

**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]**

**Notice of Intended Action**

**Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”**

**Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 234.6, the Department of Human Services proposes to amend Chapter 117, “Foster Parent Training,” and Chapter 200, “Adoption Services,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These amendments provide for a preservice training specific to Native American families to increase the number of licensed Native American families available for the placement of Native American children who come into the child welfare system.

The Department’s recruitment and retention contractor has subcontracted with the Native Families for Native Children to use the new Trauma Informed Partnering for Safety and Permanence: Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting (TIPS-MAPP) curriculum as the preservice training for Native American families. The current rules specify at least 30 hours of the PS-MAPP preservice training curriculum. The TIPS-MAPP curriculum is an updated curriculum that incorporates trauma-informed care and Native American culture. In the future, the Department may change the 30-hour preservice training curriculum, such as this new TIPS-MAPP, and may make other changes to the 30-hour preservice training curriculum. For now, the amendments eliminate the name of the specific preservice training to allow the Department to choose a different preservice training without having to change the administrative rules.

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before November 18, 2014. Comments should be directed to Harry Rossander, Bureau of Policy Coordination, Department of Human Services, Hoover State Office Building, Fifth Floor, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-4980 or by e-mail to [policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us).

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations because requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 237.5A.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 117.1(1) as follows:

**117.1(1) Preservice training requirement.** Each individual foster parent applicant shall complete the entire ~~“Partnering for Safety and Permanence: Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting” (PS-MAPP) curriculum developed by the Child Welfare Institute~~ 30-hour preservice training as approved by the foster family program manager.

a. Applicants shall complete ~~PS-MAPP~~ the 30-hour preservice training before receiving a license for the first time.

b. Applicants shall retake ~~PS-MAPP~~ the 30-hour preservice training if they do not complete the curriculum within 24 months after initially commencing it.

c. The department may waive the ~~PS-MAPP~~ preservice training requirement in whole or in part when the department finds that:

(1) The applicant has completed relevant training or has a combination of relevant training and experience that is an acceptable equivalent to all or a portion of the required preservice training; or

(2) There is good cause for the waiver based upon the circumstances of the child and the applicant.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 117.1(2) as follows:

**117.1(2) Preservice training program approval requirements.**

- a. No change.
- b. *Length.* The entire ~~PS-MAPP~~ preservice training program shall total at least 30 hours of contact between leaders and participants. The department's recruitment and retention contractor shall devise a procedure for applicants to make up any portions of the preservice training ~~which~~ that are missed.
- c. *Instructors.* The program shall be team taught by at least one foster or adoptive parent and one casework staff person. All instructors shall be certified ~~PS-MAPP~~ leaders or as approved by the adult, children and family services division administrator or designee.
- d. to f. No change.
- g. *Training records.* A record of the applicants who begin and complete the training and of the training program evaluations shall be submitted to the recruitment and retention contractor at the end of each 30-hour ~~PS-MAPP~~ preservice training session.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 441—117.2(237), introductory paragraph, as follows:

**441—117.2(237) Required orientation.** All foster parent applicants shall attend orientation before attending ~~PS-MAPP~~ the 30-hour preservice training and before a foster child is placed in their home. Orientation shall not count toward the required 30 hours of preservice training.

ITEM 4. Amend paragraph **200.4(4)“a”** as follows:

a. Completion of at least 30 hours of ~~“Partnering for Safety and Permanence: Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting” (PS-MAPP)~~ preservice training and the self-study course, “Universal Precautions in Foster and Adoptive Family Homes,” before placement of a child. These training requirements apply to families who are adopting special needs children who are under the guardianship of the department.

(1) Foster parents licensed before December 31, 2002, who have been caring for a foster child in their home for at least six months and who have been selected to adopt that child may have their participation in adoption training waived by the service area manager or designee.

(2) Relatives who have cared for a related child for at least six months and who have been selected to adopt that related child may have their participation in the ~~PS-MAPP~~ preservice training waived by the service area manager or designee.

(3) The department may waive the ~~PS-MAPP~~ 30-hour preservice training requirement in whole or in part when the department finds that:

1. The applicant has completed relevant training or has a combination of relevant training and experience that is an acceptable equivalent to all or a portion of the required preservice training; or

2. There is good cause for the waiver based upon the circumstances of the child and the applicant.

(4) If the adoptive parents are accepting placement of a child who is at high risk of becoming or is HIV positive, they shall also complete the “Caring for Children With HIV” course.

(5) Applicants must retake ~~PS-MAPP~~ the 30-hour preservice training if the adoption approval process is not completed within 24 months after ~~PS-MAPP~~ the preservice training is initially completed.