

ACTION: REFILED

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TO BE RESCINDED

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Requirements for provision of life skill services and independent living arrangements.

- (A) Life skill services shall be provided to each child in substitute care who has attained the age of sixteen to prepare for transition from substitute care to independent living. Life skill services and placement in an independent living arrangement may be continued for an individual over eighteen years of age for whom a juvenile court has retained jurisdiction and continued a dispositional order to enable the individual to graduate from high school or vocational school.
- (B) If the PCSA is providing life skill services to an eligible unmarried minor female who is pregnant or has a child and is part of a "temporary assistance for needy families" (TANF) assistance group, the PCSA shall inform the CDHS of PCSA involvement with the family in order to ensure coordination of services.
- (C) Life skill services may be provided by mentors or staff of a public children services agency (PCSA), private child placing agency (PCPA) or private noncustodial agency (PNA), other community agencies, organizations, schools, or institutions.
- (D) Life skill services may address, but not be limited to, issues or concerns related to the following-:
 - (1) Daily living, including:
 - (a) Maintaining a residence (landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities, basic home maintenance).
 - (b) Home management (food preparation, nutrition, cleaning, laundry and home safety).
 - (c) Shopping (purchasing food, household supplies, clothing).
 - (d) Money management (budgeting, banking).
 - (e) Utilization of community services and systems (transportation, libraries, accessing assistance programs).

- (f) Operating a motor vehicle and obtaining required licensure and insurance.
 - (g) Utilization of leisure time.
 - (h) Personal care, hygiene and safety.
- (2) Personal decision making and communication skills.
 - (3) Evaluating personal educational needs.
 - (4) Planning for job and/or career development.
 - (5) Securing and maintaining employment.
 - (6) Securing a residence.
 - (7) Planning for ongoing and emergency personal health care needs.
 - (8) Building a positive self-image and self-esteem regarding the youth's pending emancipation from substitute care.
- (E) Each PCSA or PCPA shall conduct or obtain a life skill assessment for each child who is in substitute care and who has attained the age of sixteen to prepare for transition from substitute care to independent living. A life skill assessment shall establish the need for life skill services identified in paragraph (D) of this rule. A life skill assessment shall be completed by the next scheduled semiannual administrative review (SAR) pursuant to rule 5101:2-42-43 of the Administrative Code, following the child's sixteenth birthday or his entry into substitute care, whichever occurs earlier.
- (F) Each PCSA or PCPA shall provide or obtain those life skill services, commensurate with the child's need and level of understanding, as indicated by the life skill assessment conducted in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (E) of this rule.
- (G) Placement of a child in an independent living arrangement shall only be made after the PCSA or PCPA which proposes to make the placement has been satisfied that the following general site and safety requirements for independent living arrangements have been met:

- (1) All structures associated with the independent living arrangement are maintained in a safe state of repair. The living arrangement shall be inspected annually by a certified fire inspector or the state fire marshall.
 - (2) The independent living arrangement is adequately heated, lighted and ventilated. Unvented kerosene heaters shall not be used, unless the heater has been approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory."
 - (3) No firearm or other projectile weapon is kept and no ammunition for such weapons shall be kept.
 - (4) The independent living arrangement has access to an operating telephone.
 - (5) The independent living arrangement has a continuous supply of safe drinking water.
 - (6) The independent living arrangement has an operating bathroom and toilet facilities located within the independent living arrangement and connected to an indoor plumbing system.
 - (7) Garbage is disposed of on a regular basis and garbage stored outside the independent living arrangement shall be in covered containers or closed bags.
 - (8) The independent living arrangement has an operating smoke alarm approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory" on each level of occupancy.
 - (9) The independent living arrangement has a B-C portable chemical fire extinguisher in operating order in the cooking area of the living arrangement.
- (H) An independent living environment shall not have more than five children residing in the home unless it is licensed as a group home pursuant to Chapter 5101:2-9 of the Administrative Code. Each child shall be provided with a bed of his own with no more than four children to a bedroom.
- (I) Nothing in this rule shall prohibit a PSCA or PCPA from establishing additional site and safety requirements or other placement criteria for an independent living arrangement.

Effective:

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Certification

Date

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