

Practice Alert



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Issued by: Children's Division
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Foster Care Adoption Resource Services, Training, and Consultation (FCARSTC)

The Placement Workgroup and the statewide Resource Licensing Workgroup have discussed the FCARSTC program and the need for clarification and consistency. This Practice Alert serves to remind workers of the FCARSTC contract and the different components within that program. It also sets out some procedures when making an out of county home study referral.

The contractor(s) of FCARSTC shall strive to meet the following goals:

- a. Produce foster/adoptive resource providers who will be competent in caring for children in the custody of the state agency, including those with elevated needs, and
- b. Assist the state agency to meet the goals of enhancing the skills of the state agency staff that work with children and families.

The FCARSTC contract provides training and consultation services to the Children's Division. This includes preservice training, in-service training, assessments, reassessments, and trauma training. It also includes the consultation component. The consultation component can be foster care consultation, technical assistance and/or Family Meetings. The consultation and technical assistance shall include modeling by the contractor of skills as they apply to the family-centered practice model with families. Assistance in family meetings may include the facilitation of family support team meetings as well as serving as a consultant to the family support team meeting on a case-by-case basis. There are also funds in the contract that allows the FCARSTC providers to be compensated for offering childcare but they are not required to provide this service. They are also allowed to hold virtual trainings.

The referral for out of county home assessment is received by the resource provider's residence county/circuit per the Child Welfare Manual Section 6, Chapter 9, Subsection 1 (Out of County Home Assessment). Upon receipt of the referral, the residence county/circuit is responsible for determining the assignment of the request. This may include a referral to FCARSTC when appropriate. The county/circuit making the referral to FCARSTC is responsible for payment of those services.

If you have any questions about FCARSTC or need to know the contractors for your area please do not hesitate to reach out to the PDS above.

