

CHAPTER 9545
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LICENSING OF FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN

9545 0020 LICENSING LAWS AND
PROCEDURES

9545 0090 PERSONAL QUALITIES OF FOSTER
FAMILY HOME APPLICANTS

9545.0020 LICENSING LAWS AND PROCEDURES.

[For text of subps 1 and 2, see M.R.]

Subp. 3. [Repealed, 15 SR 2105]

[For text of subps 4 to 8, see M.R.]

Subp. 9. [Repealed, 15 SR 2105]

[For text of subps 10 to 17, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 245A.09; 245A.16*

History: *15 SR 2105*

9545.0090 PERSONAL QUALITIES OF FOSTER FAMILY HOME APPLICANTS.

FFH applicants shall be kind, mature, and responsible people with a genuine liking for children. They shall possess consistent and healthy methods of handling the lifestyle unique to their own families. Evaluation of applicants shall consider cultural differences.

Reason: Children who must live apart from their own homes are uniquely in need of stable, understanding families. Many children needing placement are emotionally, mentally, or physically handicapped. These children need extra understanding and parenting to cope with their problems.

A. Satisfactory compliance: An FFH license shall not be issued or renewed where any person (except foster children) living in the household has any of the following characteristics:

(1) a disqualification under part 9543.3070;

(2) chemical dependency, unless the individual(s) identified as chemically dependent has been chemically free for at least 12 months; or

(3) residence of the family's own children in foster care, correctional facility, or residential treatment for emotional disturbance within the previous 12 months if, in the judgment of the agency, the functioning of the family has been impaired.

B. Satisfactory compliance: In order to protect children in foster care and assure them the maximum opportunities for growth and development, each family caring for children shall be evaluated on the following essential elements:

(1) have established and are comfortable with their own identity to the degree that meeting their own needs does not interfere with their meeting the needs of foster children;

(2) have optimism, a sense of humor, resiliency, and ability to enjoy life;

(3) be in touch with their own feelings, be able to express these feelings, and have a capacity to look at themselves realistically as to the kinds of children they can accept and work with;

(4) have health and vigor to meet the needs of children placed with them;

(5) have meaningful extended family, neighborhood, cultural, and community ties;

(6) have the ability to deal with anger, sorrow, frustration, conflict, and other emotions in a manner which will build positive interpersonal relationships rather than in a way that could be emotionally or physically destructive to other persons;

(7) have the ability to give positive guidance, care, and training to a child according to the child's stage of growth, special abilities, and limitations;

(8) have the ability to use discipline in a constructive rather than destructive way;

(9) understand, accept, and seek to nurture cultural, spiritual, racial, and affectional ties of the child;

(10) have the ability and flexibility to accept a child in placement who has special needs, treat a foster child as a member of their family, recognizing that a foster child has other family ties;

(11) have the ability to accept the foster child's own family and maintain an understanding relationship with them;

(12) have the ability to work with the agency and other community resources;

(13) have a capacity and willingness to involve themselves in ongoing educational opportunities, as well as other learning experiences;

(14) be able to constructively resolve problems when difficulties arise;

(15) be comfortable in relating to professional treatment personnel of all kinds, including the ability to discuss differences of viewpoint, and to be an advocate for the foster child when indicated; and

(16) have an ability to openly discuss their attitudes about persons with differing life styles and philosophies and a capacity to accept people who are different from themselves.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 245A.04; 245A.09*

History: *15 SR 2043*