



HOST HOMES

Host Homes are community homes licensed by the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) featuring an in-residence caregiver serving in a parental role with the support of additional staff to deliver intensive care and support to children ages 0-18 in a family home environment. An agency is responsible for the home and staff and provides support to the in-residence caregiver.

Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR 411-348) establish requirements for Host Homes.

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/rules-policy/oddsrulesdocs/411-348.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How are Host Homes different from foster care and residential care?

A. Please see the descriptions below for the out-of-home placement options for children offered by ODDS:

Foster Care	Host Homes	Residential
Single family residences that offer 24-hour care in a home setting. Foster homes typically serve 4-7 children, depending on the number of certified adults living in the home. These homes are certified by the local Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP).	Family homes in the community that serve up to 2 children. The host home family provides 24-hour care and serves as the primary caregiver of the child. Host Homes are licensed and to and supported by an endorsed provider agency.	Group homes in local communities that offer 24-hour support, supervision, and training to children. These homes can support up to 5 children and provide 24-hour awake staffing. Group homes are licensed by ODDS to an agency that operates and manages the home.

Q. Why do Host Homes only support a maximum of two children? Can the in-residence have their own minor children living in the home?

A. Host Homes are intended to provide a very focused supporting environment for children with acute needs. The smaller capacity of these homes allows for greater individualized attention for children receiving services. The lower capacity also compliments the requirement that children receiving services in a Host Home must be able to have their own bedroom. An in-residence caregiver may have their own children also live in the home, but this will be factored into consideration of whether the home can serve one or up to two children. The maximum number of children or care-dependent adults who may live in a Host Home is five, including the children receiving Host Home services.

Q. What is the purpose of this service model?

A. Host Homes can be a short or long-term placement with the intention to provide a structured environment for the child to build the skills with the goal of family reunification or transition to a less restrictive placement such as foster care.

Q. How does someone become a Host Home provider?

A. Host Homes are programs operated by certified Medicaid provider agencies who are endorsed by the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) to provide services in Host Home settings. If someone is interested in having their home be a host home, they may contact the ODDS Host Home Coordinator. The Host Home Coordinator will provide a list of endorsed Host Home agencies. Host Home agencies will also recruit people within the community who are interested in host homes. In-residence caregivers are contractors or employees of the Host Home agency.

Q. What are the training requirements for In-Residence Caregivers?

A. The Host Home agency is responsible for training the n-Residence Caregivers on the following required training:

Prior to Placement

- Core Competency Training
- Host Home Policies and Procedures
- Mandatory Abuse Reporting
- Basic Rights
- Confidentiality Standards
- Person-centered Planning and Practices
- Individual Support Plans
- Medical Services/Supports
- First Aid/CPR
- Infection Control and Disease Outbreak Prevention and Reporting
- Positive Behavior Supports
- Emergency Preparedness/Response
- Documentation Standards
- Incident Reporting and Serious Incidents
- Host Home OAR 411-348
- Trauma Informed Care
- Evidence-based training curriculum

Within 6 months of licensure:

- Mitigating Risk and Dignity of Risk
- Transition to Adulthood
- Employment

Plus 12 hours of job-related training annually

Q. What support is the agency expected to provide to a Host Home?

A. In addition to initial orientation and training, the provider agency will provide staffing, respite, and on-call/crisis support. In many situations, the agency will also be the chosen provider for professional behavior services or other additional services a child may be eligible to receive while living in the host home.

Q. What is the licensing process for Host Homes and who is responsible for submitting licensing paperwork?

A. The provider agency is responsible for completing and submitting the licensing documents to ODDS. The provider agency will work with In-Residence Caregivers the agency recruits and hires to prepare the home and documentation needed for initial licensure.

Q. What is the payment structure for Host Homes? How does the agency and In-Residence Caregivers get paid?

A. The Host Home provider agency receives payment from ODDS through the eXPRS Payment and Reporting System. Payment is based on the child's service category established by the Oregon Needs Assessment. The agency uses that money to pay the In-Residence Caregivers, DSP hours, and respite. In-Residence Caregivers also receive a separate room and board payment on top of the base pay received from the agency. Nursing and behavior services are considered separate services authorized in the ISP and billed with a separate billing code in eXPRS.

Q. What does the referral process look like for Host Homes?

A. The Case Management Entity (CME), in coordination with the ISP team, identifies a child to be referred to Host Homes. The Child Referral Form is sent to the ODDS Host Home Coordinator. The Host Home Coordinator completes a referral notice and sends it to the CME Designated Referral Contact (DRC). The DRC sends the complete referral packet to the agencies listed on the referral notice.

Provider Agencies review the referral packet and determine if they can offer the necessary supports. If the agency can serve the child, the agency will work with the CME DRC to set up a screening.

Q. Does SB710 apply to Host Homes?

A. Yes, the Host Home agency provider is required to submit data regarding the use of restraints to the state on a quarterly basis. Other requirements related to the appropriate use of restraints and training of staff also apply.

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/providers-partners/idd/Pages/default.aspx#sb710>

Q. Does the local CDDP of the Host Home offer any case management supports to the child?

A. The Services Coordinator from the child's county of origin is responsible for providing case management services. The county of origin is where the child's family home is located or where the child resided before moving into the host home. In some situations, an arrangement may be made for courtesy case management from the local case management entity. Case management supports also include quarterly monitoring of the services being provided in the host home.

Q. What are the rules for placement when a child turns 18?

A. Host Homes are intended to serve children under 18 years of age. The child’s services coordinator and team are expected to work with the child and their family on planning for an adult living situation for the child to move to when they turn 18. In some situations, if the child is still attending school, a variance can be submitted to request approval from ODDS for the child to remain placed in the Host Home until 21 years of age.

Q. What does the exit process look like for Host Homes?

A. A parent/guardian is not required to give prior notice of exit, but communication and planning before a move is strongly encouraged to help the child have a healthy, successful transition. The Host Home provider agency must notify the child’s Services Coordinator when a parent/guardian communicates the intent to exit services.

If the Host Home agency requests the exit, a written notice must be provided to the child’s parent/ guardian 30 calendar days prior to exit using the Department exit notice form (ODHS 0719R).

The Host Home agency is required to participate in an exit meeting with the ISP team before making the decision to exit a child (OAR 411-348-0390).

Q. Will the parents/guardians need to pay any expenses once the child is in the Host Home?

A. No. The child’s social security (SSI) resources will be used to pay for the child’s room and board. The room and board payment covers lodging, food, and general living expenses. The child will also have access to personal spending money from their SSI funds. State and federal Medicaid funds cover the costs for all of the services provided to the child in the Host Home.

Q. Can a parent/guardian stop by the Host Home anytime?

A. A parent/guardian does have the right to have access to their child, however it is important for parents/guardians to work with the Host Home caregivers on establishing times and schedules for optimal visitation. This ensures minimal interruption to planned activities or critical routines for the child and Host Home family. Host Homes support the child’s relationship with their family.