


OWNING MY CASE:
TRANSITION PLANNING FOR
OLDER YOUTH AND
ENGAGING IN COURT



INDEPENDENT LIVING PLANS

Effective August 1st, 2015 an Independent Living Plan is required for children ages 14 and older (previously ages 16 and older). This is according to Minn. Stat.260C.212, subd. 1(c)(12)

These plans are available in SSIS under:

- Service Plans
- Action: (New State Service Plan)
- Independent Living Plan

FOSTER CARE BENEFITS PAST AGE 18

Six months prior to the child's 18th birthday, the responsible social services agency shall provide written notice to any child in foster care under Minn. Stat. 206C.451 who cannot reasonably be expected to return home, or have another legally permanent family by the age of 18.

This notice is available in SSIS under:

- [Chronology](#)
- [Documents](#)
- [Action: \(New document\)](#)
- [Notice of Foster Care Benefits Past Age 18](#)

VOLUNTARY FOSTER CARE FOR YOUTH AGES 18-21

If the youth is in agreement and desires to continue in foster care and are not likely to return home, they must complete a Voluntary Placement Agreement under Minn. Stat. 260C.229.

This document is available in SSIS under:

- Tools
- External Documents
- Voluntary Foster Care for Youth Ages 18-21

EXTENDED FOSTER CARE CRITERIA

For youth that decide to continue in foster care past age 18, they must meet at least one of the following criteria on an ongoing basis.

- (i) Completing a secondary education program such as high school or G.E.D. programming
- (ii) Enrolled in an institution that provides post-secondary or vocational education
- (iii) Employed at least 80 hours per month
- (iv) Participating in a program or activity that is designed to remove barriers to education or employment
- (v) Incapable of doing any of the activities above due to a medical condition

COURT REVIEWS AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEWS

When a client is in continuous foster care, the court must conduct court reviews at least every 12 months.

Administrative (paper) reviews must be completed within 180 days of the most recent court review. These reviews are completed by an independent reviewer and do not need to be held in front of a judge.

Court and Administrative Reviews should be documented in SSIS

90 DAY TRANSITION PLANS

Youth who will be discharged from foster care at age 18 or older, the caseworker must develop a personalized transition plan with the youth. This is according to Minn. Stat. 260C.203 (f).

The transition plan must:

- Be executed during the 90-day period immediately prior to the date of discharge.
- Include specific options on all domains of the Independent Living Plan.
- Include options for mentoring and additional support services as well as information on who to contact in crisis situations.
- Information on a health care directive and the importance of designating someone to make health care decisions.