

Nebraska Caregiver Responsibilities (NCR)

Child's Name: _____

Child's Master Case # _____

Today's Date: _____

Last Assessment Date: _____

Previous Score: _____

Assessment Type:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Initial | <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Foster Parent | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Placement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reassessment (6 months from date of previous tool) | <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Agency/Department | <input type="checkbox"/> Permanency Plan Change |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Child Circumstance |

Worker Completing Tool: _____

Service Area: _____

Caregiver(s): _____

Child Placing Agency: _____

CPA Worker: _____

The Nebraska Caregiver Responsibility (NCR) document is to be completed within the **first 30 days of a child's placement in out-of-home care or when there are changes that may impact the responsibilities of the caregiver as defined above.**

Forms should be filled out during a face-to-face meeting with the foster parent, the assigned worker, and the child placing agency worker (if applicable). Foster parents and the child placing agency worker (if applicable) should receive copies of the tool. If the foster parent disagrees with the results of the NCR document, he/she should notify the case worker and/or child placing agency worker as applicable.

In accordance with the Strengthening Families Act (SFA) caregiver should exercise reasonable and prudent parenting standards. REASONABLE PRUDENT PARENT STANDARD (RPPS) means a standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions which maintain the health, safety, and best interests of a child while at the same time encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child, that a caregiver shall use when determining whether to allow a child in foster care under the responsibility of the State to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities. The first level (LOR1) is considered essential for all placements and the minimum expectation of all caregivers. **For each of the responsibilities, indicate the level of responsibility (LOR) currently required to meet the needs of the child (based on results of the current assessment model). The focus is on the caregiver's responsibilities, not on the child's behaviors.** Each level is inclusive of the previous one. Outline caregiver responsibilities in the box provided for any area checked at a 2 or higher.

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR2 Family Relationships/Cultural Identity	
L1	<p>Caregiver supports efforts to maintain connections to primary family including siblings and extended family, and/or other significant people as outlined in the case plan; prepares and helps child with visits and other contacts; shares information and pictures as appropriate; supports the parents and helps the child to form a healthy view of his/her family.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver follows established visitation plan and supports ongoing child-parent and sibling contact as outlined in case plan. Caregiver provides opportunities for the child to participate in culturally relevant experiences and activities including transportation*. Caregiver works with parents and youth in ongoing development of youth's life book.</p>
L2	<p>Caregiver arranges and supervises ongoing contact between child and primary family and/or other significant people or teaches parenting strategies to other caregivers as outlined in the case plan.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver provides and facilitates parenting time in accordance with the established parenting time plan and case plan. Caregiver provides regular instruction to parent outlining parenting strategies. This feedback must be reflected in Caregiver's required ongoing documentation.</p>
L3	<p>Caregiver works with primary family to co-parent child, sharing parenting responsibilities, OR supports parent who is caring for child AND works with parent to coordinate attending meetings AND appointments together. Examples include attending meetings with doctors, specialists, educators, and therapists together.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver partners and collaborates with parents to ensure both caregiver and parent attends child's appointments and activities. Caregiver allows parental interaction in the foster home and provides support to the parent while the child is in the parent's home. Caregiver allows the parent to participate in daily routine of the child in the foster home (i.e. dinner, bedtime routine, morning routine). Documentation should illustrate caregiver's efforts to engage parent and shows examples of a transfer of learning to the parent.</p>
<p>Outline the caregiver responsibilities:</p>	

*Please detail transportation arrangements in responsibilities section. If the caregiver is unable to provide transportation, alternate arrangements must be discussed in detail at this time and documented in the responsibilities section.

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR 3 Supervision/Structure/Behavioral & Emotional	
L1	<p>Caregiver provides routine direct care and supervision of the child, assists child in learning appropriate self-control and problem solving strategies; utilizes constructive discipline practices that are fair and reasonable and are logically connected to the behavior in need of change, adapts schedule or home environment to accommodate or redirect occasional outbursts.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver provides age and developmentally appropriate supervision, structure, and behavioral and/or emotional support. Caregiver utilizes constructive discipline practices that are fair and reasonable and are logically connected to the behavior in need of change. Caregiver can provide examples of strategies and interventions implemented.</p>
L2	<p>Caregiver works with other professionals to develop, implement and monitor specialized behavior management or intervention strategies to address ongoing behaviors that interfere with successful living as determined by the family team.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver provides beyond age and developmentally appropriate supervision, structure, and behavioral and/or emotional support in accordance with a formal treatment or behavioral management plan as identified by the child's needs. Caregiver can provide examples of strategies and interventions implemented.</p>
L3	<p>Caregiver provides direct care and supervision that involves the provision of highly structured Interventions such as using specialized equipment and/or techniques and treatment regimens on a constant basis. Examples of specialized equipment include using alarms, single bedrooms modified for treatment purposes, or using adaptive communication systems, etc.; works with other professionals to develop, implement and monitor strategies to intervene with behaviors that put the child or others in imminent danger or at immediate risk of serious harm.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver follows established treatment plan to ensure child's safety and well-being. Treatment plan requires immediate and ongoing (more than once daily) monitoring and interaction. Strategies and interventions are developed in accordance with treatment plan and in consultation with case manager and must be followed to ensure child's immediate and ongoing safety and well-being. If plan is not followed child is at risk of imminent danger. Caregiver maintains frequent contact with mental health professionals and actively participates in services and monitoring. Caregiver can provide examples of therapeutic interventions and demonstrates ongoing monitoring.</p>
<p>Outline the caregiver responsibilities:</p>	

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR 4 Education/Cognitive Development	
L1	<p>Caregiver provides developmentally appropriate learning experiences for the child noting progress and special needs; assures school or early intervention participation as appropriate; supports the child’s educational activities; addresses cognitive and other educational concerns as they arise, participation in the IEP development and review.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver ensures child meets established education goals. Routine educational support includes providing transportation* to and from school, providing a structured homework routine and help with homework; maintaining regular, ongoing contact with school to ensure age-appropriate performance and progress. This includes participation in regularly scheduled parent- teacher conferences with the parents (as appropriate). For non-school age children, the caregiver will ensure the child is working on developmental goals (i.e. colors, ABCs, counting, etc.)</p>
L2	<p>Caregiver maintains increased involvement with school staff to address specific educational needs that require close home/school communication for the child to make progress AND responds to educational personnel to provide at-home supervision when necessary; or works with others to implement program to assist youth in alternative education or job training.</p> <p>Definition: Educational goals may include both school-based as well as job training goals (for older youth). Caregiver implements monitoring in the home to reflect established learning plan objectives or collaborates with professionals to ensure child’s educational goals are met. Caregiver provides examples of efforts to support education. Caregiver provides support and structure for child if suspended or expelled from school.</p>
L3	<p>Caregiver works with school staff to administer a specialized educational program AND carries out a comprehensive home/school program (more than helping with homework) during or after school hours.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver implements interventions per an established alternative education plan, IEP or 504 plan which involves specialized activities and/or strategies outside of the educational setting. Implementation of this plan requires regular communication with school and is not considered routine educational support. Caregiver may require specialized training or certification in order to meet the child’s educational and cognitive needs.</p>
	<p>Outline the caregiver responsibilities:</p>

*Please detail transportation arrangements in responsibilities section. If the caregiver is unable to provide transportation, alternate arrangements must be discussed in detail at this time and documented in the responsibilities section.

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR 5 Socialization/Age-Appropriate Expectations	
L1	<p>In keeping with Reasonable and Prudent Parenting standards, Caregiver works with others to ensure child’s successful participation in community activities; ensures opportunities for child to form healthy, developmentally appropriate relationships with peers and other community members, and uses everyday experiences to help child learn and develop appropriate social skills.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver encourages and provides opportunities for child to participate in age-appropriate peer activities at least once per week. Caregiver can give examples of the child’s participation the activity. Caregiver transports* to activity if needed. Caregiver monitors negative peer interactions. Examples may include: school-based activities, sports, community-based activities, etc.</p>
L2	<p>Caregiver provides additional guidance to the child to enable the child’s successful participation in Community and enrichment activities AND provides assistance with planning and adapting activities AND participates with child when needed. Examples include shadowing, coaching social skills, sharing specific intervention strategies with other responsible adults, etc.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver’s intervention and participation further ensures child’s participation in the activity. The child may not be able to participate without adult support. Caregiver can give examples of the child’s participation in the activity.</p>
L3	<p>Caregiver provides ongoing, one-to-one supervision and instruction (beyond what would be age appropriate) to ensure the child’s participation in community and enrichment activities AND caregiver is required to participate in or attend most community activities with other responsible adults, etc.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver must participate and fully supervise child during all community and enrichment activities. Participation in the community and enrichment activities provides a normalized child experience. Caregiver can provide examples of child’s normalized involvement in the activity.</p>
	<p>Outline the caregiver responsibilities:</p>

*Please detail transportation arrangements in responsibilities section. If the caregiver is unable to provide transportation, alternate arrangements must be discussed in detail at this time and documented in the responsibilities section.

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR 6 Support/Nurturance/Well-Being	
L1	<p>Caregiver provides nurturing and caring to build the child’s self-esteem; engages the child in constructive, positive family living experiences; maintains a safe home environment with developmentally appropriate toys and activities; provides for the child’s basic needs and arranges for counseling or other mental health services as needed.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver meets child’s established basic needs to assure well-being. Caregiver understands and responds to the child’s needs specific to removal from their home. Caregiver transports* and participates in mental health services as needed.</p>
L2	<p>Caregiver consults with mental health professionals to implement specific strategies of interacting with the child in a therapeutic manner to promote emotional well-being, healing and understanding, and a sense of safety on a daily basis.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver follows established treatment plan to ensure child’s safety and well-being are addressed. Strategies and interventions are developed in accordance with the treatment plan and in consultation with case manager. Caregiver has regular contact with mental health professionals and participates in mental health services for the child. Caregiver can provide examples of therapeutic interventions and demonstrates ongoing monitoring.</p>
L3	<p>Caregiver works with services and programs to implement intensive child-specific in-home strategies of interacting in a therapeutic manner to promote emotional well-being, healing, and understanding, and sense of safety on a constant basis.</p> <p>Definition: Treatment plan requires immediate and ongoing (more than once daily) monitoring and interaction. Therapeutic strategies and interventions are developed in accordance with treatment plan and in consultation with case management staff and must be followed to ensure the child’s well-being. If plan is not followed child is at risk of imminent danger. Caregiver maintains frequent contact with mental health professionals and actively participates in services and monitoring. Caregiver can provide examples of therapeutic interventions and demonstrates ongoing monitoring.</p>
	<p>Outline the caregiver responsibilities:</p>

*Please detail transportation arrangements in responsibilities section. If the caregiver is unable to provide transportation, alternate arrangements must be discussed in detail at this time and documented in the responsibilities section.

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR 7 Placement Stability	
L1	<p>Caregiver maintains open communication with the child welfare team about the child's progress and adjustment to placement and participates in team meetings, court hearings, case plan development, respite care, and a support plan.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver works to ensure placement stability. Caregiver communicates openly and regularly with case manager, provides required monthly documentation and participates in family team meetings. Caregiver must actively participate in developing a support plan to eliminate placement disruption.</p>
L2	<p>The child's/youth's needs require caregiver expertise that is developed through fostering experience, participation in support group and/or mentor support, and consistent relevant in-service training.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver must utilize specialized knowledge, skills, and abilities to maintain child's placement. Child's needs warrant specialized knowledge, skills, and abilities. Interventions provided by caregiver must be in collaboration and consultation with other professions and case managers. Caregiver should provide examples of their specialized knowledge, skill, and abilities to ensure placement and participation in in- service training.</p>
L3	<p>The child's/youth's needs require daily or weekly involvement/participation by the caregiver with intensive in-home services as defined in case plan and/or treatment team.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver must collaborate with external supports in order to maintain placement. These external supports provide intensive interventions within the caregiver's home, without which child could not safety be maintained. Interventions must be selected and implemented in collaboration with the case manager. Caregiver collaborates with intensive service interventions and demonstrates specialized knowledge, skills, and abilities to maintain child's placement. Caregiver provides examples of their role in the intensive in-home service provision. Caregiver may require additional training to eliminate placement disruption.</p>
	<p>Outline the caregiver responsibilities:</p>

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

LOR 8 Transition To Permanency and/or Living Independently as an Adult	
L1	<p>For all children/youth regardless of their permanency objective, Caregiver provides routine ongoing efforts to work with biological family and/or other significant adults to facilitate successful transition home or into another permanent placement. Caregiver provides routine assistance in the on-going development of the child/youth life book.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver collaborates with case manager and other community resources to ensure child's/youth's permanency goal is met. Caregiver works with child/youth in ongoing development of life book in preparation for permanency. Caregiver addresses developmentally appropriate daily life skills with the child/youth to include assistance with budgeting, education, self care, housing, transportation, employment, community resources, and lifelong connections.</p>
L2	<p>Caregiver actively provides age-appropriate adult living preparation and life skills training for child/youth. For children/youth age 14 and above, training should be outlined in the written transition plan and determined through completion of a life skills assessment.</p> <p>For children/ youth whose permanency objective is adoption or guardianship, the caregiver (with direction from their agency and in accordance with the case plan), cooperates and works with team members, potential adoptive parents, therapists and specialists to ensure the child/youth achieves permanency.</p> <p>Definition: For children 8 and above caregiver develops and monitors daily life skills activities. For children/youth 14 and above, caregiver assists the youth in completing a life skills assessment and uses the results to inform daily activities that promote development of life skills to include assistance with budgeting, education, self care, housing, transportation, employment, accessing community resources and lifelong connections. Caregiver also supports efforts to maintain family relationships where appropriate.</p> <p>For children/youth whose permanency objective is adoption or guardianship, the caregiver regularly collaborates with team members to ensure child's permanency goals are met. If the caregiver will be providing permanency for the child, the caregiver actively participates in adoption preparation activities (examples include training, support groups, mentor support, respite care).</p>
L3	<p>Transition to Adulthood Focus: Caregiver supports active participation of youth age 14 or above in services to facilitate the development of life skills and the transition to living independently as an adult.</p> <p>Definition: Caregiver partners with life skills resources to ensure youth is prepared for transition to live independently as an adult. Caregiver provides assistance and interventions on an ongoing basis and in accordance with established transition plan to include assistance with budgeting, education, self-care, housing, transportation, employment, community resources and lifelong connections. Additionally, caregiver regularly collaborates with youth's team (i.e. caseworker, agency staff, PALS Specialist) to ensure a smooth transition out of care. Caregiver demonstrates role in preparing youth for living independently as an adult by providing concrete examples of provided intervention and youths skill acquisition.</p>

CIRCLE ONE ONLY

	Outline the caregiver responsibilities:
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Transportation: Foster Parents are responsible for the first 100 miles per month of direct transportation for foster children in their home and are eligible for reimbursement for every 50 mile increment beyond the initial 100 miles. ([Title 479 2-002.03E1](#). Administrative Memo [#1-3-14-2005](#))

Liability Insurance: Federal and state law mandate eligibility coverage for Foster Parents. For more information speak with your child's case worker and/or agency representative. (Program Memo-Protection and Safety Procedure [#11-2014](#))

SIGNATURES:

NAME: _____

Foster Parent

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

Foster Parent

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

CFS/FPS Worker

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

CFS/FPS Supervisor

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

CPA Representative (if involved)

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

Other Participant

DATE: _____

NCR TOOL