

## Chapter PW-CY 41

### FOSTER PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

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**PW-CY 41.01 Introduction.** (1) **STATEMENT OF INTENT.** The intent of these rules is to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of children in foster homes in Wisconsin.

(2) **PURPOSE OF RULES.** The following rules are to implement the provision of a foster parent education program under s. 48.675 Stats. for persons operating family foster homes (1 to 4 children) licensed under s. 48.62 Stats. and caring for children with special treatment needs.

(3) **TO WHOM THE RULES APPLY.** These rules apply to all foster parents who voluntarily participate in this education program and to all persons, agencies or education institutions providing educational services for this program.

(4) **DEFINITIONS.** The following words or phrases have the designated meanings:

(a) "County agency" means a county welfare department, county department of social services or child welfare agency with foster home licensing authority as specified in s. 48.75 Stats.

(b) "Department" unless qualified means the department of health and social services.

(c) "Division" unless qualified means the division of community services.

(d) "Foster parent" means a person or persons who operate a family foster home required to be licensed under s. 48.62 Stats.

(e) "Regions" means the 6 geographical areas of Wisconsin as designated by the department of health and social services.

(f) "Rule" means a regulation, standard, statement of policy or general order (including the amendment or repeal of any of the foregoing), of general application and having the effect of law.

(g) "Transportation" means travel and meals at the state rate.

**History:** Cr. Register, April, 1979, No. 280, eff. 5-1-79.

**PW-CY 41.02 Program management.** (1) **METHOD.** Plans for implementing s. 48.675 Stats. will be carried out in this manner:

(a) An inventory of present training resources for foster parent training and an assessment of foster parent training needs will be conducted by the department with appropriate foster parent groups and county agencies.

(b) A statewide advisory committee, representing the foster parent associations, Wisconsin social services association, the division of corrections, vocational technical education, university system, disability and special interest groups, and the division of community services will study needs and resources and advise the department on specific training which should be provided.

(c) The division will develop or purchase from approved providers, foster parent training and training materials recommended by the department.

(2) **SPONSORSHIP.** (a) Approval of training materials, courses and workshops for foster parents, developed under s. 48.675 Stats., will be made by the department. The department will coordinate statewide regional and local training programs to prevent duplication of effort.

(b) Training materials, courses and workshops may be developed by, or purchased from, public or private educational institutions, the department, county agencies, other public and voluntary social welfare agencies, and from qualified individuals.

(3) **QUALIFICATIONS OF TRAINERS.** Persons preparing or presenting materials for foster parent training must present educational and experiential credentials which assure their expertise in the subject matter plus demonstrated ability in communicating their knowledge.

**History:** Cr. Register, April, 1979, No. 280, eff. 5-1-79.

**PW-CY 41.03 Funding of training.** Under this rule these items will be funded for approved training:

(1) Transportation expenses will be reimbursed at the rate for state employees.

(2) Care of residents of family foster homes while foster parents are attending approved training will be reimbursed at the county approved rate.

(3) Course materials and fees will be paid by the department.

(4) Fees for trainers and preparation of materials will be paid by the department.

**History:** Cr. Register, April, 1979, No. 280, eff. 5-1-79.

**PW-CY 41.04 Criteria for evaluating training materials and courses.** (1) Training shall be responsive to demonstrated needs of foster parents.

(2) It must be planned and executed in keeping with adult education principles, which includes but is not limited to participatory learning, learning material geared to participants specific needs and sequenced educational programming.

(3) Emphasis of content will shift, depending on educational background and sophistication of foster parents. General courses should include content areas as determined by the department.

**History:** Cr. Register, April, 1979, No. 280, eff. 5-1-79.