



**REASONABLE AND PRUDENT PARENTING CONSENT**  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
 CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES  
 SFN 1040 (9-2023)

The Reasonable & Prudent Parenting Standard is a 2015 federal requirement (PL 113-183) adopted into NDAC 75-03-14 and permanency policy 624-05. The reasonable and prudent parent standard requires providers to make careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the health, safety, and best interests of a child while at the same time encouraging their emotional and developmental growth. The provider or caregiver shall use reasonable and prudent parenting standards when determining whether to allow participation in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

These activity parameters and permissions have been agreed upon by all ND Human Service Zones who have also agreed to use this document as a consent form for each child in each placement. The consent must be reviewed upon placement into a new provider home, indicating what activities providers must receive prior approval for.

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Custodial Agency | Child's Name         |
| Provider Name    | Placement Start Date |

**ACTIVITIES REQUIRING CUSTODIAN WRITTEN PERMISSION**

**Custodian Approval Required Prior to Activity: Yes**  
*If not already approved, the provider must call or email the case manager to request permission to engage in the activity noted below. Custodian must give the provider written approval (via this form or email).*

**Child's Parent Approval Required Prior to Activity: No**  
*Parents should always be involved and invited to participate in the consent for activities for their child, whenever possible. Custodians will take into consideration the permissions granted by the parents when making an informed decision. If there is inability to connect with the parent or disagreement, the custodial agency's answer is final until further discussion.*

**Child's Provider is allowed to approve without consent: No**  
*The provider must discuss the activity with the child's custodian before allowing the child to engage in the activity.*

**ACTIVITY CATEGORY**  
 Reasonable and prudent parenting allows flexibilities, but still requires decision making within the standard parameters of the law to maintain child safety (Ex: Requiring a child to wear a seatbelt, helmet, lifejacket, etc.)

**Operator (by law and ordinance) of a**

|  |  |   |                                       |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle - Youth Driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorized Dirt Bike | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Cart              | <input type="checkbox"/> Jet Ski      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile              | <input type="checkbox"/> Moped/Scooter       | <input type="checkbox"/> Go-cart                | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle              | <input type="checkbox"/> Farm Machinery      | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Mower/Snow Blower | <input type="checkbox"/> Boat/Pontoon |

**Passenger (by law and ordinance) of a**

|  |  |                                       |                                  |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle - Verified/Approved Youth Driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorized Dirt Bike | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Cart    | <input type="checkbox"/> Jet Ski |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Airplane/Helicopter Ride                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile          | <input type="checkbox"/> Go-cart      | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Mower          | <input type="checkbox"/> Boat/Pontoon |                                  |

**Water Activities**

|  |                                       |   |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hot Tub/Sauna | <input type="checkbox"/> Scuba Diving | <input type="checkbox"/> Tubing/Skiing/Zupboard | <input type="checkbox"/> White Water Rafting |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|

**Other Activities**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Care (follow medical consent guidelines)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Piercing                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hair Care (ensuring cultural sensitivities)               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tattoos                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Social Media by Child (Facebook, SnapChat, etc.)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cell Phones                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious activities (baptism, confirmation, youth group) | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of the Internet           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving child unattended at the home (per age)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Overnight Summer/Sports Camps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback Riding  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rodeo Club                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trampoline Park (required waiver)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowboarding/Skiing                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Shooting/Archery              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BMX Bike Racing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Paintball                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____        |

**Photographs:** Taking photos of the child must be discussed. Prior approval must be granted by the custodial agency with input from parents regarding sharing of photos and posting photos on social media or other platforms.

**LOW RISK ACTIVITIES - NO PRIOR APPROVAL NECESSARY**

**Custodian Approval Required Prior to Activity: No**

**Child's Parent Required Prior to Activity: No**

*Parents should always be involved and invited to participate in the consent for activities for their child, whenever possible.*

**Child's Provider is allowed to approve without consent: Yes**

**Social/Extra-Curricular Activities**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Field Trip                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Participating in School/Community Sports               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending School Activities (ball games, dances, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Registering for Daytime Summer/Sport Camps             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending a Friend's Birthday Party                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepover at a Friend's House                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Riding in a car With a Friend or Neighbor              | <input type="checkbox"/> Dating   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curfew   | <input type="checkbox"/> Getting a Job, Babysitting, etc.                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Going to the Movies or the Mall                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Attending an Event (concert, rodeo, street fair)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attending Family Events (wedding, graduation, party)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Camping  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Riding Bicycle   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rollerblading  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding/Hoverboard                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming in Lake, Recreational Pool, Public Pool       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canoe/Kayak/Paddleboard                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Wall Climbing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trampoline - Personal (netted for safety)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Rides at Amusement Park (Waterpark, Valley Fair, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Playing Video Games                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Participating in Parade/Floats                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____                                 |   |

Comments

**Travel Authorization**

NDAC 75-03-14 requires a child in foster care to receive prior approval from the custodial case manager to leave the State of North Dakota. Custodians need to know when a child crosses state lines or has unique transportation needs from alternative supports. Custodians use the [SFN 1033](#), Foster Child Travel Authorization, this form provides emergency contact information and grants permission for a child in foster care to travel with another approved party. \*\*\* Out of state travel does not pertain to providers living in border cities who cross state lines regularly for work, shopping, supper or day trips.

**Youth Driving**

Custodial agency directors must be involved in any decision surrounding a child in foster care pursuing a driver's permit or license. Custodian, parent, foster care provider or a relative may choose to sign on behalf of the child; HHS Department personnel are not authorized to sign for a minor to secure a permit or driver's license. NDCC §39-06- 08 sets out conditions under which an application for an operator's license on behalf of a minor can be made. See brochure, [DN 271, Foster Care Driving](#)

**Permission/Signatures**

The above activities have been discussed and pre-approved by the custodial case manager. The goal of reasonable and prudent parenting standard is to allow for children in foster care to engage in normalcy activities, like their peers, while allowing the provider to make practical and informed decisions as they would for any other child in their home. If other activities become available and we have not discussed the permission, please feel free to email the case manager if you are concerned the opportunity may require the custodian's consent to participate.

The agency and at least one parent and one provider must sign below. Additional signatures may be obtained at the discretion of the agency.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Parent Signature                         | Date |
| Provider Signature                       | Date |
| Custodial Director or Designee Signature | Date |