



425.01 Adoptive Home Assessment - Denial



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Application Analyst II

CHAPTER 4, Adoption and Birth Parent Services

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NOTE: SCDSS shall not consider the race, color or national origin (RCNO) of the child or prospective adoptive family in making adoptive placement decisions, or to deny a person the opportunity to become a foster or adoptive parent because of the family's or the child's race, color or national origin (RCNO). Culture shall not be used as a proxy for RCNO. Families willing to adopt children of a different RCNO shall not be subjected to differential treatment, including extra scrutiny.

Adoption Administrator

1. Denies approval of application, based on specific denial criteria;
2. If family has applied to be both adoptive and foster family, consults with the county DSS attorney prior to sending denial letter to family. If family has applied only for adoption, consults with the Office of General Counsel prior to sending denial letter to family;
3. Sends to applicant(s) denial letter listing all reasons for denial, which contains notification of the right to appeal the decision. If family has applied to adopt a

specific child, informs them that they may petition Family Court to adopt and seek judicial review of the refusal of DSS to consent to their proposed adoption; and

Adoption Specialist

4. Updates CAPSS.

Referenced Documents

Revision Comments

NOTE added to stress that RCNO shall not be used in making placement decisions or in assessing potential adoptive families.