

**Standards for Certification of Foster Parents and Relative Caregivers and
Approval of Potential Adoptive Resources
Oregon Administrative Rules 413- 200 – 0260 through 413-200-0396**

Excerpt from the OAR's regarding the basic Minimum Qualifications.

413-200-0308 Personal Qualifications of Applicants and Certified Families

(1) An *applicant* has the burden of proving that he or she possesses the required qualifications to be approved as a *certified family* or as a potential *adoptive resource*. Standards for Certification of Foster Parents Relative Caregivers and Approval of Potential Adoptive Resources OAR 413-200-0301 to 413-200-0396

(2) An *applicant* must, as determined by the Department pursuant to OAR 413-200-0274 to OAR 413-200-0298:

- (a) Possess the ability to exercise sound judgment and demonstrate responsible, stable, emotionally mature behavior;
- (b) Possess the ability to manage the home and personal life of the *applicant*;
- (c) Possess the ability to apply the *reasonable and prudent parent standard* when determining whether to allow a *child* or *young adult* in substitute care to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.
- (d) Maintain conditions in the home that provide safety, health, and well-being for the *child* or *young adult*;
- (e) Have supportive relationships with adults and children living in the household and with others in the community;
- (f) Have a lifestyle and personal habits free of criminal activity, and abuse or misuse of alcohol or drugs;
- (g) Have adequate financial resources to support the household independent of the monthly family foster care payments;
- (h) Be willing to participate in the assessment process that includes a comprehensive inquiry into the personal and family history of the *applicant* and his or her family dynamics;

(i) Have the physical and mental capacity to care for a *child* or *young adult*. Upon request, be willing to provide copies of medical reports from a health care professional, and be willing to participate in an expert evaluation and authorize the Department to obtain a report from the evaluator; and

(j) Assure that all adult members of the household:

(A) Possess the ability to exercise sound judgment and demonstrate responsible, stable, emotionally mature behavior, within the individual's developmental and cognitive abilities;

(B) Do not pose a risk to the safety, health, and well-being needs of a *child* or *young adult*;

(C) Have a lifestyle and personal habits free of criminal activity, and abuse or misuse of alcohol or drugs; and Standards for Certification of Foster Parents Relative Caregivers and Approval of Potential Adoptive Resources OAR 413-200-0301 to 413-200-0396

(D) Cooperate with the Department's assessment of the household.

(3) To maintain certification, in addition to continuing to meet the personal qualifications listed in sections (2) of this rule, a *certified family* must:

(a) Learn and apply effective childrearing and behavior intervention practices focused on helping a *child* or *young adult* grow, develop, and build positive personal relationships and self-esteem;

(b) Incorporate into the family's care-giving practices positive non-punitive *discipline* and ways of helping a *child* or *young adult* build positive personal relationships, self- control, and self-esteem;

(c) Assure the *child* or *young adult* is taught age appropriate health and hygiene practices and is given the opportunity to practice good hygiene;

(d) Assure the *child* or *young adult* has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in *age-appropriate or developmentally-appropriate activities*, including extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

(e) Respect and support the Department's efforts to develop and maintain the relationships of the *child* or *young adult* with the birth family, their

relatives, and any other significant individual in the life of the *child* or *young adult*;

(f) Respect the spiritual beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, disabilities, national origin, and cultural identities of each *child* or *young adult*, and provide opportunities to enhance the positive self-concept and understanding of the heritage of the *child* or *young adult*;

(g) Work in partnership with the Department to identify the strengths and meet the needs of each *child* or *young adult*;

(h) Follow Department direction and comply with prescribed services and activities in the case plan, including, but not limited to supervision plans, personal care services plans, visitation plans, transition plans, and restrictions for each *child* or *young adult* placed with the *certified family*, as applicable to that *child* or *young adult*;

(i) Follow through with any *placement support plan*; and Standards for Certification of Foster Parents Relative Caregivers and Approval of Potential Adoptive Resources OAR 413-200-0301 to 413-200-0396

(j) Use reasonable efforts to prevent anyone from influencing the *child* or *young adult* regarding allegations in a judicial or administrative proceeding in which the family or legal guardian of the *child* or *young adult*, the *child* or *young adult*, or another individual may be involved.

**Number of Certified Foster Homes on 9/30/2016
by Certification Type**

County	Regular Certification	Child Specific Certification**	Total Homes
Baker	25	10	35
Benton	0	0	0
Clackamas	101	136	237
Clatsop	18	23	41
Columbia	44	50	94
Coos	65	67	132
Crook	0	0	0
Curry	8	12	20
Deschutes	57	120	177
Douglas	74	140	214
Gilliam	0	0	0
Grant	6	10	16
Harney	8	5	13
Hood River	0	0	0
Jackson	78	176	254
Jefferson	0	0	0
Josephine	83	67	150
Klamath	45	60	105
Lake	9	6	15
Lane	195	304	499
Lincoln	28	30	58
Linn	87	59	146
Malheur	22	18	40
Marion	92	121	213
Morrow	5	3	8
Multnomah	293	426	719
Polk	34	26	60
Sherman	0	0	0
Tillamook	12	8	20
Umatilla	38	34	72
Union	18	12	30
Unknown*	68	60	128
Wallowa	0	0	0
Wasco	33	35	68
Washington	106	136	242
Wheeler	0	0	0
Yamhill	43	32	75
Statewide	1,695	2,186	3,881

* County is not identified

In the counties where "-" is reported, certified homes may be captured in the data for another county within that same District, as Certified Foster Homes are counted by primary assigned certifier.

**Through FFY 2015, ICPC certifications were included in Regular Certifications. For FFY 2016 and forward, ICPC certifications are included in Child Specific Certifications.