

Infant Sleeping Arrangements

340:75-7-18. Resource family assessment (RFA)

Revised 9-17-18

(c) **Form 04AF004E, House assessment.** • [2](#) An in-home evaluation of the applicant's residence is conducted to assess the location, condition, and capacity to accommodate the child in DHS custody who requires foster care. Form 04AF004E includes an assessment of:

(8) infant sleeping arrangements. A crib, port-a-crib, or playpen with a firm, waterproof mattress or pad is used for each child younger than 12 months of age.

(A) Cribs, port-a-cribs, and playpens with more than two and 3/8 inches between slats or between the side and end panels are not allowed.

(B) Cribs with decorative cutout areas in crib-end panels or tall decorative knobs on the corner posts that may entrap a child's head or catch the child's clothing are not allowed.

(C) Cribs with drop-side latches must have the manufacturer-provided kits to lock the crib side in the upright position due to safety hazards.

(D) Mattresses must be tight-fitting with no more than one inch between the mattress and crib, port-a-crib, or playpen.

(E) Mattress and crib sheets must fit snugly.

(F) Soft sleeping surfaces, such as soft mattresses, waterbeds, sofas, pillows, beanbag chairs, and inflatable mats are prohibited.

(G) Pillows, quilts, comforters and blankets, sheepskins, stuffed toys, bumper pads, breathable bumper pads, and other soft products are not permitted in the infant's crib, port-a-crib, or playpen.

(H) Infants birth through three months of age may be swaddled with an infant-sized, thin fabric, such as a receiving blanket.

(I) When placed for sleeping, items, such as pacifiers, teething necklaces, and bibs are not attached to the infant or his or her clothing.

(J) An infant is immediately moved to a crib, port-a-crib, or playpen when he or she falls asleep in other equipment.

(K) Mobiles may be securely attached or hung above the crib provided no part of the mobile is within the infant's reach;

(9) infant sleep positions.

(A) To reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), the infant younger than 12 months of age is placed on his or her back for sleeping, unless there is a medical reason documented by a health care professional that the infant must not sleep on his or her back. • [3](#)

(B) The infant who is able to turn himself or herself over is placed initially on his or her back for sleeping but is allowed to sleep in the position he or she prefers;

INSTRUCTIONS TO STAFF 340:75-7-18

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3. Sleeping arrangements for infants. When there is a medical reason that an infant cannot or may not sleep on his or her back, documentation from a health care professional is maintained by the resource parent and a copy is filed in the resource file.