
YOUTH 17 YEAR-OLD STAFFING, & JUDICIAL REVIEW PREPARATION & REQUIREMENTS

Your Name: _____

Your Goal (adoption, home, etc): _____

Date of Meeting with Caseworker (Staffing): _____

Preparation for 17 Year Old Staffing

Ask about the results of the New IL Assessment you took so that you, your service worker, and your caregiver can discuss and understand the results. Plan an updated Life Skills Plan. Use the checklist below to be sure you have an understanding (or have received training) in the following areas:

- Banking Skills
- Budgeting Skills
- Interviewing Skills
- Parenting Skills – if applicable
- Time Management / Organizational Skills
- Educational Support
- Employment Training
- Counseling

Take notes below (*what did your IL assessment tell you? What services, information, classes or instruction do you still need?, what would you like to have in addition to the above? what would you like to discuss with your service worker?*):

The following people may be at your meeting, you may invite any adult you would like to attend. Be sure to invite adults that you feel comfortable with to help you.

Attendees

- Services Worker
- The Services Worker's supervisor
- Child Welfare Legal Services (CWLS)
- You –must attend
- Your caregiver
- Your guardian ad litem (**service worker shall invite**)
- Your attorney, if you have one (**service worker shall invite**)
- The independent living service provider

- adults that you feel comfortable with & are important in your life
- family members you will likely want to be involved with you after you leave foster care
- teacher or other school staff member
- staff member from the unit handling post-emancipation services should attend staffing if additional life skills training are determined to be needed past 18*

Extended Jurisdiction

Do you understand what Extending Jurisdiction means? Yes No

What do you see are the pros and cons of extending jurisdiction -- remaining under the care and supervision of the court?

Would you like to remain under the jurisdiction of the court until you are 19? (This is often done to be sure you have completed the independent living services you need before you age out of the system).

Complete Extended Jurisdiction Form anytime before 19th birthday.

Plans for the future

Where do you want to be living after you turn 18 (age out of the foster care system) Do you want to remain in your current placement or have your service worker find another licensed placement?

Where will you live?

What will be your source of income? How will you pay your bills?

What potential problems do you think you may have? *Discuss with your service worker how to deal with those potential problems.*

What adults in the community do you feel you have connections with? Whom would you call if you had a problem or issue you need help with? *If you do not have someone like this, please talk to your service worker about finding an adult in the community as a mentor.*

If you are a young adult with a child, you are entitled to the same things as a young adult without a child. Remember that just because you are in foster care, it does not mean your child will be removed from you. Every effort shall be made to place you and your child shall be placed in the same facility. You should also be provided the following:

- prenatal care
- daycare
- housing
- educational services
- other public benefits
- a plan for the future (*take notes below*)

Have you discussed the Road to Independence Program, Subsidized Independent Living (SIL), scholarships, waivers, and Bright Futures scholarship with your service worker? Yes No

Do you have the forms needed to apply? Yes No

Do you understand the eligibility requirements? Yes No

Do you need help in completing the necessary forms? Yes No

- Be sure to ask your service worker for help completing the forms

Do you understand what services are available to you after you age out? Yes No

- I.e., transitional services, aftercare support services, medical care, public assistance, and housing

Do you know how to access the court? Yes No

A mentor is someone that you can call or meet with that will help you reach your goals. Write the person's name & phone number, or resource your service worker gave you or another adult mentor you have found to mentor you.

When you are 17 1/2, you will have a special hearing in court to make sure you have what you need to leave foster care. It is important that you attend this hearing. Use the checklist below to be sure you have the following:

- Medicaid card and information about Medicaid to instruct you how to apply § 39.701(6)(a)1
- A certified copy of birth certificate § 39.701(6)(a)2
- A Florida ID under § 322.051, or drivers license § 39.701(6)(a)2
- Information regarding SSI benefits, if eligible
- Full accounting of Master Trust Account, if applicable
- Budgeting skills training § 39.701(6)(a)4
- Interviewing skills training § 39.701(6)(a)4
- Parenting skills training, if applicable § 39.701(6)(a)4
- All relevant information regarding Road to Independence Program, grants, scholarships and waivers (eligibility requirements, forms and assistance in completing forms) § 39.701(6)(a)5
- Have you been told that if eligible for the Road to Independence Program may remain with caregivers where the child was at 18, or another licensed foster home or group care arranged by the department § 39.701(6)(a)5
- An open bank account or has ID necessary § 39.701(6)(a)6
- Banking skills training § 39.701(6)(a)6
- Information about public assistance and how to apply § 39.701(6)(a)7
- Where you will be living
- How expenses will be paid
- Your school information
- You have been provided with notice of your right to continued jurisdiction § 39.701(6)(a)9
- You have signed the written report §. 409.1451(4)(b)5)
- The “Removal of Disability of Non-Age” this means that the court will give you a paper that will tell anyone who may rent housing to you that you are able to do so even though you are not 18 yet.
- You may also be able to qualify for the “Removal of Disability of Non-Age” so that you can have a banking and checking account. You will need to take a financial literacy class. You can have this as early as when you are 16.

Developed a Transition Plan? Yes No

- Types of services being provided by department
- Activities young adult will complete to achieve self-sufficiency
- Reviewed every 3 months
- Any dispute about the contents of the Transition Plan will be resolved through informal grievance process (not a fair hearing)
- Transition Plan <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/publications/eforms/fsp5293.pdf>

Normalcy

Have you developed a written plan or list of age-appropriate activities that you would like to do? (*Drivers education, overnight or planned outings, other activities that youth participate in*). Yes No

Use the checklist below to be sure you have received the following:

- You have been provided information regarding:
 - drug and alcohol use and abuse
 - teen sexuality issues
 - runaway prevention
 - health services
 - community involvement
 - knowledge of available resources
 - identifying legal issues
 - understanding his or her legal rights
 - accessing specific legal advice
- You have been given permission and encouragement to:
 - engage in appropriate social and extracurricular activities
 - obtain employment
 - have contact with family members, if appropriate
 - have access to phone usage
 - have reasonable curfews
 - travel with other youth or adults
- You have been given assistance in participating in activities such as:
 - having your picture taken for publication in a newspaper or yearbook
 - receiving public recognition for accomplishments
 - participating in school or after-school organizations or clubs
 - participating in community events
- No one can take these activities away from you as a form of punishment.

Development of Educational and Career Path

Have you developed an educational plan with your service worker? If so, what is the plan?

If you have changed your mind and would like to develop a new educational plan, or have never created one, be sure to do so. You may change your mind about your educational and career goals anytime. Be sure to create a new plan. Below you will find what you, your caseworker and teacher should consider for your educational planning.

List your interests in school (favorite classes and activities), and what things you think you would like to do as a career.

List what you may want to do as a career in the future. List what you want to accomplish in school (activities, grades, volunteer work). You can go to www.guardianadlitem.org and find a variety of websites

in the teen section that will help you determine what type of career you may be interested in – based on your interests.

If you have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) from your school, you should be sure to review that with your service worker. The IEP should include educational goals, classes and services. List those below so you can keep track of them.

What do you think you would like to do after high school?

- 4-year college or university
- a community college plus university
- a military academy;
- 2-year college;
- Get a technical certificate or credential; or
- Begin work after high-school, including apprenticeship, after completion of a high school diploma or its equivalent, or
- Enlist in the military.

Discuss with your service worker and foster parents the following: *You can take notes below so that you can remember your choices and goals.*

High-school participation choices (activities, clubs, organizations)

College or vocational school entrance requirements

List the classes you will need to take to reach your education and career goals.

List the elective courses would be good to take because they relate to education plan

GPA necessary _____

List what things may get in the way of you reaching your goals. Discuss them with your service worker

- Your service worker has explained the educational plan to you and your foster parents
- All documents have been explained to you
- You have signed written reports – educational plan, normalization plan, transition plan, as well as other reports.
- You are planning to attend your Judicial Reviews – this is strongly encouraged!