## **EMERGENCY RULE**

## TITLE 13 – DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES Division 35 – Children's Division Chapter 60 – Licensing of Foster Family Homes

## **EMERGENCY AMENDMENT**

**13 CSR 35-60.010 Family Homes Offering Foster Care.** The Children's Division is amending section (2).

PURPOSE: This emergency amendment brings the rule into alignment with changes to section 210.487 RSMo passed in SB71, which raised the minimum age of household members in prospective foster homes who are subject to fingerprinting and background screenings from seventeen (17) years old to eighteen (18) years old.

EMERGENCY STATEMENT: This emergency amendment conforms the rule to changes made by SB71 to section 210.487 RSMo, which raised the minimum age required for fingerprinting and background checks for household members of prospective foster homes from seventeen (17) years old to eighteen (18) years old. This emergency amendment is necessary to protect governmental interest, specifically, ensuring that regulation aligns with the new statutory requirement which went into effect August 28, 2025. The scope of this emergency amendment is limited to the circumstances creating the emergency and complies with the protections extended in the Missouri and United States **Constitutions**. The Children's Division believes this emergency amendment is fair to all interested persons and parties under the circumstances. This emergency amendment was filed October 8, 2025, becomes effective October 23, 2025, and expires April 20, 2026.

- (2) Process for applying for a license, or for the renewal of a license, as a foster family home.
- (D) Any applicant, any household member age [seventeen (17)] eighteen (18) and older, and any child less than [seventeen (17)] eighteen (18) who has been certified as an adult for the commission of a crime, or has been convicted or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any crime, shall register with the Family Care Safety Registry (FCSR) and submit signed release forms and fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining background screening for child abuse or neglect, criminal, and circuit court records.
- 1. Fingerprints shall be sent to the Missouri State Highway Patrol for criminal background checks.
- 2. Subject to appropriation, the total cost of fingerprinting required by section 210.487, RSMo may be paid by the state, including reimbursement of persons incurring the cost of fingerprinting under this subsection.
- (E) Upon compliance with licensing law and regulations, the director shall authorize issuance of a license for a term not to exceed two (2) years, subject to renewal on expiration.
- 1. The license is not transferable and applies only to the foster family home to whom it is issued. Upon approval, a single license listing the individual(s) shall be issued. Only one (1) license can be issued per household. All adults age [seventeen (17)] eighteen (18) and older in the household who will have child care responsibility will be required to attend state approved foster parent training.
- 2. The license is the property of the division, not the licensee, and is subject to revocation upon failure of the individual(s) to comply with the licensing requirements. A licensee does not have a right to renewal of his or her license.
- 3. The license shall be kept on the premises of the home. The license is a public record and shall, upon request, be made

available for inspection.

- 4. The number, sex, and age range of foster children the home is authorized to accept for care shall be specified on the license and shall not be exceeded except for the temporary placement of sibling or mother and child family groups. The foster family shall be able to indicate age and gender preference.
- 5. There shall be no fee for the license or investigations conducted by the personnel of the division or providers contracted by the division.
- 6. An identification card shall be issued to each foster parent at the time of initial licensure or renewal, verifying current licensing status.

AUTHORITY: sections 207.020, [RSMo Supp. 2014, and section] 210.506 and 660.017, RSMo [2000] 2016. Emergency rule filed July 18, 2006, effective Aug. 4, 2006, expired Jan. 30, 2007. Original rule filed July 18, 2006, effective Jan. 30, 2007. Amended: Filed Sept. 15, 2015, effective March 30, 2016. Emergency amendment filed October 8, 2025, becomes effective October 23, 2025, and expires April 20, 2026. An emergency amendment and proposed amendment covering the same material will be published in the Nov. 17, 2025, issue of the Missouri Register.

PUBLIC COST: This emergency amendment will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the time the emergency is effective.

PRIVATE COST: This emergency amendment will not cost private entities more than five hundred dollars (\$500) in the time the emergency is effective.