

260C.452 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** This section pertains to a child who is under the guardianship of the commissioner of human services, or who has a permanency disposition of permanent custody to the agency, or who will leave foster care at 18 to 21 years of age.

Subd. 2. **Independent living plan.** When the child is 14 years of age or older, the responsible social services agency, in consultation with the child, shall complete the independent living plan according to section 260C.212, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (12).

Subd. 3. **Notification.** Six months before the child is expected to be discharged from foster care, the responsible social services agency shall provide written notice to the child regarding the right to continued access to services for certain children in foster care past 18 years of age and of the right to appeal a denial of social services under section 256.045.

Subd. 4. **Administrative or court review of placements.** (a) When the child is 14 years of age or older, the court, in consultation with the child, shall review the independent living plan according to section 260C.203, paragraph (d).

(b) The responsible social services agency shall file a copy of the notification required in subdivision 3 with the court. If the responsible social services agency does not file the notice by the time the child is 17-1/2 years of age, the court shall require the responsible social services agency to file the notice.

(c) The court shall ensure that the responsible social services agency assists the child in obtaining the following documents before the child leaves foster care: a Social Security card; an official or certified copy of the child's birth certificate; a state identification card or driver's license, tribal enrollment identification card, green card, or school visa; health insurance information; the child's school, medical, and dental records; a contact list of the child's medical, dental, and mental health providers; and contact information for the child's siblings, if the siblings are in foster care.

(d) For a child who will be discharged from foster care at 18 years of age or older, the responsible social services agency must develop a personalized transition plan as directed by the child during the 90-day period immediately prior to the expected date of discharge. The transition plan must be as detailed as the child elects and include specific options, including but not limited to:

- (1) affordable housing with necessary supports that does not include a homeless shelter;
- (2) health insurance, including eligibility for medical assistance as defined in section 256B.055, subdivision 17;
- (3) education, including application to the Education and Training Voucher Program;
- (4) local opportunities for mentors and continuing support services, including the Healthy Transitions and Homeless Prevention program, if available;
- (5) workforce supports and employment services;
- (6) a copy of the child's consumer credit report as defined in section 13C.001 and assistance in interpreting and resolving any inaccuracies in the report, at no cost to the child;
- (7) information on executing a health care directive under chapter 145C and on the importance of designating another individual to make health care decisions on behalf of the child if the child becomes unable to participate in decisions; and

(8) appropriate contact information through 21 years of age if the child needs information or help dealing with a crisis situation.

Subd. 5. **Notice of termination of foster care.** (a) When a child leaves foster care at 18 years of age or older, the responsible social services agency shall give the child written notice that foster care shall terminate 30 days from the date the notice is sent.

(b) The child or the child's guardian ad litem may file a motion asking the court to review the responsible social services agency's determination within 15 days of receiving the notice. The child shall not be discharged from foster care until the motion is heard. The responsible social services agency shall work with the child to transition out of foster care.

(c) The written notice of termination of benefits shall be on a form prescribed by the commissioner and shall give notice of the right to have the responsible social services agency's determination reviewed by the court under this section or sections 260C.203, 260C.317, and 260C.515, subdivision 5 or 6. A copy of the termination notice shall be sent to the child and the child's attorney, if any, the foster care provider, the child's guardian ad litem, and the court. The responsible social services agency is not responsible for paying foster care benefits for any period of time after the child leaves foster care.

History: 2016 c 189 art 15 s 13