



# Minimum Standards Revision Notice

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**Date:** December 21, 2022

**Effective Date:** December 21, 2022

**To:** All Holders of Chapter 749, Minimum Standards for Child-Placing Agencies

**From:** Rachel Ashworth-Mazerolle, HHSC Associate Commissioner for Child Care Regulation

**Subject:** Protections for Children on the Grounds or Premises

The amended rules are necessary to implement Texas Human Resources Code (HRC) §42.002 and §42.042 to:

- Add the term "grounds" and its definition; and
- Update safety and security policies and training requirements for operations that provide trafficking victim services.

In December 2022, the Executive Commissioner of HHSC adopted the amended rules to be effective December 21, 2022. A six-month technical assistance period will be given for §749.4053 and §749.4157 from 12/21/22 to 6/21/23.

## Specific Rule Changes

The amendment to §749.43 adds the term "grounds" and its definition. The term "premises" is also added, but its definition refers directly to the "grounds" definition.

The amendment to §749.4053 clarifies that a CPA providing trafficking victim services must have written policies that ensure safety and security of trafficking victims, caregivers, and employees on the grounds of the foster home.

The amendment to §749.4157 clarifies that a CPA providing trafficking victim services must have annual training that addresses the external safety and security risks at a foster home, including the grounds of a foster home.

## Highlighted Versions

You may view highlighted versions of the adopted rules at [Minimum Standards | Texas Health and Human Services](#).

If you have questions, please contact your CCR inspector or send an email to [RCCR Standards](#).