

Conflict of Interest for Foster Care, Kinship and Adoption

SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES

<p>ORC: 5103.02, 5103.03, 5103.0324</p> <p>OAC: 5101:2-5-20</p> <p>USC: N/A</p> <p>CFR: N/A</p>	<p>ORIGINAL: 05/07</p> <p>REVISION/REVIEW: 01/09, 05/13/2016; 07/10/2023</p> <p>NEXT REVIEW: 07/10/2028</p> <p>RELATED FORM(S): N/A</p> <p>RELATED PROCEDURE/POLICY(IES): N/A</p>
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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety & Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Services - All Departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Services - Foster & Adoption |

All Staff Bargaining Unit Non-Bargaining Management

POLICY:

Summit County Children Services (SCCS) Foster Care, Adoption and Kinship Care programs adhere to all applicable laws for assessment, certification, and approval of a caregiver home. In the event an agency employee expresses interest in becoming a foster, adoptive, or kinship caregiver, SCCS refers them to an outside agency to avoid a conflict of interest.

PROCEDURE:

For purposes of this policy , a “relative” is defined, whether through birth or adoption, as: a spouse, significant other, former spouse, stepparents and stepsiblings, parent, grandparent (including with the prefix “great”, “great-great”, “grand”, or “great-grand”), child, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew (including relatives with the prefix “great”, “great-great” or “great-grand”), first cousin and first cousin once removed.

An “administrator” is defined as the person designated by the governing body of an agency who is responsible for the management and administration of the agency and includes the executive director, chief operating officer, deputy directors, division directors or department directors.

To avoid a conflict of interest, or the appearance of any conflict of interest, an assessor shall not perform any assessor duties for any of the following persons:

- Themselves;
- Any person who is a relative of the assessor;

- Any agency employee.

The following parties have restrictions on serving as foster, kinship (blood and/or non-blood) or adoptive caregiver for SCCS:

- Any current SCCS employee cannot be a foster/adoptive caregiver. Employees are permitted as kinship caregivers.
- The agency administrator, and any relative of the agency administrator, shall not be certified as a foster caregiver by the agency with which the administrator is employed.
- A member of the SCCS Board of Trustees, and any person known to the agency as a relative of a member of the SCCS Board of Trustees, shall not be certified as a foster caregiver by SCCS.

Foster care inquiries from anyone mentioned in the above list wishing to be certified foster caregivers are referred to another recommending agency with no such appearance of a conflict of interest.

If SCCS becomes aware that a certified foster caregiver of the agency is a relative of the administrator or a relative of the SCCS Board of Trustees, the agency shall initiate a transfer of the foster caregiver's certificate. The transfer shall be completed within sixty (60) days of the discovery.