

SB 1515 Background Check Changes

June 2016

New DHS background check requirements for proctor foster home applicants as written in SB1515 (2016) Section 6.

- The Background Check Unit (BCU) has developed a new background check request form specifically for proctor foster home applicants for initial background checks or rechecks. The form will include:
 - Request for abuse and restraining order/protective order information.
In addition to the usual disclosure of criminal history, the applicant must now disclose any history of being a reported perpetrator of abuse, and of being the subject of a restraining order or other protective order.
 - Applicant release of information giving DHS the authority to release information about any substantiated or pending abuse investigation to the child caring agency.
 - Notice that failure to grant a release of information will result in closing the background check request without a fitness determination, and no hearing rights.
- The new form with all disclosures and release of information must be completed and attached to the background check request for the background check to progress.
- In addition to criminal history, abuse and neglect substantiations, and other current potentially disqualifying conditions, being the subject of a restraining, stalking or other protective order will be considered potentially disqualifying conditions and require a weighing test by BCU.
- Within 30 days of the receipt of the release form, DHS will notify the child caring agency of the following regarding an applicant:
 - Notice of any open or pending abuse investigations;
 - List of any substantiated abuse in which the applicant is the reported perpetrator;
 - Confirmation of the applicant being certified as a child foster home provider in Oregon in the past.
- These changes are only regarding the proctor foster home applicants. Household members, alternate caregivers, and child caring agency staff and volunteers are not impacted by section 6 of SB1515.

For questions on the BCU changes, please contact the following BCU staff:

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