procedure for foster parents and the rights of foster parents under the procedure.*
- 15) *The responsibility to know and understand the importance of maintaining accurate and relevant records regarding the child's history and progress; and the responsibility to be aware of and follow the procedures and regulations of the child welfare agency with which the foster parent is licensed or affiliated.*
- 16) *The responsibility to share information, through the child welfare team, with the subsequent caregiver (whether the child's parent or another substitute caregiver) regarding the child's adjustments in the foster parent's home.*
- 17) *The responsibility to provide care and services that are respectful of and responsive to the child's cultural needs and are supportive of the relationship between the child and his or her own family; the responsibility to recognize the increased importance of maintaining a child's cultural*

identity when the race or culture of the foster family differs from that of the foster child; and the responsibility to take action to address these issues.
[20 ILCS 520/1-20]

- b) Implementation strategies for these responsibilities shall be explained in narrative form in the annual implementation plans described in Appendix A.

(Source: Amended at 33 Ill. Reg. 2202, effective January 31, 2009)

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