

Division of Children and Family Services Protection and Safety Procedure #1-2016	
Regarding:	Placement of Children in Relative or Kinship Homes of Persons Who Are Non-Citizens or Non-Qualified Aliens and Foster Care Reimbursement
Date Effective:	01/21/2016
Contact:	Jodi Allen, Jodi.allen@nebraska.gov
Issue by:	Douglas Weinberg, Director of Children and Family Services



Philosophy:

Children who cannot remain safely in their homes shall be first placed in relative or kinship homes, whenever possible. Identified relatives and/or kin of the child (ren) may be non-citizens or non-qualified aliens. Their legal status alone should not disqualify them from being considered as possible placement resources for children related or known to them.

Procedure:

When the Child and Family Services Specialist (CFSS) cannot substantiate whether a person is either a U.S. citizen, a U.S. non-citizen, a qualified alien or a non-qualified alien, the CFSS should ask for the following documentation in order to confirm whether the person is a citizen or a qualified alien:

Citizenship Documentation:

- 1) Birth Certificate issued by a U.S. State or by the U.S. Department of State, or
- 2) U.S. Passport, or
- 3) Certificate of Citizenship, or
- 4) Naturalization Certificate.

Qualified Alien Documentation:

- 1) Permanent Resident (also known as a Green Card), or
- 2) Asylum documentation, or
- 3) Refugee documentation.

If relatives or kin do not have any of the above documentation, placement may still be made provided that the guidelines of Protection and Safety Procedure Update #18-2013 are met. The completion of all applicable background checks may not be waived; however, the results may require an exception for approval of placement. A foster care payment for reimbursement of care may be made when the foster parent has a social security number. If the foster parent does not have a social security number, a foster care payment for reimbursement of care cannot be made.

Persons who are identified as citizens or qualified aliens may be issued a foster care license provided NAC 395 Chapter 3 conditions are met.

References:

- Protection and Procedure Update #18-2013
- NAC 395 Chapter 3
- Ne. Rev. Stat. 4-110