



418 Placement Process - Separation of Siblings



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CHAPTER 4, Adoption and Birth Parent Services

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Every effort should be made to place siblings together in foster care. Before considering separation of siblings, the agency will make diligent efforts to place siblings together in the same adoptive home, if this is not contrary to the best interests of the children. If separation is unavoidable, the reasons must be documented in the children's case records.

Adoption Specialist

1. Reviews Separation of Siblings - Issues to Consider. Determines that one or more of the following conditions exist:
 - a. Psychological/psychiatric assessments indicate that the children need to be in separate adoptive homes;
 - b. A minimum of six months of child specific recruitment efforts have failed to identify an appropriate adoptive resource;
2. Documents in the case record and in the child's background summary the specific reasons why the siblings should be separated for adoption;

Adoption Administrator/Supervisor

3. Reviews the written documentation and approves or disapproves separation of the siblings. Signs the case record documentation entry if approval is granted; and

Adoption Specialist

4. Makes every effort to ensure that contact between separated siblings is maintained while they are residing in separate foster and/or adoptive homes, if ongoing contact is not contrary to the children's best interest. If contact will not be maintained, documents the specific reasons why in the case record.

Referenced Documents

Revision Comments