



# Practice Points

## **Licensing Resource Homes with Pets/Animals**

The purpose of this practice point is to address concerns regarding pets/animals in the home of foster parents.

It is the responsibility of the licensing worker to explain to the resource provider that certain pets and excessive numbers of pets will restrict the placement of youth in their home due to health and safety issues.

Vaccination rules and regulations for pets are adopted at the local level; county level and in some cases at the city/town level. One of the responsibilities of the licensing worker during the licensing or renewing process of the resource provider's license is to inquire about the animals/pets in the home. If the residence county has local ordinances regarding vaccination, the worker will request the documentation from the resource provider that the animal(s) in the home have been vaccinated according to the local regulations. This is in compliance with the licensing rule 13 CSR 35-60.040 Physical Standards for Foster Homes (1) General Requirements.

If the licensing worker has concerns regarding the type or amount of pets in the home, this needs to be addressed during the assessment process and documented in the case file. If there are safety and/or hygiene issues for the children in the home, the license may be denied/revoked.

[DSS Division 35 Children's Division Chapter 60 Licensing of Foster Family Homes](#)

[Guide For Conducting Foster/Kinship Family Assessments - Resource Family Assessment "&" Licensing Process - Section 6 Chapter 3 CWM , Resource Development](#)

