



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION

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April 16, 2015

To:

Children's Administration All Staff

From:

Jennifer A. Strus, Assistant Secretary
Children's Administration

Subject:

Health and Safety Visits with Children and Monthly Visits with Caregivers and Parents

Please review the updated policy and resource documents related to [4420.Health and Safety Visits with Children and Monthly Visits with Caregivers and Parents](#). Policy changes are effective immediately. Changes include:

- Visits occur every calendar month except as noted.
- While the majority of visits must be conducted by the assigned CA worker, policy allows for another qualified CA staff to conduct the visits up to four times per year with no two visits occurring consecutively.
- Children with open CPS cases, whether investigation or Family Assessment Response, must receive private, individual face-to-face health and safety visits every calendar month when the case is open beyond 45 days.
- During caregiver visits, CA staff must address any requests to significantly change the child's appearance which must be approved by the parent (tribe if child is legally free) or court.
- Revised resource documents:
 - Health and Safety Child Visit Requirements (used to be titled Monthly Health & Safety Visits - Child Checklist)
 - Monthly Visits with Caregiver Requirements (used to be titled Monthly Health & Safety Visits - Caregiver Checklist)
 - Caregiver Guidelines for Foster Childhood Activities
 - Requirements for Monthly Visits with Parents Desk Aide

If you have any questions about this policy change, please contact Mary Pagni-Leavitt, CFWS Program Manager at mary.pagni-leavitt@dshs.wa.gov or 360-902-7568.