

Child Foster Home Referrals and Placements

Helpful Tips for Navigating through Child Foster Home Placements, effective Jan. 1, 2026

Referrals

Your certifier will no longer handle referrals for your child foster home. All foster care placement referrals will be coordinated by the **Designated Referral Contact (DRC)** at your local **Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP)**. The DRC will contact you directly with referral information.

Vacancy profile

If you are interested in accepting foster care placements, you can complete a **vacancy profile form** to list your availability in the Department's vacancy report. This report, which will be maintained on the Department's public-facing website, excludes personally identifying information and helps CDDPs identify placement options. The vacancy profile form and report are still being developed, and more details will be shared in a transmittal in December 2025.

Placements requiring variance approval

Certain placements require prior approval from ODDS through the **variance process**:

- Placement of a child through **Child Welfare** when Child Welfare—not ODDS—will pay for foster care services.
- Continuing to support a child in your foster home after the child turns **18**.

Your certifier will no longer submit variance requests directly. Once you complete a variance request, your **local CDDP** will submit it to ODDS for review. ODDS may coordinate with your certifier during the review if needed.

More information in the transmittal

Learn more about the changes in [Policy Transmittal DD-PT-25-053](#). [Sign up to receive transmittals](#) to stay updated.

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services at dd.licensingfoster@odhs.oregon.gov or 503-945-7800. We accept all relay calls.