

Navigating Policy

Background Notes

Knowledge of policy and navigating policy online will be a regular part of your work as child welfare professional. Policy is used to guide practice including specific steps in casework as well as to guide values and principles in decision-making.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Locate policy online by going to the DHS policy website at:
http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/child_welfare/cross_index.htm
- Notice how policy is divided into different sections. Which section pertains most to your current job assignment? Read through the titles of the policies and note which ones you will most likely need in your daily job. Click on the link to the policy Rights of Relatives and notice how the policy has another link to the Oregon Revised Statutes. Review how the policy information is laid out with definitions followed by the policy. Read the policy on the rights of relatives.
- Find out what the process is in your office for updating information regarding policy changes.
- Talk with a coworker about how policy guides and informs their child welfare work.

Discoveries: