

## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES Fiscal Estimate & Economic Impact Analysis

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1. Type of Estimate and Analysis

Original    Updated    Corrected

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2. Administrative Rule Chapter, Title and Number

DCF 37, Information to be Provided to Foster Parents

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3. Subject

Information to be Provided to Physical Custodians of Children in Out-of-Home Care

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4. Fund Sources Affected

GPR    FED    PRO    PRS    SEG    SEG-S

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5. Chapter 20, Stats. Appropriations Affected

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6. Fiscal Effect of Implementing the Rule

No Fiscal Effect    Increase Existing Revenues    Increase Costs  
 Indeterminate    Decrease Existing Revenues    Could Absorb Within Agency's Budget  
 Decrease Cost

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7. The Rule Will Impact the Following (Check All That Apply)

State's Economy    Specific Businesses/Sectors  
 Local Government Units    Public Utility Rate Payers  
 Small Businesses **(if checked, complete Attachment A)**

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8. Would Implementation and Compliance Costs Be Greater Than \$20 million?

Yes    No

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9. Policy Problem Addressed by the Rule

The rule specifies the types of information that a placing agency that places a child in out-of-home care is to provide to the child's prospective and actual physical custodian to ensure that the physical custodian can provide appropriate care for the child and to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the child, the physical custodian, others in the physical custodian's home or facility, and the community.

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10. Summary of the businesses, business sectors, associations representing business, local governmental units, and individuals that may be affected by the proposed rule that were contacted for comments.

The solicitation for comments was sent through the email distribution lists for child welfare licensing and numbered memos from the Division of Safety and Permanence. The lists include child welfare providers, local departments of social services and human services, tribes, and others interested in the child welfare system.

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11. Identify the local governmental units that participated in the development of this EIA.

Rock and Walworth counties

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12. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Specific Businesses, Business Sectors, Public Utility Rate Payers, Local Governmental Units and the State's Economy as a Whole (Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)

Chapter DCF 37 has existed for 20 years. The proposed rule will require the use of new forms that include updated language and fewer redundancies. The proposed rule also extends the requirement to use the department forms for placements in shelters, residential care centers, and group homes. Residential care centers and group homes already require much of this information to be provided prior to placement, so they can make an informed decision on whether they can properly care for the needs of the child.

Rock and Walworth counties commented that increasing the amount of information that must be provided to physical custodians within 2 days will increase costs for counties. Walworth commented that the workers will not have sufficient information to complete the Child Assessment of Needs and Strengths (CANS) within 2 days.

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The proposed rule and revised forms do not increase the information that must be provided. The amount of information is about the same or possibly less than what is required in the existing forms. The revised forms do not require an entire CANS to be completed in 2 days; the forms use language that is consistent with the CANS. The CANS is an assessment of the child that is required to be completed within 30 days of placement in a foster home, or prior to placement in a group home or residential care center. The information required by the forms is necessary for a physical custodian to provide proper care for a child, and agencies should already be providing this information prior to placement of a child or within a few days of placement.

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13. Benefits of Implementing the Rule and Alternative(s) to Implementing the Rule  
Compliance with federal law, fewer placement disruptions due to more informed physical custodians, and improved care of children in out-of-home care.

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14. Long Range Implications of Implementing the Rule  
The department plans to automate the forms and include a feature that will transfer information to pre-fill portions from the CANS and additional information and documentation that is completed in the eWiSACWIS system and transfer this information to the revised forms. When a child is moved from one placement to another, the placing agency will save considerable time and effort because most of the information required by the forms will pre-fill from information and documentation within eWiSACWIS for subsequent placements.

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15. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Federal Government  
Federal law requires that out-of-home care providers be adequately prepared to care for the children placed in their home or facility.

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16. Compare With Approaches Being Used by Neighboring States (Illinois, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota)  
Adjacent states have similar requirements to ensure compliance with federal requirements.

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17. Contact Name Jonelle Brom	18. Contact Phone Number (608) 422-6930
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**ATTACHMENT A**

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1. Summary of Rule's Economic and Fiscal Impact on Small Businesses (Separately for each Small Business Sector, Include Implementation and Compliance Costs Expected to be Incurred)

None

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2. Summary of the data sources used to measure the Rule's impact on Small Businesses

NA

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3. Did the agency consider the following methods to reduce the impact of the Rule on Small Businesses?

- Less Stringent Compliance or Reporting Requirements
- Less Stringent Schedules or Deadlines for Compliance or Reporting
- Consolidation or Simplification of Reporting Requirements
- Establishment of performance standards in lieu of Design or Operational Standards
- Exemption of Small Businesses from some or all requirements
- Other, describe:

NA

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4. Describe the methods incorporated into the Rule that will reduce its impact on Small Businesses

NA

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5. Describe the Rule's Enforcement Provisions

The rule will be enforced under the licensing rules for child-placing agencies in ch. DCF 54 and under county contracts for county departments of social services or human services.

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6. Did the Agency prepare a Cost Benefit Analysis (if Yes, attach to form)

Yes  No

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