



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION
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March 9, 2016

To:

Children's Administration All Staff

From:

Jennifer A. Strus, Assistant Secretary
Children's Administration

Subject:

Parent, Child, and Sibling Visitation Policy

Please review the [4254 Parent, Child, and Sibling Visits](#) policy which was updated on February 29, 2016. This policy update is in alignment with the development of a streamlined visit plan and service referral which will be released in FamLink on March 12, 2016.

Why was the PCV policy updated?

The updates in policy and FamLink are intended to streamline work and begin data collection on supervised, monitored, and unsupervised visits, allowing CA to better understand the use of visitation and develop budgets for visitation and transportation informed by data. Because data has been unavailable, CA's ability to request funding for visitation and transportation is based on anecdotal information.

Policy and FamLink updates include:

- Specific threats, in alignment with the Safety Framework, must be identified to refer for supervised visitation.
- Visit Plans must be reviewed at Shared Planning Meetings and supervisor monthly case reviews.
- Caseworkers will observe one visit per quarter. This visit observation meets the monthly health and safety and parent visit requirement if all other requirements are met.
- Electronic methods of contact can be used in extenuating circumstances or to supplement face-to-face visits.

- A referral for supervised visitation must be created every three months and will require area administrator approval.
- New visit plan and service referral in FamLink to allow for data collection.

Additional work will include updates to the eLearning, the Parent Child visitation guide, and visitation service provider contracts. A workgroup including external partners will continue to seek improvements to visitation and explore the addition of parent coaching to visitation.

If you have questions please contact Nelly Mbajah at Nelly.Mbajah@dshs.wa.gov or Mary Pagni-Leavitt at Mary.Pagni-Leavitt@dshs.wa.gov.