



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
Human Services

Developmental Disabilities Services

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Sept. 3, 2025

To: I/DD community members and ODDS staff

From: Jeff Akin, Interim Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)

Subject: Foster care licensing and certification transition update for individuals and families

Hello,

This message is for

- Individuals who get intellectual and developmental (I/DD) services in Oregon, especially those who get foster care, and
- Their families.

Please note: **This change will not affect the type of services you get.**

I'm sharing this information, because I value open communication. With any change, it's normal to have questions or concerns. This message will explain the upcoming transition.

I'm copying the following partners for awareness:

- Community developmental disabilities programs (CDDP)

- Agency and foster care providers
- Brokerages
- Vision Advisory Committee
- ODDS staff.

What is changing with I/DD foster care?

Right now, CDDPs license and certify foster homes for ODDS. This work includes child and adult foster homes. CDDPs do the following:

- Manage applications for foster homes
- Make sure current homes are qualified and follow Oregon's policies and rules
- Inspect foster homes.

On Jan. 1, 2026, ODDS will take over these tasks. CDDPs will no longer do these tasks. The ODDS Licensing Unit will do them.

I live in a foster home. Will my services change?

No. Nothing about how you get your services will change.

Your foster care services will stay the same. Your case management services will stay the same. The way you [make a complaint](#) will stay the same.

The change affects who licenses and certifies your foster home. Right now, staff from CDDPs do this work. Next year, staff from ODDS will do these things. The staff members that visit your foster home to do licensing reviews may change.

Why is ODDS making this change?

This change is required by the 2025–27 budget approved by the Legislature.

The Oregon Legislature makes the laws for foster homes. ODDS makes sure that foster providers are qualified and follow the laws.

The Legislature also makes the state's budget. This includes the budget for ODDS and foster care.

Before the Legislature makes each budget, programs suggest investments and possible savings. The budget balances investments and savings. With that process, the Legislature's budget decisions can change how we operate.

This year, ODDS gave a lot of options to the Legislature. One option was to centralize foster care licensing duties at ODDS. The Legislature adopted this option. So, Oregon's 2025–27 budget requires ODDS to make this change.

What are the benefits of having ODDS do foster care licensing?

The change brings several important benefits. Across our agency, we're working to improve the quality and safety of your services. A central licensing team at ODDS will support:

- Consistent practices across the state
- Clear and unified communication
- Faster problem solving
- Stronger accountability.

The more complex system we have today is also more expensive to run.

We'll build on the great work that CDDPs have been doing. Over time, these changes should improve your foster care services. The ODDS

Licensing Unit will help foster homes stay safe and meet the standards that protect you.

How do I learn more?

To learn more about the foster licensing transition, come to our Community Conversation on Oct. 1. It's a virtual meeting on Zoom. ODDS staff members will answer your questions and hear your feedback.

Here are the meeting details:

- **What:** ODDS Community Conversation
- **Topic:** ODDS foster care licensing transition
- **Date:** Oct. 1, 2025
- **Time:** Noon to 1 p.m.
- **How to attend:** [Use this link to join the meeting.](#) You don't need to register.

We invite you to send your questions or feedback ahead of time. [Please use this form.](#) You can fill it out in English, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Somali or Vietnamese. Please submit the form by 8 a.m. Sept. 29.

You don't have to fill out the form to attend the meeting. You can ask your questions during the meeting.

If we can't answer your questions during the meeting, a staff member will get back to you via email. If you want privacy, you can also ask us to respond by email.

We want everyone to feel welcome and safe. We will provide free support for you to participate. This includes:

- American Sign Language
- Spanish interpreter
- Live captioning
- For other languages or supports, call 503-945-5811 or email ODDS.Questions@odhs.oregon.gov. Please do this by Sept. 26.

Next steps

You can [learn more about the transition](#) on our website.

If you have questions, you can [email project lead Laura Copeland](#).

I'll send another update around Jan. 1 when this change takes place.

Sincerely,



Jeff Akin

Interim Director, [Office of Developmental Disabilities Services](#)
Oregon Department of Human services

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