



CHAPTER 7B
ARTICLE 5 - TEMPORARY CUSTODY; NONSECURE CUSTODY; CUSTODY HEARINGS

N.C.G.S. § 7B-505.

Placement while in nonsecure custody.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2025-16, s. 1.11(c) — fifteenth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 03:34 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 17e06fc9812915806b2fed46 - 5b31ad1ab86b481150c53e0f - e3c92cb1af5912ea
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§ 7B-505(a) A juvenile meeting the criteria set out in G.S. 7B-503 may be placed in nonsecure custody with the department of social services or a person designated in the order, including the parent from whom the juvenile was not removed. The department with placement responsibility is authorized to place the juvenile for temporary residential placement in any of the following:

- (1) A licensed foster home or a home otherwise authorized by law to provide such care.
- (2) A facility operated by the department of social services.
- (2a) A facility licensed to provide care to juveniles.
- (3) Any other home or facility, including the home of a parent, relative, nonrelative kin, or other person with legal custody of a sibling of the juvenile, approved by the court and designated in the order.

The department shall not place a juvenile in any unlicensed facility or any facility that is not licensed to provide care for juveniles without the sanction of the court and so designated in the order prior to such placement being made.

§ 7B-505(a1) If juvenile siblings are removed from the home and placed in the nonsecure custody of a county department of social services, the director shall make reasonable efforts to place the juvenile siblings in the same home. The director is not required to make reasonable efforts under this subsection if the director documents that placing the juvenile siblings would be contrary to the safety or well-being of any of the juvenile siblings. If, after making reasonable efforts, the director is unable to place the juvenile

siblings in the same home, the director shall make reasonable efforts to provide frequent sibling visitation and ongoing interaction between the juvenile siblings, unless the director documents that frequent visitation or other ongoing interaction between the juvenile siblings would be contrary to the safety or well-being of any of the juvenile siblings.

§ 7B-505(b)

The court shall order the department of social services to make diligent efforts to notify relatives and other persons with legal custody of a sibling of the juvenile that the juvenile is in nonsecure custody and of any hearings scheduled to occur pursuant to G.S. 7B-506, unless the court finds the notification would be contrary to the best interests of the juvenile. The department of social services shall use due diligence to identify and notify adult relatives and other persons with legal custody of a sibling of the juvenile within 30 days after the initial order removing custody. The department shall file with the court information regarding attempts made to identify and notify adult relatives of the juvenile and persons with legal custody of a sibling of the juvenile. In placing a juvenile in nonsecure custody under this section, the court shall first consider whether a relative of the juvenile is willing and able to provide proper care and supervision of the juvenile in a safe home. If the court finds that the relative is willing and able to provide proper care and supervision in a safe home, then the court shall order placement of the juvenile with the relative unless the court finds that placement with the relative would be contrary to the best interests of the juvenile.

§ 7B-505(c)

If the court does not place the juvenile with a relative, the court may consider whether nonrelative kin or other persons with legal custody of a sibling of the juvenile are willing and able to provide proper care and supervision of the juvenile in a safe home. The court may order the department to notify the juvenile's State-recognized tribe of the need for nonsecure custody for the purpose of locating relatives or nonrelative kin for placement. The court may order placement of the juvenile with nonrelative kin if the court finds the placement is in the juvenile's best interests.

§ 7B-505(c1)

If the court does not place the juvenile with a relative, the court may consider whether an appropriate former foster parent, nonrelative kin, or other persons with legal custody of a sibling of the juvenile are willing and able to provide proper care and supervision of the juvenile in a safe home. The court may order the department to notify the juvenile's State-recognized tribe of the need for nonsecure custody for the purpose of locating relatives or nonrelative kin for placement. The court may order placement of the juvenile with nonrelative kin if the court finds the placement is in the juvenile's best interests.

§ 7B-505(d)

In placing a juvenile in nonsecure custody under this section, the court shall also consider whether it is in the juvenile's best interest to remain in the juvenile's community of residence. In placing a juvenile in nonsecure custody under this section, the court shall consider the Indian Child Welfare Act, Pub. L. No. 95-608, 25 U.S.C. §§-1901, et seq., as amended, and the Howard M. Metzenbaum Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-382, 108 Stat. 4056, as amended, as they may apply. Placement of a juvenile with a relative outside of this State must be in accordance with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, Article 38 of this Chapter.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
15 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1979	c. 815, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1983	c. 639, ss. 1, 2	AMENDED
03	1997	S.L. 1997-390, s. 4	AMENDED
04	1997	S.L. 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a)	AMENDED
05	1998	S.L. 1998-202, s. 6	AMENDED
06	1998	S.L. 1998-229, ss. 3, 20	AMENDED
07	1999	S.L. 1999-456, s. 60	AMENDED
08	2002	S.L. 2002-164, s. 4.7	AMENDED
09	2013	S.L. 2013-129, s. 13	AMENDED
10	2015	S.L. 2015-135, s. 2.2	AMENDED
11	2015	S.L. 2015-136, s. 4	AMENDED
12	2017	S.L. 2017-161, s. 5	AMENDED
13	2021	S.L. 2021-100, s. 3	AMENDED
14	2021	S.L. 2021-132, s. 1(d)	AMENDED

APPARATUS II
2 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 7B-503	(a)	"meeting the criteria set out in"
G.S. 7B-506	(b)	"hearings scheduled to occur pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-505 (2025).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-505(a) (2025).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE
(1979, c. 815, s. 1; 1983, c. 639, ss. 1, 2; 1997-390, s. 4; 1997-443, s. 11A.118(a); 1998-202, s. 6; 1998-229, ss. 3, 20; 1999-456, s. 60; 2002-164, s. 4.7; 2013-129, s. 13; 2015-135, s. 2.2; 2015-136, s. 4; 2017-161, s. 5; 2021-100, s. 3; 2021-132, s. 1(d); 2025-16, s. 1.11(c).)

