

Effective Date: October 9, 2006.

Most Current Prior Effective Date: [November 12, 2002](#).

- (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) The PCSA or PCPA shall conduct or obtain a life skills assessment for each youth who is in agency custody and has reached age sixteen, or who the agency has identified as appropriate to receive independent living services. A life skills assessment shall establish the need for life skills identified in paragraph (F) of this rule. The life skills assessment shall consist of an objective tool 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.
- (E) The agency is responsible for ensuring that a written independent living plan to 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 be provided to the youth. The independent living plan should be reviewed at least every ninety days thereafter until the agency's custody is terminated.
- (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;~~and~~.

(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.

(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.

Effective Date: 10/09/2006

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 06/28/2006 and 10/01/2011

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 09/14/2006

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5101.141, 5103.03, 5153.16

Rule Amplifies: 5101.141, 5103.03, 5153.16

Prior Effective Dates: 10/1/89, 1/1/91, 10/1/97, 11/12/02

[FCASMTL 184](#)

5101:2-42-19.1 Requirements for Independent Living Arrangements for Independent Living Youth in Custody

Effective Date: October 9, 2006.

Most Current Prior Effective Date: [November 12, 2002](#).

- (A) Placement of a youth ~~that~~who is in the custody of an agency into an independent living arrangement may be made by a public children services agency (PCSA) or any custodial agency certified to provide independent living arrangements pursuant to rule 5101:2-5-03 of the Administrative Code.
- (B) Placement of a youth in an independent living arrangement shall only be made after the custodial agency is satisfied that general site, safety, and supervision requirements for independent living arrangements have been met. At a minimum, the following standards shall be met:
- (1) All structures associated with the independent living arrangement are maintained in a safe state of repair. In addition to the preceding any licensed independent living arrangement shall be inspected annually by a certified fire inspector or the state fire ~~Marshall~~ marshall.
 - (2) The independent living arrangement is safely and adequately heated, lighted and ventilated. Unvented kerosene heaters shall not be used, unless the heater has been approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory (www.ul.com)."
 - (3) No firearm or other projectile weapon and no ammunition for such weapons are kept on the premises.
 - (4) The independent living arrangement has access to an operating telephone.
 - (5) The independent living arrangement has an operating bathroom and toilet facilities located within the building and connected to an indoor plumbing system.
 - (6) Garbage is disposed of on a regular basis and garbage stored outside shall be in covered containers or closed bags.
 - (7) The independent living arrangement has an operating smoke alarm approved by "Underwriter's Laboratory" on each level of occupancy.
 - (8) The independent living arrangement has a portable chemical fire extinguisher in operating order in the cooking area.
 - (9) A written emergency procedure in place that assures youth will have twenty-four hour access to staff that is familiar with the youth's situation.
- (C) The PCSA or any custodial agency, in accordance with rule 5101:2-42-65 of the Administrative Code, shall make a face-to-face visit with the youth in the youth's independent living arrangement within seven days following the placement of the youth into the living arrangement. The PCSA or custodial agency shall make monthly face-to-face visits with the youth. At a minimum, two visits in every six-month period shall be in the youth's independent living arrangement.
- (D) An independent living arrangement shall not have more than five youth residing in the home. Each youth shall be provided with a bed of his/her own with no more than two youth to a bedroom.
- (E) Nothing in this rule is to be construed in a manner as to preclude an agency from using additional site, safety, and supervision requirements for independent living arrangements.

Effective Date: 10/09/2006

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 06/28/2006 and 10/01/2011

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 09/14/2006

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5101.141, 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5101.141, 5103.03, 5153.16

Prior Effective Dates: 10/1/89, 1/1/91, 10/1/97, 11/12/02

[FCASMTL 184](#)

5101:2-42-19.2 Requirements for Provision of Independent Living Services to Young Adults who have Emancipated

Effective Date: October 9, 2006.

Most Current Prior Effective Date: [November 12, 2002](#).

- (A) Each public children services agency (PCSA) shall, when requested, provide services and support to former foster care recipients, who emancipated from that agency's custody due to attaining eighteen years of age. A PCSA shall evaluate the strengths and needs of the young adult to determine the services to be offered. The services and supports are to complement the young adult's own efforts to achieve self-sufficiency, and shall be available until the young adult's twenty-first birthday.
- (B) Based on the evaluation required by paragraph (A) of this rule, the PCSA and the young adult shall develop a mutually agreed on written plan for the provision of services. The plan shall clearly outline the responsibilities of the young adult and the PCSA. The written plan shall be signed by the young adult and a representative of the agency.
- (C) Before a PCSA provides services to a young adult between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one, the PCSA shall explore and coordinate services with other community resources.
- (D) Independent living services that are available to young adults aged eighteen to twenty-one include, but are not limited to:
- (1) Daily living skills;
 - (2) Assistance in obtaining a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED);
 - (3) Assistance in preparation for post secondary education and training;
 - (4) Assistance with career exploration, vocational training, job placement and retention;
 - (5) Preventive health activities (smoking avoidance, nutritional education, and pregnancy prevention);
 - (6) Financial, housing, employment, education, and self-esteem counseling;
 - (7) Development of positive relationships and support systems; ~~and~~
 - (8) Drug and alcohol abuse prevention and treatment.
- (E) A PCSA may use up to thirty per cent of its federal independent living allocation for room and board for eighteen to twenty-one year old emancipated young adults. Room and board may include but is not limited to:
- (1) Assistance with rent;
 - (2) Initial rent deposit;
 - (3) Utilities; ~~and~~
 - (4) Utility deposits.
- (F) Under no circumstances shall the PCSA use any of its independent living allocation for room and board for youth under the age of eighteen or past the young adult's twenty-first birthday.
- (G) The PCSA shall provide foster children aging out of the system, a copy of their health and education records free of charge.
- ~~(G)~~(H) All PCSAs shall report applicable independent living services information for young adults 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 to the family and children services information system (FACSIS) or statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) reporting requirements, if applicable.
- ~~(H)~~(I) The PCSA shall provide a copy of the agency's grievance policy as required by rule 5101:2-33-04 of the Administrative Code to each young adult who requests independent living services from the agency.

Effective Date: 10/09/2006

R.C. 119.032 review dates: 06/28/2006 and 10/01/2011

Certification: CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Date: 09/14/2006

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 5101.141, 5103.03

Rule Amplifies: 5101.141, 5103.03, 5153.16

Prior Effective Dates: 11/12/2002

[FCASMTL 184](#)