

	<b>STATE OFFICE for SERVICES to CHILDREN and FAMILIES</b>  CLIENT SERVICES MANUAL I  ISSUED BY: Program Operations  EFFECTIVE DATE: January 2, 1996	NUMBER: I-B.2.3.3
		SECTION: B. Case Management
		SUBSECTION: 2. Eligibility for Services 3. Program Eligibility
SUBJECT: 3. Substitute Care Eligibility		

Interpretation: Manager,  
Foster Care

Approval: *Elizabeth Holstad*  
Assistant Administrator,  
Program Operations

**REFERENCES:** P.L. 96-272  
P.L. 95-608, ICWA  
ORS 418.015, 418.315  
ORS 419B.165  
ORS 419B.331  
ORS 419B.337  
Refugee Act: 1980

**PURPOSE**

**413-030-200 (1)** The Substitute Care Program encompasses all of the care and treatment programs of the State Office for Services to Children and Families (SOSCF) providing 24-hour a day care.

**(2)** SOSCF is solely responsible for determining if a child in the legal custody of SOSCF will be placed or continued in substitute care placement in accordance with statutes, SOSCF administrative rules, agency procedures and placement practice guidelines. These rules specify the minimum criteria for the substitute care classification and placement under any type of substitute care program licensed or certified by SOSCF. Additional criteria are outlined in rules for specific substitute care programs (see I-E.4.1 Shelter Care; I-E.4.2 Family Foster Care; I-E.4.2.1 Family Group Homes; I-E.4.3 Group Care; and I-E.4.4 Independent Living Subsidy Program).

**Statutory Authority: HB2004**

**Stats. Implemented: PL 96-272, PL 95-6081, ORS 418.015,.315, 419B.331-.349**

**POLICY**

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SUBSTITUTE CARE PLACEMENT**

**413-030-210** To be eligible for initial and continuing substitute care placement the child must meet all of the following criteria:

**(1) Legal Basis.** SOSCF must have a current legal basis for placement:

**(a)** Temporary custody under ORS 419.B.165; or

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- (b) Legal custody of the child through a juvenile court order; or
- (c) A voluntary custody agreement in accordance with I-B.1.4; or
- (d) A voluntary placement agreement in accordance with policy I-B.1.3; or
- (e) Permanent custody based on a permanent commitment or release and surrender agreement of a parent; or
- (f) Verification that the child is an unaccompanied refugee minor.

(2) The child must be under 18 years of age at the time the child is placed in SOSCF's legal custody and placement services are first initiated.

(3) **Reasonable Efforts.** The agency believes reasonable efforts have been made to prevent placement and to alleviate the barriers that keep the child from the child's own home. This includes an assessment of appropriate treatment and supportive services and providing such services when available through SOSCF or by referral to other community resources.

(4) The child requires substitute care placement because there is no parent or guardian available and able to provide safe care for the child even with the assistance of available supportive resources, and no relative is willing and appropriate to assume full responsibility for the child.

(5) **Placement is needed for one of the following reasons:**

- (a) The parent(s) or guardian are not available to care for the child due to death, abandonment, desertion, incarceration, institutionalization, or catastrophic illness; or
- (b) The child is at significant risk of abuse or neglect; or
- (c) The child is in the permanent custody of SOSCF for adoption planning; or
- (d) The child has a severe disabling condition requiring skilled care that the family cannot provide even with the assistance of community resources but SOSCF can provide the care the child requires in an available substitute care resource; or

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(e) The child's behavior is a serious danger to the child, the child's family or the community but the child can, without threat to self or others, be managed in an available and appropriate substitute care resource.

**Statutory Authority: HB2004**

**Stats. Implemented: PL 96-272, PL 95-6081, ORS 418.015,.315, 419B.331-.349**

### ELIGIBILITY AFTER AGE 18

**413-030-220 (1)** Eligibility for substitute care services shall cease at age 18 unless the person continues to meet both the eligibility criteria outlined earlier in 413-030-210 and in this section of the rules. Under the following conditions SOSCF may continue to provide placement services up to the maximum age of 21 years if the person is:

(a) Actively striving to complete the requirements for high school graduation and achieving satisfactorily in a full-time program of high school attendance, GED classes or a combination of classes and employment; or

(b) Enrolled in a special education program as called for in an Individual Educational Plan (IEP); or

(c) An unaccompanied refugee minor; or

(d) The person's situation has been reviewed and approved in writing for an exception to these rules by the regional administrator or designee.

(2) In no instance shall a person receive substitute care services from SOSCF after his or her 21st birthday.

**Statutory Authority: HB2004**

**Stats. Implemented: PL 96-272, PL 95-6081, ORS 418.015,.315, 419B.331-.349**