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1	Requirement	FFPSA Model Standard	Comparable Ohio Standard	Applicable ORC code(s)	Applicable OAC rule(s)	Is a change needed to align with Model Standard?	If a change is needed, what type of change? (ORC, OAC, forms, SACWIS, etc.)	Comments/Possible changes
2	Age	i. Applicants must be age 18 or older.	Age 21		5101:2-7-02 (A)	Yes	OAC	Note - adoptive applicants in Ohio can be 18
3	Income	ii. Applicants must have income or resources to make timely payments for shelter, food, utility costs, clothing, and other household expenses prior to the addition of a child or children in foster care.	A foster caregiver or applicant shall have an income sufficient to meet the basic needs of the household and to make timely payment of shelter costs, utility bills, and other debts.		5101:2-7-02 (D)	No		
4	Language	iii. Applicants must be able to communicate with the child, the title IV-E agency, health care providers, and other service providers.	At least one foster caregiver or applicant in the home shall be able to read, write, and speak in English or be able to effectively communicate with any child placed in their home and with the recommending agency.		5101:2-7-02 (B)	Yes	OAC	Change 5101:2-7-02(B) to 'Foster caregivers must be able to communicate with the child, the IV-E agency, health care providers and other service providers working with the family or the child.'
5	Literacy	iv. At least one applicant in the home must have functional literacy, such as having the ability to read medication labels.	At least one foster caregiver or applicant in the home shall be able to read, write, and speak in English or be able to effectively communicate with any child placed in their home and with the recommending agency.		5101:2-7-02 (B)	Yes	OAC	Add to 5101:2-7-02 'At least one foster caregiver in the home shall have functional literacy to be able to read and write at the level necessary to participate effectively in the community in which they live.'
6	Physical and Mental Health	All applicants must have recent (conducted within the prior 12 months) physical exams from a licensed health care professional that indicate that the applicants are capable of caring for an additional child or children.	The JFS 01653 Medical statement must be completed by a licensed physician, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse practitioner, or certified nurse-midwife within one year prior to the recommendation for everyone in the home to document all are free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition that could endanger children or impair their ability to care for children.	5103.0327 (discusses who may complete the form)	5101:2-5-20 (K)(5) 5101:2-7-02(F)	Yes	OAC, JFS 01653	Technically the rules and form do not require a physical exam, they only require completion of the form by a licensed provider. Most licensed providers require an exam within the past 12 months to feel comfortable completing the form, but it is not required by our standards.
7	Physical and Mental Health	Above model standard does not require an exam for household members to complete a physical exam.	The JFS 01653 Medical statement must be completed for all household members, including children.		5101:2-5-20(K)(5) 5101:2-7-02(F)	Yes	OAC, JFS 01653	Could edit medical form to have page 2 (completed by doctor) only applicable to applicants. Everyone would complete page 1, only applicants have page 2 completed and signed by the doctor.
8	Physical and Mental Health	i. All household members must disclose current mental health and/or substance abuse issues	Required on the JFS 01653 referenced above			No		
9	Physical and Mental Health	ii. All household members must provide information on their physical and mental health history, including any history of drug or alcohol abuse or treatment.	Required on the JFS 01653 referenced above			No		
10	Physical and Mental Health	iii. The title IV-E agency may require further documentation and/or evaluation to determine the suitability of the home. (specific to the physical or mental health of an applicant or household member.	(c) The agency may require an applicant to secure and provide to the agency a report of an additional examination by a licensed physician, psychologist, or other certified or licensed professional if any of the following apply: (i) The applicant or any household member has suffered a serious illness or injury within the past year. (ii) It is determined to be necessary by the agency to ensure the safety, health, or care of any foster child who may be placed in the home of the applicant.		5101:2-5-20 (K)(5)(c) 5101:2-7-02(G)	No		

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1								
11	Physical and Mental Health	iv. All children who are household members must be up to date on immunizations consistent with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Academy of Family Physicians, unless the immunization is contrary to the child's health as documented by a licensed health care professional.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01653	
12	Physical and Mental Health	v. All household members who will be caregivers of infants must have an up-to-date pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine consistent with the recommendations of the ACIP, unless the immunization is contrary to the individual's health as documented by a licensed health care professional. All household members who will be caregivers of infants and children with special medical needs must have an up-to-date annual influenza vaccine consistent with the recommendations of the ACIP, unless the immunization is contrary to the individual's health as documented by a licensed health care professional.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01653	this standard is specific to adult household members when the foster home is approved for infants and/or children with special medical needs.  For foster homes that care for infants all adults must have up to date pertussis vaccine and a flu shot.  For homes that are going to care for foster children with special medical needs all adults must be up to date on their flu shot regardless of the foster child's age
13	Criminal record checks	i. Applicants must submit to criminal record checks as required in section 471(a)(20) of the Social Security Act (the Act).	(N) The agency shall request the conducting of a criminal records check pursuant to section 2151.86 of the Revised Code: (1) For the foster care applicant and each adult who resides with the foster care applicant. The results shall be reviewed prior to the agency's recommendation for certification.	2151.86	5101:2-5-09.1	Yes	ORC, OAC, SACWIS	<b>Clarification:</b> 471(a)(20) of the Social Security Act does not require non-applicant adult household members to complete criminal background checks, however it appears CAPTA requires them of all adults living in the home.

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14	Criminal record checks	The state or tribe must not grant final approval to the applicant if a record check reveals a felony conviction for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child abuse or neglect;</li> <li>• Spousal abuse;</li> <li>• A crime against children (including child pornography);</li> <li>• A crime involving violence, including rape, sexual assault, or homicide, but not including other physical assault or battery;</li> <li>• Physical assault, battery, or a drug-related offense within the last five (5) years;</li> </ul>	(J) Prohibited offenses..... (K) If any of the following have a felony conviction for spousal abuse, rape, sexual assault, or homicide, the foster home shall not be certified and no rehabilitation standards exist for: (1) An adult resident in the household of a foster caregiver or applicant. (2) A foster caregiver (3) A foster care applicant	109.572	5101:2-7-02 (J)(K)	Yes	ORC, OAC	Our requirements are more stringent than that as we require 10 years since release of certain felonies and 3 years since release of certain misdemeanors – where the model standards only consider felonies. OAC also requires those with certain convictions to meet list of rehabilitation standards.  The location of the offenses are in ORC 109.572 (A)(4) and rehab standards are in 5101:2-7-02(l).
15	Child abuse and neglect checks	Title IV–E agencies must check any child abuse and neglect registry maintained by the state or tribe for information on any applicant and on any other adult living in the prospective foster home. Further, title IV–E agencies must request any other state or tribe in which any such applicant or other adult has resided in the preceding five (5) years	(3) If the agency has the ability to complete the search in the statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS), the agency shall complete an alleged perpetrator search of abuse and neglect report history through the system for each foster care applicant and each adult who resides with the applicant. If the agency does not have the ability to complete the search in SACWIS, the agency shall request a search of the system from ODJFS for each foster care applicant and each adult who resides with the applicant. (a) A report with the results of the search shall be placed in the foster caregiver record. (b) This report is used to determine the suitability of the applicant to provide foster care.  4) The agency shall request a check of the child abuse and neglect registry of any other state an applicant or adult household member has resided in the five years immediately prior to the date of the criminal records check ...		5101:2-5-20 (K)(3)	No		
16	Home visit/safety audit	i. At least one scheduled on-site visit to assess the home to ensure that it meets the state, tribal and/or local standards applicable to the safety and care of the home.	The JFS 01348 "Safety Audit" (rev.12/2014) completed not more than six months prior to the date the agency recommends the home for certification, documenting the residence satisfactorily meets all safety standards.		5101:2-5-20(K)(10)	No		
17	Interviews	ii. At least one scheduled in home interview for each household member to observe family functioning and assess the family's capacity to meet the needs of a child or children in foster care.	An assessor shall conduct a face to face interview with all members of the household over the age of four years. The interview with all members of the household over the age of four years may be a joint interview or separate individual interviews.		5101:2-5-20 (K)(1)	Yes	OAC	Change rule to require interviews be conducted in the home.
18	Interviews	iii. The title IV–E agency has discretion on whether to interview or observe each household member based on his or her age and development.	An assessor shall conduct a face to face interview with all members of the household over the age of four years.			Yes	OAC	Change rule to remove age of 4 and replace with 'based on age and development' of household member.

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19	References	iv. Multiple applicant references that attest to the capability of the applicant to care for the child, including at least one from a relative and one from a non-relative.	The applicant shall provide the names and contact information of at least three people who are unrelated to the applicant and do not reside with the applicant, so that they may be contacted as references. A minimum of three personal references shall be received prior to the date the agency recommends the home for certification.		5101:2-5-20 (K)(8)(a)	Yes	OAC	FFPSA standards specifically say at least one reference from a relative. OAC currently requires all to be from non-relatives.
20	Foster Home Safety	a. Living Space: The home must be a house, mobile home, housing unit or apartment occupied by an individual or a family. The home, grounds, and all structures on the grounds of the property must in a reasonable state of repair within community standards. The home must have:	A foster home and all structures on the grounds of the home shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition and in a reasonable state of repair.		5101:2-7-12 (A)	Yes	OAC	A change would be required to specify what a home must be: a house, mobile home, housing unit or apartment occupied by an individual or a family.
21	Foster Home Safety	i. An adequate supply of safe drinking water.	A foster home shall have a continuous supply of safe drinking water. Well water used for drinking and cooking shall be tested and approved by the health department prior to initial certification and annually thereafter.		5101:2-7-12 (J)	No		adequate vs. continuous
22	Foster Home Safety	ii. A properly operating kitchen with a sink, refrigerator, stove, and oven;	Covered on the JFS 01673			No		
23	Foster Home Safety	iii. At least one properly operating bathroom with a toilet, sink and tub or shower.	A foster home shall have working bathroom and toilet facilities located within the home and connected to an indoor plumbing system.		5101:2-7-12 (K)	No		
24	Foster Home Safety	iv. Heating and/or cooling as required by the geographic area, consistent with accepted community standards and in safe operating condition.	A foster home shall be adequately heated, lighted and ventilated		5101:2-7-12 (D)	No		
25	Foster Home Safety	v. A working phone or access to a working phone in close walking proximity.	A foster home shall have a working telephone or be able to demonstrate to the recommending agency reasonable access to a working telephone for emergency situations.		5101:2-7-12 (G)	No		
26	Foster Home Safety	Condition of the Home: The applicants' home, grounds, and all structures on the grounds of the property must be properly maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition and in a reasonable state of repair within community standards. The interior and exterior must be free from dangerous objects and conditions, and from hazardous materials. The home must meet the following requirements:	A foster home and all structures on the grounds of the home shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition and in a reasonable state of repair.		5101:2-7-12(A)	No		
27	Foster Home Safety	i. Have adequate lighting, ventilation and proper trash and recycling disposal.	A foster home shall be adequately heated, lighted and ventilated. Garbage shall be disposed of on a regular basis. Garbage stored outside shall be in covered containers or closed bags.		5101:2-7-12 (D)(L)	No		
28	Foster Home Safety	ii. Be free from rodents and insect infestation.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	Revise safety audit
29	Foster Home Safety	iii. Proper water heater temperature.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	Revise safety audit
30	Foster Home Safety	iv. Weapons and ammunition (separately) stored, locked, unloaded, and inaccessible to children.	All ammunition, arrows or projectiles for such weapons shall be stored in a separate locked space.		5101:2-7-12 (F)(2)	Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	
31	Foster Home Safety	v. Pets are vaccinated in accordance with state, tribal and/or local law.	Pets or domestic animals in or on the premises of a foster home shall be kept in a safe and sanitary manner in accordance with state and local laws.		5101:2-7-12 (S)	No		

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32	Foster Home Safety	vi. Have conditions that prevent the child's access, as appropriate for his or her age and development, to all medications, poisonous materials, cleaning supplies, other hazardous materials, and alcoholic beverages	The following shall be stored in a safe manner: (1) Bleach. (2) Cleaning materials. (3) Poisonous or corrosive household chemicals All prescription drugs in a foster home shall be stored in a locked cabinet or storage area except that an inhaler or medication may be available to a person with a special health condition, who may need these for an emergency.		5101:2-7-12 (E) and 5101:2-7-07 (B)(3)	Yes	OAC, possibly JFS 01348 & SACWIS	Program instruction gives these examples: For example, this could include measures such as age-appropriate use of high shelving, child safety locks on cabinets, child-resistant medication packaging, and/or a locking liquor cabinet.
33	Foster Home Safety	vii. Swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas must meet the following to ensure they are safe and hazard free (and additionally must meet all state, tribal and/or local safety requirements): 1. Swimming pools must have a barrier on all sides. 2. Swimming pools must have their methods of access through the barrier equipped with a safety device, such as a bolt lock. 3. Swimming pools must be equipped with a life saving device, such as a ring buoy. 4. If the swimming pool cannot be emptied after each use, the pool must have a working pump and filtering system.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	Revise safety audit  Per program instruction: We did not intend that the term "swimming pool" would include temporary wading pools or "kiddie pools."
34	Capacity	The total number of children in foster care in a family foster home, must not exceed six (6) consistent with section 472(c)(1)(A)(ii)(III) of the Act. Per section 472(c)(1)(B) of the Act, the number of foster children cared for in a foster family home may exceed this numerical limitation at the option of the title IV-E agency for any of the following reasons:	Not more than a total of ten children, including the children of a foster caregiver, children being cared for by a type B child care provider and children receiving any private child care services, shall reside or receive child care services in a foster home at any one time. Pursuant to section 5103.0317 of the Revised Code, a foster home shall not receive more than five foster children.	5103.0317	5101:2-5-32 (B)(2) and (C)	Yes	ORC, OAC. SACWIS	In addition to this model standard, the FFPSA also added a definition of Foster Family Home (in Ohio we use the term Foster,Home) in SEC 472 (c) (Foster Care Maintenance Payments Program). This definition also requires that foster children in the home not exceed 6 - with the exceptions below allowed. We did request a delay in implementing the definition, but eventually we will have to change our definition.
35	Capacity	a. To allow a parenting youth in foster care to remain with the child of the parenting youth.	Same		5101:2-5-32 (A)(6)	No		
36	Capacity	b. To allow siblings to remain together.	Same		5101:2-5-32 (A)(6)	No		
37	Capacity	c. To allow a child with an established meaningful relationship with the family to remain with the family.	Same		5101:2-5-32 (A)(6)	No		

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38	Capacity	d. To allow a family with special training or skills to provide care to a child who has a severe disability.	None			Yes	OAC, SACWIS	to allow ONE additional child with a severe disability
39	Sleeping Arrangements	Applicants must provide a safe sleeping space including sleeping supplies, such as mattress and linens, for each individual child, as appropriate for the child's needs and age and similar to other household members. Foster parents must not co-sleep or bed-share with infants	Each foster child shall be provided with a clean, comfortable, permanent bed and mattress of his or her own. A permanent bed is one that cannot be converted to any other form.		5101:2-7-05 (E)	Yes	OAC	Change to OAC would be to specifically prohibit co-sleeping (Currently The infant can be provided a clean crib, but doesn't specify they have to sleep in it every night.)
40	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Plans	a. Have at least one smoke detector on each level of occupancy of the home and at least one near all sleeping areas	A foster home shall have a working smoke alarm approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory" on each level of occupancy of the home		5101:2-7-12 (M)	Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	Edit to add near all sleeping areas.
41	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Plans	b. Have at least one carbon monoxide detector on each level of occupancy of the home and at least one near all sleeping areas.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	Edit rule and form to include carbon monoxide detector requirements.
42	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Plans	c. Have at least one operable fire extinguisher that is readily accessible	A foster home shall have an "Underwriter's Laboratory" approved portable fire extinguisher in working order in or near the cooking area of the home		5101:2-7-12 R	No		
43	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Plans	d. Be free of obvious fire hazards, such as defective heating equipment or improperly stored flammable materials.	The following shall be stored in a safe manner: (1) Bleach. (2) Cleaning materials. (3) Poisonous or corrosive household chemicals. (4) Flammable and combustible materials. (5) Potentially dangerous tools or utensils. (6) Electrical equipment in or on the grounds of a foster home. (7) Machinery in or on the grounds of a foster home.		5101:2-7-12 E	No		
44	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Plans	e. Have a written emergency evacuation plan to be reviewed with the child and posted in a prominent place in the home.	A foster caregiver shall have a written evacuation plan for evacuating the home or seeking shelter in the event of fire, tornado or other disaster. This evacuation plan shall contain a primary and alternate escape route for each floor. A foster caregiver shall provide initial orientation and ongoing instruction on the contents of this plan to each foster child in accordance with the foster child's age and functioning level.		5101:2-7-12 (N)	No		

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45	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and Evacuation Plans	f. Maintain a comprehensive list of emergency telephone numbers, including poison control, and post those numbers in a prominent place in the home.	Appropriate emergency telephone numbers including fire, police, ambulance, poison control, the recommending agency, and each agency with a foster child placed in the home shall be posted in a prominent place in a foster home.		5101:2-7-12 (H)	No		
46	Emergency Preparedness, Fire Safety, and	g. Maintain first aid supplies.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01348, SACWIS	
47	Transportation	Applicants must ensure that the family has reliable, legal and safe transportation with safety restraints, as appropriate for the child. Reliable transportation would include a properly maintained vehicle or access to reliable public transportation, if one is owned; legal transportation would include having a valid driving license, insurance and registration as appropriate and safe transportation would include safety restraints and only adults in the home having a driving record in good standing transport the child.	Any vehicle owned or leased by a foster caregiver and used to transport a foster child shall be maintained in a safe condition and in compliance with all motor vehicle laws. Such vehicles shall be covered by liability insurance in accordance with current state laws.		5101:2-7-15 (A)	Yes	OAC	Specify in rule that foster caregivers ensure this, not the agency. No copies needed in file, etc.
48	Training- Preservice topics must include:	legal rights, roles, responsibilities and expectations of foster parents	(i) The legal rights and responsibilities of foster caregivers.	5103.039 (A)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(2)(a)	No		Wording in rule may need tweaked. With regards to the training topics are there currently topics in ORC that are not listed in the standards.
49	Training- Preservice topics must include:	agency structure, purpose, policies, and services	(ii) The recommending agency's policies and procedures regarding foster caregivers.	5103.039 (B)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(2)(a)	No		
50	Training- Preservice topics must include:	laws and regulations	(iii) ODJFS requirements for certifying foster homes	5103.039 (C)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(2)(a)	No		
51	Training- Preservice topics must include:	the impact of childhood trauma	(iv) The effects placement, separation, and attachment issues have on children, their families, and foster caregivers.	5103.039 (D)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(2)(a)	No		
52	Training- Preservice topics must include:	managing child behaviors	(vii) Behavior management techniques.	5103.039 (G)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(2)(a)	No		
53	Training- Preservice topics must include:	first aid (including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for the ages of the children in placement) and medication administration	(iii) Certification in a first aid training program and a child and adult CPR training program such as those training programs offered by the American red cross, the American heart association, or the equivalent.	5103.039 (M)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(3)(a)	Yes	ORC, OAC, SACWIS	Only specialized foster homes are required to take CPR/First Aid training. Family foster homes are not required unless agency feels it is necessary for the child in their home.
54	Training- Preservice topics must include:	the importance of maintaining meaningful connections between the child and parents, including regular visitation	(iv) The effects placement, separation, and attachment issues have on children, their families, and foster caregivers. (viii) Effects of caregiving on children's families	5103.039 (D) and (H)	5101:2-5-33 (C)(2)(a)	Yes	ORC, OAC, SACWIS	Mainly a slight wording change in ORC and OAC

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55	Training	Foster parents must participate in ongoing training to receive instruction to support their parental roles and ensure the parent is up to date with agency requirements. Further, this training may also include child-specific training and/or may address issues relevant to the general population of children in foster care	Currently Family Foster Homes require 40 hours and Specialized Homes 60 hours every two years	ORC 5103.032 (A)	5101:2-5-33 C(2) and (3)	No		
56	Assurances	Applicants must agree to comply with their roles and responsibilities as discussed with the title IV-E agency once a child is placed in their care. The title IV-E agency must require assurances including:	The JFS 01691 "Application For Child Placement" requires applicants receive the rules. These assurances would be covered there.			Yes	JFS 01691	Specify roles and responsibilities in FP Rights. Revise assurances listed on last page of JFS 01691.
57	Assurances	a. Applicants will not use corporal or degrading punishment	(1) Physical hitting or any type of physical punishment inflicted in any manner upon the body including but not limited to spitting, spanking, paddling, punching, shaking, biting, hair pulling, pinching, or rough handling.		5101:2-7-02 E	Yes	JFS 01691	Specify roles and responsibilities in FP Rights. Revise assurances listed on last page of JFS 01691.
58	Assurances	b. Applicants will not use any illegal substances, abuse alcohol by consuming it in excess amounts, or abuse legal prescription and/or nonprescription drugs by consuming them in excess amounts or using them contrary to as indicated.	None			Yes	OAC, JFS 01691	Specify roles and responsibilities in FP Rights. Revise assurances listed on last page of JFS 01691.
59	Assurances	b. Applicants and their guests will not smoke in the family foster home, in any vehicle used to transport the child, or in the presence of the child in foster care.	A foster home shall provide a smoke free environment for foster children. (1) No smoking shall be permitted in the living area of a foster home or in a vehicle used to transport a foster child when a foster child is present. (2) Smoking may be permitted in the home or vehicles used for transporting foster children only when no foster child is present.		5101:2-7-12 (V)	Yes	OAC	Model standard specifies that once a child is placed in the home that no smoking in house or any car the child would be transported in (regardless if child is present)  Specify roles and responsibilities in FP Rights. Revise assurances listed on last page of JFS 01691. Clarify with HHS that this is regardless of children being present.
60	Assurances	c. Applicants will adhere to the title IV-E agency's reasonable and prudent parent standard per section 472(c)(1)(A)(ii)(I) of the Act	(D) Pursuant to section 5103.162 of the Revised Code, a foster caregiver shall use a reasonable and prudent parent standard when considering whether to authorize a foster child who resides in the foster home to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities in accordance with section 2151.315 of the Revised Code.		5101:2-7-11 (D)	Yes	JFS 01691	Specify roles and responsibilities in FP Rights. Revise assurances listed on last page of JFS 01691.