

Many states have statutes requiring or encouraging placement of siblings together.

Thirty-seven states, the District of Columbia, and Guam have statutes requiring agencies to make reasonable efforts to place siblings in the same home, absent documented reasons as to why joint placement would not be in their best interests. Thirty-five states and Puerto Rico also have statutes requiring that siblings not placed together be given opportunities for visits and/or communication. State-specific legislation can be found at:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/statutes/placement/>.

Finally, many states' Foster Care Bills of Rights protect the interests of siblings for co-placement and/or regular contact. Some examples are:

Arizona	Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 8-529(3) (2009)	Foster children have a right to know where their siblings are placed.
Connecticut	Conn. Stat. Ann. 17a-10a	Siblings placed in different foster homes have a right to visitation with one another.
Delaware	Del. Code. tit. 13 § 2522(a)(6)	Foster children have a right to contact and visit their siblings also in foster care, or to be notified as to the reason why such visitation is inappropriate.
Florida	Fla. Stat. § 39.4085(1)(o)	Foster children have the right to visitation with their siblings at least once a week.
Hawaii	Haw. Rev. Stat. § 587A-3.1(5)	Foster children have the right to visitation with their siblings.
Minnesota	Minn. Laws, § 260C.008	Foster children have the right: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to be placed in the same home as their siblings when possible; • to be placed geographically close to one another if not; • to have frequent contact with siblings; • to have regular in-person visitation with siblings; • to have adult siblings considered as custodians.
New Jersey	Bill Text: NJ S1034 2022-2023 Regular Session Chaptered LegiScan	Foster children have the right to the best efforts of the applicable department to place the child in the same setting with the child's sibling if the sibling is also being placed outside his home; and to visit with the child's sibling on a regular basis and to otherwise maintain contact with the child's sibling if the child was separated from his sibling upon placement outside his home, including the provision or arrangement of transportation as necessary, and to have

		access to a phone number or computer that allows for virtual visits between face-to-face visits or when face-to-face visits are not feasible.
North Carolina	<u>N.C. Gen. Stat. § 131D-10.1(a)(2), (a)(10)</u>	Foster children have the right to first-priority placement in a home with their siblings and to have regular communication with their siblings in different homes.
Pennsylvania	<u>Pa. Stat. tit. 11, § 2633(10)</u>	Foster children have the right to visit and contact siblings “as frequently as possible” and to have adult siblings given first consideration as custodians.
Texas	<u>Tex. Family Code Ann. § 263.008</u>	Foster children have the right to placement with siblings.