

## Article - Human Services

[Previous][Next][Another Article]

§8-703.1.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Licensing agency” means:

(i) the Department of Human Resources; and

(ii) the Department of Juvenile Services.

(3) “Statement of need” means an official certification of public need for the location and establishment of a residential child care program in a county issued by a licensing agency under this section.

(b) The licensing agencies shall adopt regulations governing the issuance of statements of need.

(c) In developing the regulations required under subsection (b) of this section, a licensing agency shall:

(1) consider the specialized mental, physical, and behavioral health and developmental needs of children in the county or region affected by the statement of need; and

(2) consult with stakeholders in the county or region affected by the statement of need, including:

(i) State and local child-serving agencies;

(ii) providers of residential and community-based services for children; and

(iii) children, parents, and foster parents.

(d) An application may not be submitted to the office and a license may not be granted by a licensing agency for a residential child care program until a licensing agency issues a statement of need for a residential child care program in a county.

(e) In addition to the statement of need required under subsection (d) of this section, a statement of need is required before:

(1) an existing or previously licensed residential child care program is relocated to another site;

(2) the physical site of a residential child care program is expanded; or

(3) the number of placements in a residential child care program is increased.

(f) A licensing agency shall publish notice of the issuance of a statement of need in the Maryland Register.

(g) A licensing agency may not delegate its authority to issue a statement of need.

[Previous][Next][Another Article]