



Foster Family Placement Contract

I

This contract is between _____, foster parents, and the Iowa Department of Human Services or Juvenile Court Services concerning placement of the child _____, born _____, for foster care. This contract is effective _____, and continues in force until the placement is ended or until a new contract is signed.

II

The general conditions of this contract are:

1. Foster care means the temporary provision of parental nurturing, including but not limited to, furnishing food, lodging, training, education, treatment, and other care on a full-time, 24-hour-per-day basis, according to Iowa Code Section 237.1.
2. Except in placements made by a voluntary agreement with the child's parents, the Iowa Department of Human Services or Juvenile Court Services is the custodian or guardian of the child and has the rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities given to the custodian or guardian by Iowa Code Sections 232.2(11), 232.2(21), 600A.2(6), 600A.2(7), and 600A.2(8). This authority does not belong to the foster parents.
3. The foster parents' interest in the child placed by this contract is to provide temporary care for the child. Neither this contract nor a foster family home license gives the foster parents a legal relationship or interest in the child.
4. This contract is not an employment contract. No agency relationship is established between the foster parents and the Iowa Department of Human Services.
5. This contract is the entire agreement between the Department or Juvenile Court Services and the foster parents concerning the placement of this child. It takes the place of all previous oral or written agreements, promises, or statements. This contract may not be changed except in writing signed by both the foster parents and Department or Juvenile Court representatives.
6. No foster child shall be:
 - ◆ Denied the benefits or services of the foster care program,
 - ◆ Excluded from participation in the foster care program, or
 - ◆ Subjected to discrimination while in foster care placement on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, political affiliation, or physical or mental disability.
7. Foster parents will be advised of special medical conditions of the child, including risk factors for or diagnosis of HIV infection. Signed releases of information or a court order will be in place before the release of any HIV information.

III

In consideration for provision of temporary care to the child by the foster parent, the Iowa Department of Human Services agrees:

1. To pay the foster parents \$_____ per day to cover their costs in caring for the child, payable the first month after the care is provided. This payment is intended to cover the following costs: food, housing, clothing, recreational activities, transportation, and personal care items.

The initial child placement maintenance payment rate is the daily basic rate until the child's assessment has been completed which determines a special needs level of care rate and the rate is approved by the Department supervisor. If the assessment determines a special needs level of care, the rate includes the \$_____ daily basic allowance and \$_____ daily level of care allowance paid the first day of the month following the date of the Department supervisor's signature. The basic

daily rate continues to be paid if the assessment does not determine a special needs level of care. When applicable, an additional transportation and sibling allowance will also be included in this payment.

Payment:

- ◆ Is made only for a reserve bed payment for two consecutive days when the child is making a planned preplacement visit to another foster care placement or an adoptive placement;
 - ◆ Is made when a child is in the foster home, except their last day in placement; and
 - ◆ Also may be made for child absences of up to 14 consecutive days for family visits, hospitalization, and runaways only if the child is expected to return to the foster home per 441 IAC 156.10(2).
2. To provide medical, dental, and mental health coverage to the child under the Medicaid program and to provide foster parents with the names and phone numbers of the persons to contact to obtain routine or emergency medical care.
 3. To provide the foster parents with a copy of the current case plan for the child. For new cases, the case plan will be completed within 60 days of the date of placement.
 4. To make or arrange for monthly face-to-face visits with the foster parents by a Department social worker to gather information about the care and supervision of the child per 441 IAC 202.10(3).
 5. To make or arrange for visits with the child in their place of residence the majority of the time, by a Department social worker at least once every calendar month. Refer to the case plan for specifics, as monthly visits are the minimum number of required visits to address:
 - ◆ The safety, permanency, and well-being of the child,
 - ◆ The child's needs,
 - ◆ Services and achievement of the case permanency plan goals.
 6. To arrange for social and other related services including, but not limited to, medical, dental, vision, psychiatric, psychological and educational services. These arrangements will be made in collaboration with the child's parents or guardian. Complete a transition plan for children aged 14 or under the age of 21 currently in foster care.
 7. To make available to foster parents all known, pertinent information needed for the care of the child, including, but not limited to:
 - ◆ The results of the child's physical examination,
 - ◆ The child's medical needs (including special needs of communicable diseases),
 - ◆ Behavioral patterns,
 - ◆ Educational arrangements,
 - ◆ Mental health issues,
 - ◆ Substance abuse information,
 - ◆ Parents and family information, including religious priorities.(Release of HIV and substance abuse information is subject to special confidentiality requirements.)
 8. To inform the foster parents at least ten days in advance of plans to remove the child from the foster parents' home. Exception: The foster parents may be informed less than ten days before the child's removal when a court orders the removal when:
 - ◆ The child's parents demand the child's return under a voluntary placement agreement, or
 - ◆ There is evidence of child abuse.If the Department as custodian feels there is good cause to remove a child, the child may be removed from the foster home with less than a notice of ten days to the foster parents.
 9. To provide a conference with the service area manager when foster parents have made a written objection to removal of the child within seven days after being informed of plans for removal. The conference shall take place before the child is removed, except in cases where informing the foster

parents ten days before removal is not required. This conference is not a contested case under Iowa Code Chapter 17A.

The service area manager shall review the decision, determine in the conference whether the removal is in the child's best interests, and explain the decision to the foster parents. If the service area manager finds that removal is not in the child's best interests, the decision to remove the child may be overruled, except when a court order or parental decision prevents the Department from doing so.

IV

In consideration of the foster care payment, the foster parents agree:

1. To accept the child for foster care placement and to provide care for the child to include, but not limited to: food, housing, clothing, transportation, recreational activities, personal care items, and any additional needs defined in the case plan.
2. To hold a valid foster family home license. This includes accepting no more children than the licensed capacity of the home, (the capacity number shown on your license), and each foster parent completing the required number of hours of annual training within each licensed year (the date on your license).
3. To report within seven working days to the child's Department social worker, private provider social worker, juvenile court officer and to the Department licensing worker, of any changes in address or household members coming in or leaving, except for foster care placements. For natural disasters such as flooding, report your temporary address and telephone number to the child's Department social worker, juvenile court officer, and to the Department licensing worker within 24 hours after evacuation.
4. To provide care to the child based on the content of the *Foster Parent Handbook*.
5. To report to the child's Department social worker or juvenile court officer all family recreation plans outside of routine activities of the foster family that include the foster child going on planned trips outside your home community that require an overnight stay. For the foster child to accompany the foster parents on any out-of-state travel, the social worker or juvenile court officer must give permission before the trip occurs using the *Out-of-State Travel Permit and Agreement to Return*, form 470-5079.
6. To cooperate with the Department and Juvenile Court Services in all matters concerning the case plan for the child and the child's family and make no independent agreements with the child's parents or guardians without consulting the child's social worker or juvenile court officer.
7. To hold confidential all information received from the Department or Juvenile Court Services, the child, the child's family, and medical personnel, consult with the social worker or juvenile court officer before any disclosure of information, and release no information to unauthorized persons. Special confidentiality standards apply regarding HIV status. Foster parents shall not disclose HIV information without written consent of the parent, guardian, or order of the court as required by Iowa Code Section 141.23.
8. To report promptly any illness of the child and to cooperate with the Department's plans for medical, dental, vision, hearing, psychiatric, and psychological care.
9. To give at least ten days written notice of a request to the Department to remove the child from their home, except in an emergency.
10. To timely return to the Department any overpayments made on behalf of a foster child. If the total amount of overpayment is not returned the same month by the foster parents, a minimum monthly payment rate of \$50 will be made by the foster parents to the Department.

V

Special Provisions:

DHS Case Worker Name	Phone No.	After-Hours Phone Number
DHS Supervisor Name	Phone No.	DHS Office Address
JCO Worker Name	Phone No.	After-Hours Phone Number
JCO Supervisor Name	Phone No.	JCO Office Address
Physician's Name	Phone Number	
Child Parents' Name	Phone Number	
Other Emergency Contact Names		

Iowa Department of Human Services

Foster Parents

Signature of Worker	Date	Signature of Parent 1	Date
Approved by: Name		Signature of Parent 2	Date
Title	Date	Address	