

5101:2-42-19

Requirements for the provision of independent living services to youth in custody.

(A) Independent living services shall be provided to each youth in the custody of a public children services agency (PCSA) or private child placing agency (PCPA) who has attained the age of sixteen to prepare them for the transition from agency custody to self-sufficiency. Independent living services may be provided to a youth under age sixteen when the PCSA or PCPA deems services to be appropriate. When determining the appropriateness of independent living services for youth under sixteen years of age, the PCSA or PCPA shall consider the likelihood the youth will remain in agency custody until the youth's eighteenth birthday.

(B) If a PCSA is providing independent living services to an eligible unmarried minor female who is pregnant or has a child and is part of an "Ohio Works First" (OWF) assistance group, the PCSA shall inform the local county department of job and family services (CDJFS) of the PCSA's involvement with the family in order to ensure coordination of services.

~~(C) The PCSA or PCPA shall assure that caregivers who provide independent living services shall be prepared adequately with the appropriate knowledge and skills to understand and address the issues confronting adolescents. Caregivers shall provide such services as are needed and appropriate, and to the extent possible, coordinate such training with the life skill services needed by the youth.~~

~~(D)~~(C) The PCSA or PCPA shall conduct ~~or obtain~~ a life skills assessment ~~for~~ on each youth ~~who is in agency custody, and who has reached age sixteen, or who the agency has identified as appropriate to receive independent living services. The assessment shall be completed no later than sixty days after the youth's sixteenth birthday or sixty days after the youth enters agency custody, whichever is first. A life skills assessment shall establish the need for life skills independent living services identified in paragraph (F D) of this rule. The life skills assessment shall consist of an objective tool be completed with documented input from the youth, the youth's caregiver, and the youth's case manager. The assessment shall be completed not later than sixty days after the youth's sixteenth birthday or sixty days after the youth enters into agency custody, whichever is first. Youth under age sixteen, if deemed appropriate by the agency, shall be assessed for independent living services.~~

(D) Independent living services, based on the assessment required by paragraph (C) of this rule shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Academic support including:

(a) Academic counseling.

(b) Preparation for a GED.

(c) Assistance in applying for or studying for a GED exam.

(d) Tutoring.

(e) Help with homework.

(f) Study skills training.

(g) Literacy training.

(h) Help accessing educational resources.

(2) Post secondary educational support including:

(a) Classes for test preparation.

(b) Counseling about college.

(c) Information about financial aid and scholarships.

(d) Help completing college or loan applications.

(e) Tutoring while in college.

(3) Career preparation including:

(a) Vocational and career assessment, career exploration and planning, guidance in setting and assessing vocational and career interests and skills and help in matching interests and abilities with vocational goals.

(b) Job seeking and job placement support, identifying potential employers, writing resumes, completing job applications, developing interview skills, job shadowing, receiving job referrals, using career resource libraries, understanding employee benefits coverage, and securing work permits.

(c) Retention support, and job coaching.

(d) Learning how to work with employers and other employees.

(e) Understanding workplace values such as timeliness and appearance.

(f) Understanding authority and customer relationships.

(4) Employment programs or vocational training including:

(a) Participation in an apprenticeship, internship, or summer employment

program.

(b) Participation in vocational or trade programs and the receipt of training in occupational classes for such skills as cosmetology, auto mechanics, building trades, nursing computer science, and other current or emerging employment sectors.

(5) Budget and financial management including:

(a) Living within a budget.

(b) Opening and using a checking savings account.

(c) Balancing a checkbook.

(d) Developing consumer awareness and smart shopping skills.

(e) Accessing information about credit, loans and taxes.

(f) Filling out tax forms.

(6) Housing, education and home management training including:

(a) Assistance or training in locating and maintaining housing, filling out a rental application and acquiring a lease, handling security deposits and utilities, understanding practice for keeping a healthy and safe home, understanding tenants rights and responsibilities, and handling landlord complaints.

(b) Instruction in food preparation , laundry, housekeeping, living cooperatively, meal planning, grocery shopping and basic maintenance and repairs.

(7) Health education and risk prevention including:

(a) Hygiene, nutrition, fitness and exercise, and first aid information.

(b) Medical and dental care benefits, health care resources and insurance, prenatal care and maintaining personal medical records.

(c) Sex education, abstinence education, and HIV prevention, education and information about sexual development and sexuality, pregnancy prevention and family planning and sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS; substance abuse prevention and intervention, including education and information about the effects and consequences of substance use (alcohol, drugs, tobacco) and substance avoidance and intervention.

- (8) Family support and healthy marriage education including education and information about safe and stable families, healthy marriages, spousal communication, parenting, responsible fatherhood, childcare skills, teen parenting and domestic and family violence prevention.
- (9) Mentoring including matched with a screened and trained adult for a one-on-one relationship that involves the two meeting on a regular basis. Mentoring can be short-term, but may also support the development of a long-term relationship.
- (10) Supervised independent living including a youth who is living independently under a supervised arrangement paid for or provided by the county agency.
- (11) Room and board financial assistance for rent deposits, utilities, and other household start-up expenses.
- (E) ~~The agency PCSA or PCPA is responsible for ensuring that~~ shall develop a written independent living plan within thirty days of the completion of the assessment required by paragraph (D) of this rule, to help the youth achieve self-sufficiency, shall be developed within thirty days of the completion of the assessment required by paragraph (D) of this rule. The plan shall be based upon the assessment and include input from the youth, the youth's case manager, the caregiver, and significant others in the youth's life. The independent living plan shall document the strengths, limitations, and resources of the youth and ~~shall~~ outline the services ~~that will to be provided, to the youth.~~ The independent living plan ~~should~~ shall be reviewed at least every ninety days thereafter until the agency's custody is terminated.
- (F) The PCSA or PCPA shall provide independent living services training opportunities to caregivers caring for adolescents.
- (G) The PCSA or PCPA shall include in the independent living plan the contact information containing the names, addresses and phone numbers of significant others, such as former foster parents, friends, mentors and extended family members as provided by the young adult.
- ~~(F) Independent living services, based on the assessment required by paragraph (D) of this rule shall include, but not be limited to, issues or concerns related to the following:~~
- ~~(1) Daily living skills, including:~~
- ~~(a) Securing and maintaining a residence (e.g, landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities, basic home maintenance).~~

- ~~(b) Home management (e.g., food preparation, nutrition, cleaning, laundry and home safety).~~
 - ~~(c) Shopping (e.g., purchasing food, household supplies, clothing).~~
 - ~~(d) Money management (e.g., budgeting, banking, maintaining a savings account, taxes).~~
 - ~~(e) Utilization of community services and systems (e.g., libraries, accessing assistance programs).~~
 - ~~(f) Accessing and utilizing transportation (e.g., how to obtain a driver's license and insurance, public transportation).~~
 - ~~(g) Utilization of leisure time.~~
 - ~~(h) Personal care, hygiene and safety.~~
 - ~~(i) Pregnancy prevention and/or parenting skills.~~
 - ~~(j) Time management.~~
 - ~~(2) Enhancement of personal decision making and communication skills.~~
 - ~~(3) Assistance in obtaining a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED), evaluating personal educational goals, and planning preparation for post secondary education and training.~~
 - ~~(4) Planning for job and/or career development.~~
 - ~~(5) Securing and maintaining employment.~~
 - ~~(6) Planning for ongoing and emergency personal health care needs (including education about avoidance of drug and alcohol abuse, risky sexual behavior, and smoking).~~
 - ~~(7) Building a positive self image and self esteem.~~
 - ~~(8) Development of positive adult relationships and support systems.~~
- (H) A PCSA shall ensure the following information is documented into SACWIS and a PCPA shall ensure that the information is documented in the case file by the youth's seventeenth birthday :
- (1) All services provided to youth as indicated in paragraph (E) of this rule.
 - (2) Youth characteristics including:

- (a) Education levels.
- (b) Tribal membership.
- (c) Delinquency adjudication.
- (d) Special education.

(3) Basic demographics of the youth including:

- (a) Sex.
- (b) Race.

~~(G) All PCSAs or PCPAs shall report applicable independent living services information for youth as described in this rule, and any other information deemed necessary by the director of ODJFS, as required in rule 5101:2-33-05 of the Administrative Code, according to the family and children services information system (FACSIS) reporting requirements or statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) reporting requirements, if applicable.:~~

(I) The PCSA and PCPA shall document in SACWIS and the PCPA shall also document in the case file the date the independent living assessment and the independent living plan were completed. All review dates of the independent living plan shall be documented in SACWIS, in accordance with rule 5101:2-33-70 of the Administrative Code and the PCPA shall document all review dates of the independent living plan in the case file.

(J) The PCSA and PCPA, prior to the youth's emancipation shall provide the foster youth who is aging out of the system, with a copy of their health and education records and documentation that the youth was in the custody of the PCSA at the time of emancipation. The PCSA shall document the date the youth received the health and education records and the verification that the youth was in the custody of the PCSA at the time of emancipation. The date the youth received the health and education records and the verification of the youths custody status at the time of emancipation shall be recorded in SACWIS and the PCPA shall document the date in the case file.

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Certification

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