

THE FOSTER CARE REGULATIONS, 2014

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

1. Citation
2. Interpretation
3. Application
4. Assessment of applicant
5. Notification of approval
6. Register of approved foster parents
7. Foster Care Agreement
8. Terms of Agreement
9. Duty to periodically report to the Authority
10. Duty to notify the Authority

- (c) the names and contact information of two referees; and
- (d) a police certificate of character issued within six months before the application in respect of each member of the household over eighteen.

4. (1) Where an investigation is conducted in accordance with section 29 to determine the suitability of an applicant to be a foster parent and of the home of the applicant to receive a child for foster care, the Authority may-

Assessment of applicant

- (a) verify the applicant's information;
- (b) conduct interviews, as necessary, to assess the suitability of the applicant;
- (c) conduct a background check on the applicant, members of the household of the applicant, persons in visiting relationships and other visitors to the home of the applicant, as the Authority sees fit;
- (d) assess the applicant's skills, training and competence relevant to their capacity to care for a child placed with them;
- (e) inspect the home of the applicant;
- (f) verify the criminal records of the applicant, any other members of the household of the applicant and person in visiting relationships, and other visitors to the home of the applicant, as the Authority sees fit; and
- (g) carry out any other investigations that the Authority considers necessary.

(2) A person authorized by the Authority shall conduct the investigation under subregulation (1) and prepare a written report of the applicant's suitability and the suitability of the home of the applicant.

(3) A report prepared under subregulation (2) shall be submitted to the Foster Care Unit.

(4) The Foster Care Unit shall submit the report, together with its recommendations to the Board.

(5) The Board shall examine -

- (a) the application submitted;
- (b) the personal and home assessment;
- (c) reports of household interviews;
- (d) background checks conducted;
- (e) training undertaken; and
- (f) any other requirement as the Authority sees fit including any history of sexual or child abuse.

(6) Where the Board is satisfied that the applicant meets the requirements of the Authority, the Board shall approve the applicant as a foster parent.

Notification of approval

5. The Board shall inform an applicant of its decision in writing, and where the application has been refused, it shall furnish reasons.

Register of approved foster parents

6. Where the Board approves the application, the applicant's name and address shall be placed on the Register of approved foster parents.

Foster Care Agreement

7. Where a child is to be placed into the care of a foster parent, the foster parent shall enter into a written Foster Care Agreement with the Authority, which shall be signed by the foster parent and the Authority and kept in a record maintained by the Authority.

Terms of Agreement

8. The Foster Care Agreement shall include-
- (a) the terms and conditions of the foster parent's approval;
 - (b) the duties of the foster parent;
 - (c) the duties of the Authority;

(d) provisions for the allowance for the maintenance and support of the foster child; and

(e) such other matters as considered necessary by the Authority.

9. The foster parent shall be required to report bimonthly to the Authority, from the date of placement or as directed by the Authority, to keep the Authority informed of the child's progress. Duty to periodically report to the Authority

10. (1) The foster parent shall be required to notify the Authority immediately where- Duty to notify the Authority

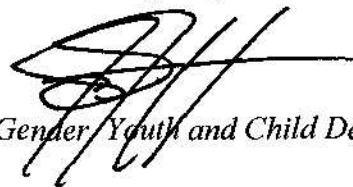
- (a) a foster child in his care has-
 - (i) died;
 - (ii) become seriously ill; or
 - (iii) been involved in a serious accident;
- (b) an incident occurs at the foster home or elsewhere which involves the police;
- (c) an incident occurs which causes such harm to a foster child in his care so as to cause concern for the welfare of the child; or
- (d) a foster child in his care is missing.

Dated this *14th* day of *November*, 2014.



*Chairman,
Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago*

Approved by the Minister this *12th* day of *November*, 2014.



Minister of Gender, Youth and Child Development

Approved by the Senate this day of , 2014.

Clerk of the Senate

Approved by the House of Representatives this day of
2014.

Clerk of the House