

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
Virginia Department of Social Services

PERMANENT FOSTER CARE AGREEMENT

This Permanent Foster Care Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement") between the Department of Social Services (hereinafter referred to as the "Department") and foster parent(s) for the permanent placement of a foster child in his/her/their home is entered into to provide a child with a safe, protective and nurturing place to live.

The parties involved in this permanent foster care placement, understand and agree to the roles and responsibilities outlined and defined below.

I, , foster parent(s), desire to enter into this Agreement with the Department for permanent placement of in my/our home. It is my/our understanding that (hereinafter referred to as the "child") shall remain in my/our home until he/she reaches the age of majority unless modified by court order or removed pursuant to section 7. This permanent foster care placement may be continued after the child reaches the age of majority until he/she reaches the age of twenty-one, if such placement is requisite to providing funds for his/her care, so long as he/she is participating in an educational, treatment or training program pursuant to §63.2-908 (B), *Code of Virginia*.

1. The Department retains legal custody of the child pursuant to §63.2-908 (B), *Code of Virginia*. It is intended that although the Department retains legal custody of the child, the foster parent(s) will become involved in the total responsibility of caring for the child and will provide him with a sense of family by participating actively in his/her day to day living. This permanent placement is intended to allow, but not require, the preservation of ties to biological parents while giving the child daily affection, stability, and a long-term relationship with other parental figures.
2. I/we, the foster parent(s), pursuant to §63.2-908 (C), *Code of Virginia*, shall have the authority, unless modified by court order, to consent to surgery, entrance into the armed forces, marriage, application for motor vehicle and operator's license, application for admission into college and any other such activities that require parental consent. I/we are required to advise the Department in writing when I/we consent to any of the activities described in this clause.
3. I/we, the foster parent(s), and the Department will request of the Court that the authority to consent to the following activities remain with the Department:

4. I/we, the foster parents, will obtain prior consent from the Department for any bills to be paid by the Department.
5. The child must receive the same services and benefits as any other child in foster care pursuant to §63.2-908 (D), *Code of Virginia*. The standards and rates used for maintenance,

care and personal items must be at least equal to those established for other children in foster care. These rates, which will be paid by the Department, are as follows: Room and Board _____, Clothing_____, Personal Allowance_____, and Personal Care and Recreation_____.

- 6. The LDSS shall visit the foster home within 30 days of the court order authorizing this permanent placement and make face-to-face visits with the child monthly thereafter and be available for consultation when requested by the foster parents or child. Over half the visits shall occur in the youth's place of residence. I/we, the foster parent(s), will assure responsibility for working with the Department to assure the permanency of this placement.
- 7. The child must not be removed from the physical custody of the foster parents, except:
 - a. When the Permanent Foster Care Order is modified by the court order; or
 - b. Under an emergency removal order; or
 - c. In accordance with child abuse and neglect procedures.

(Placement of a child in residential care or a hospital for treatment purposes where the child is expected to return to the foster home is not considered removal from the foster parent's home/physical custody).

- 8. The nature and frequency of visiting arrangements with biological parent(s) shall be as specified below.

I have read, understand and agree to this Permanent Foster Care Agreement.

Date: _____ Foster Parent: _____

Date: _____ Foster Parent: _____

Date: _____ Child (if over 12): _____

Date: _____ Social Worker: _____

Approved by:

Date: _____ Supervisor: _____

This permanent foster care placement was approved and ordered by the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of _____ on _____, with order signed by the Honorable _____.