INFORM
NAVIGATE
EMPOWER

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER
OF MINNESOTA

Representing Older Foster Care Youth (Ages 18-21)

Katie Mathurin and Kathi Peterson

AGENDA

- Background on EFC
- Agency & Youth Requirements for EFC
- Available Benefits
- Client Engagement
- Termination and Re-Entry Processes
- Preparing for 21st Birthday
- Questions

Purpose of Extended Foster Care (EFC)

Data shows that **each additional year** a young person spends in extended foster care improves their quality of life:

- Increase in completing high school/GED (about an 8% increase)
- Increase in college enrollment (10-11% increase)
- Increased rates of employment
- Increased the amount of money youth had in bank accounts by about $404
- Increased the odds that youth described a professional as a source of social support
- Decreased the odds of being homeless or couch-surfing by about 28%
- Decreased the odds that youth became pregnant or impregnated a female by about 28%
- Decreased the odds that youth had been arrested by about 41%
- Decreased the odds that youth had been convicted of a crime by about 40%

Chapin Hall Report

Federal Changes and Funding

Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008

- Enacted in 2008 to foster greater outcomes for foster youth
- Allowed for funding for youth ages 18-21
  - Amended Title IV-E: federal reimbursement to states for costs for foster care
- States could choose to extend foster care beyond age 18 & claim federal funding
- 2010: Minnesota opted in becoming one of the first states to have an extended foster care program



Agency & Youth Requirements for EFC

Agency requirements prior to 18th birthday

Notice Requirements

- Six months prior to turning 18, agency must provide youth with notice of EFC program
- Attorney can request a copy of this; does not typically get filed with court

Independent Living Plan (ILP)

•Ongoing requirement to update the ILP every 6 months
•New legislation in 2026: youth does not need to request an updated ILP (Minn. S. Law Ch. 127 (2026).
•Immediately prior to turning 18, agency must submit an updated ILP to the court
•ILP made in conjunction with the youth
•Agency "must provide continued services ... to implement the independent living plan."

Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families
Independent Living Plan

Youth's Name: [redacted]	
Plan Dates: 12/10/2024 - 06/10/2026	Review Date: 06/10/2026
Worker Name: [redacted]	Worker Phone: (612)543-0041

What assessments were used to develop the plan?
(Check all that apply)
* Vocational
* Mental Health

Other:
Facility staff obtained Tamiea's input on things/skills they would like to work on, including setting goals for ILS

Youth included these individuals on the case planning team:
[redacted]

Past input from:
[redacted]

Case planning team member designated to advocate for the application of the prudent parenting standard:
GAL

All required parties received the notice:

Educational, Vocational or Employment Planning

The following are suggestions to discuss with the youth and develop goals, if needed. The list includes, but is not limited to:

- Obtaining a high school diploma or its equivalent
- Engaging in career/employment planning and/or is adequately employed
- Planning to or has enrolled in a post-secondary educational or training program (college, vocational/technical school, trade school) and is applying for or has obtained financial aid for which they are eligible, including the Education and Training Voucher Program

What has the youth identified as their educational, vocational or employment needs and goals?
To get on the honor roll
To complete high school

What strengths, abilities, and resources does the youth have to make progress toward or accomplish these goals?
Self-motivated.
Independent in going to and attending school (in the past)
Getting good grades (in the past)

Are there any potential challenges or barriers to achieving these goals? If so, describe agency efforts to assist the youth with overcoming any identified barriers.
Being absent from school - chronic
Missing school work

Person Responsible	Action Taken	Timeframe	Current Progress
What specific steps need to be taken by the youth, social worker and, if applicable, current foster care provider for the youth to make progress toward and/or successfully achieve these goals?			
School		currently	Revised

Topics Covered in ILP



Educational, vocational or employment planning



Transportation



Healthcare planning and medical coverage



Planning for housing



Money management



Social and recreational skills and cultural activities



Establishing and maintain healthy connections



Other services and supports



Vital documents



Court Review Prior to 18th Birthday

- Can be an administrative review, within 90 days of turning 18
- Youth has a right to request a hearing
- Court must review agency's written report including:
  - Whether youth is eligible for EFC
  - If not eligible, why not
  - Summary of how youth was involved in creating ILP & copy of ILP
  - When notice was sent
  - If plan is other than EFC, why and 180-day transition plan if leaving foster care
    - Extended jurisdiction until 19
    - Adult services
    - Reunification
    - Leave foster care

Minn. Stat. 260C.202

EFC vs Extended Jurisdiction to Age 19 under Minn. Stat. § 260C.193

RULES OF JUVENILE PROTECTION PROCEDURE

Rule 25.02.Continuing Jurisdiction to Age 19 "extended jurisdiction"

- The court may continue jurisdiction over an individual and all other parties to the proceeding until the individual's 19th birthday as provided by Minnesota Statutes, section 260C.193, subd. 6, paragraph (c).

Minn. Stat. § 260C.193, Subdivision 6, paragraph (c)

- The court may continue jurisdiction over an individual and all other parties to the proceeding to the individual's 19th birthday when continuing jurisdiction is in the individual's best interest in order to:
- (1) protect the safety or health of the individual;
- (2) accomplish additional planning for independent living or for the transition out of foster care; or
- (3) support the individual's completion of high school or a high school equivalency program.

MINN. STAT. § 260C.451, Subd. 7 Provides Clarification

Subd. 7.**Jurisdiction.**

Individuals in foster care pursuant to this section are adults for all purposes except the continued provision of foster care... The responsible social services agency has legal responsibility for the individual's placement and care when the matter continues under court jurisdiction pursuant to section 260C.193 or when the individual and the responsible agency execute a voluntary placement agreement pursuant to section 260C.229.

Agency Requirements while in EFC

- Case management services
  - Monthly meeting with youth
  - Approval of foster care setting
- Bi-annual updates to Independent Living Plan
  - Includes an annual consumer report obtained by the agency
  - ILP submitted to court
- Distribute monthly stipend
  - Directly to youth or foster care setting
  - Basic rate of $1,191 + assessed supplemental rate

Youth Requirements

- A youth is not eligible for extended foster care if they:
  - can safely return home, or
  - can be adopted or have permanent custody transferred to a relative prior to the youth's eighteenth birthday. Minn. Stat. § 260C.451, subd. 3.

- Sess. L. Ch. 127 – Health and Human Services Omnibus Bill **(**SF 4612**)**
  - Removes a section that previously precluded youth receiving services under Minn. Stat. 256B.092 (services for persons with developmental disabilities) from participating in EFC.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for extended foster care, youth must be:

- (1) completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential;
- (2) enrolled in an institution that provides post-secondary or vocational education;
- (3) participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment;
- (4) employed for at least 80 hours per month; or
- (5) incapable of doing any of the activities described in clauses 1 to 4 due to a medical condition.
- Minn. Stat. § 260C.451, subd. 3a



Amendments to EFC Eligibility 2026

Sess. L. Ch. 127 – Health and Human Services Omnibus Bill (SF 4612)

Expands EFC eligibility:

- Education requirement now includes public or private transition programs
- Youth receiving benefits under Paid Family Leave are eligible for EFC.

Additional Youth Requirements

- Maintain safe, stable, and suitable housing approved but NOT provided by the agency.
- Sign a *Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA)* indicating the youth's desire to remain in foster care under the responsibility of the county or tribe and the youth's willingness to coordinate with the social services agency.
- Participate in the co-creation of an Independent Living Plan.
- Meet monthly with their EFC caseworker and **the youth** must provide monthly verification of the youth's eligibility for EFC.

Amendments to EFC Statutes in 2026

- **Sess. L. Ch. 127 – Health and Human Services Omnibus Bill (SF 4612)**

  - Allows a monthly face-to-face caseworker contact to be conducted via video conference, for a youth 18 or older, with the youth's informed consent (Minn. Stat. 260C.212, subd. 4a).



What Verification is Needed?

Housing verification.

Provide rental agreement, dorm verification, and if living with relative, verification from relative of permission to stay.

Must allow agency worker to view living arrangement.

Housing does NOT need to be licensed as a foster placement.

What Verification is Needed?

- Secondary Education. Provide documentation showing consistent attendance and progress toward graduation.
- Enrolled in and attending college or vocational program. Provide enrollment paperwork, midterm or semester grades, and be able to log into their student portal to show they are enrolled.
- Participate in a program or activity designed to remove barriers to employment. Provide at least 40 hours per month of documentation showing activities that help the youth become more employable. Examples include but are not limited to: Actively applying for jobs, participating in a class involving employment or working with an employment program.
- Employment. Provide pay stubs showing the hours and dates worked.

What Verification is Needed?

Unable to participate in the above activities due to a medical condition.

Provide documentation from a doctor that youth can't work or attend school. Medical conditions can include pregnancy with bedrest, 6 to 8 weeks post pregnancy, mononucleosis etc.

Consult with DCYF Adolescent Services.



EFC as a Benefit for Youth 18-21

Benefits Provided to Participating Youth

When the 18–21-year-old client agrees to voluntarily participate in EFC, meets monthly with their county social worker, demonstrates a basis for their continuing eligibility each month, and lives in an approved safe, stable, and suitable setting approved by the agency, they will receive:

- A Monthly Stipend
- Case Management Services

Monthly Stipends for EFC Youth

Basic rate for EFC payments will be $1,191 per month for youth 18-21 (7/1/26-6/30/27)

For youth with special needs the monthly stipend is calculated as follows:

Basic foster care rate + assessed supplemental rate

Supplemental MAPCY rate (Minnesota Assessment of Parenting for Children and Youth)

which ranges from $0- $1869 (7/1/26-6/30/27)

Supervised Independent Living (SIL) needs considered:

- Transportation to preserve kin and relative connections
- Transportation to work and school
- Communication support –phone and internet
- Whether youth is a parent
- Need for childcare

Case Management Services

- The agency is required to assist with youth's Independent Living Plan (ILP) including assisting with obtaining the youth's annual credit report and 180-day transition plan

- Youth in EFC receive case management services from their county worker.

- To ensure the client is receiving proper case management services for their needs and wishes, ASK them about their goals regarding schooling, vocational and employment goals, transportation needs and desires (driver's ed),housing goals and needs, money management, health care and insurance management, and receipt of their vital documents.

Safe Connected Healthy Well Family

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Extended Foster Care

Support Education Community Independent Transition Future Leadership Success Employment



DHS-6530A-ENG 9-23

Foster care benefits past age 18

Youth have the right to remain in foster care past age 18. All eligible youth in foster care will receive a written notice within six months prior to turning age 18, informing them of their right to extended foster care up to age 21. This notice is sent by the county or tribal agency responsible for placement. The notice includes information on:

- Eligibility
- Types of placements
- Independent living plans
- Return to foster care
- Notice of termination
- Right to appeal a decision to terminate placement.

Eligibility for extended foster care

Youth in foster care immediately prior to their 18th birthday, are eligible for extended foster care benefits. Foster care placement must be under Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 260C or 260D. Youth placed solely under 260B (delinquency) are not eligible. Youth should not be discharged prior to age 18 unless:

- They are reunified with their primary caregiver
- They have a transfer of permanent legal and physical custody
- They are adopted, either traditional or customary.

Continuing in extended foster care

Youth must meet at least one of the following conditions to continue in or return to foster care, and remain in placement to age 21:

- Completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential, such as General Education Development (GED) diploma or certificate
- Enrolled in an institution that provides post-secondary or vocational education
- Participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment
- Employed for at least 80 hours per month
- Incapable of doing any of the activities described above due to a medical condition.

Two types of extended foster care settings

There are two types of extended foster care settings, traditional foster care and supervised independent living settings, including:

- Apartment
- Dormitory
- Host home
- Shared living arrangement
- Other approved county or tribal agency setting.

Maintenance payment eligibility

All youth in supervised independent living settings remain eligible for foster care maintenance payments. Foster care maintenance payments include the basic foster care rate and an assessed supplemental rate. These payments are used for:

- Food
- Clothing
- Shelter
- Daily supervision
- School supplies
- Personal and other basic needs expenses.

If youth are in a traditional foster care setting, payments will continue to go to the foster care provider. If youth are in a supervised independent living setting, the agency may pay all or part of the payment directly to youth. An agency may also pay all or part of maintenance payments to a vendor. Youth must receive the entire maintenance payment amount, either directly to them or to a vendor.

Casework requirements

All ongoing casework requirements and responsibilities continue for all youth in extended foster care, including:

- Out-of-home placement plan
- Independent living plan
- A 180-day transition plan
- Annual permanency review hearing
- Administrative review
- Monthly face-to-face contact.

Discharge from extended foster care

Youth who no longer meet at least one of the eligibility conditions, or fail to meet requirements of their case plan, may be discharged from foster care. Social workers should make efforts to engage youth in a planned discharge from foster care. Notice of termination of benefits and their right to appeal under Minnesota Statutes 260C.045, must be given to youth. A 180-day transition plan for youth must be offered.

Return or re-entry into care

Youth who were under guardianship of the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Services (parental rights were terminated by the court) have the right to return to foster care any time between the ages of 18-21. If not under state guardianship, youth must have been in placement for the six consecutive months prior to age 18, or discharged on runaway status after age 15. Youth must still meet eligibility criteria and live in an approved setting.

For more information

For questions about transition or extended foster care policy and services, contact Nicolas Vogel, agency policy specialist at 651-431-4707 or nicolas.vogel@state.mn.us.



Common Client Misunderstandings about EFC

When I turn 18, I get to get my own place and money every month- this is **NOT TRUE!**

Just because a youth turns 18 doesn't mean they are ready or prepared to live on their own. Moving into a Supervised Independent Living setting (SIL) as a voluntary placement must be done by creating a plan approved by the EFC county worker to receive the stipend. The youth must also be ready and have demonstrated independent living skills.

EFC will give me an apartment-this is **NOT TRUE!**

EFC is <u>not</u> a housing program and does not having apartments or housing to move youth into.

EFC will pay for all my college costs-this is **NOT TRUE!**

The youth may be eligible for funding programs though the State of Minnesota Office of Higher Education and Minnesota DCYF, but those funding programs are separate from EFC or the county.

DCYF Contact for EFC Questions

Nicolas Vogel

Extended Foster Care Policy Specialist| Child Safety & Permanency

651-539-8026

Work Hours: Monday through Thursday 7:30-6:00

Email policy questions to: dcyf.csp.foster.youth.transitions@state.mn.us



Additional Benefits Available to Older Foster Youth Independent of EFC

Medical Assistance (MA)

- Former and current foster care youth who age out of care at age 18 OR enter EFC are automatically eligible for MA until age 26
- Eligible no matter a youth's income, assets, or household composition
- Youth apply through MNsure
  (a) Were you ever in foster care in Minnesota? (If yes, question b appears)
  (b) Did foster care stop when you were age 18 or older? (If yes, question c appears)
  (c) Were you on Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare at the time foster care ended?

*Children who find permanent homes through adoption or TOC before their 18th birthday can remain on their new legal guardian's insurance until age 26, or they can apply for MA on their own, but they have to meet qualifications. It is not automatic.

Medical Assistance (MA)

- As your client continues in EFC, encourage them to become more knowledgeable about their MA benefits, the enrollment process, and their health care needs and providers.
- Ask your client if they know how to renew their annual MA coverage and if they have their ID card.
- Ask your client if they know their medical and dental providers and ask them if they have any medical and dental needs, so you can request assistance for them as needed.

Credit Reports

- Up to age 21, annual consumer credit reports from Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion
- Agency is required to assist foster care youth with obtaining annual reports and reviewing reports with them
- Ask your client if this has been done for them.
- Ask them if they have any questions about the results.

Successful Transition to Adulthood for Youth (STAY) Program

- Open to former foster care youth up to age 23 who were in foster care after age 14
- Specific to **each county**, but services are to address
  - Independent living skills
  - Transportation
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Permanent connections
  - Housing
- For more information https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/services/adolescent-services/programs-services/stay-program.jsp

Education and Training Vouchers (ETVs)

- Up to $5,000 per school year through DCYF for up to five years of post-secondary education in at accredited college, university, vocational, technical or trade schools.
- Eligibility:
  - Under age 26
  - High school grad or GED diploma
  - Accepted into post-secondary institution and awarded financial aid, and at meet at least one;
    - In foster care 30 consecutive days between ages 17-18;
    - Left foster care by adoption after age 16
    - Left transfer of permanent legal and physical custody after age 16;
    - In EFC or aged out of foster care at age 18 or older

College Funding through MN Office of Higher Education

- Fostering Independence Grant (FIG). State program enacted in 2022.
- Designed to meet full college attendance cost needs not just tuition. (Continued funding and eligibility of undocumented youth is a concern.)
- Covers tuition and living expenses, including books, housing, and transportation
- Apply via Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Minnesota Alternative State Financial Aid Application (formerly “MN Dream Act Application”)
- If eligible, the grant will factor into the student’s financial aid package

FIG Basics

- Eligibility
  - MN resident
  - Younger than age 27
  - Graduated from high school or the completed the equivalent (GED) as approved by the Department of Education
  - Submitted a FAFSA or “Minnesota Dream Act” application (undocumented youth must graduate with a high school diploma)
  - In foster care after age 13 -- even if TOC or adoption from foster care after reaching 13
  - Attending MN public college or participating private schools
  - Meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress as defined by institution
- List of participating schools https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?PageID=2510

FIG - Contact

- **STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR**

- **Adam Johnson**
- **PHONE:** (651) 355-0617
- **EMAIL:** adam.d.johnson@state.mn.us

- hhttps://ohe.mn.gov/grant-scholarship/fostering-independence-higher-education-grants

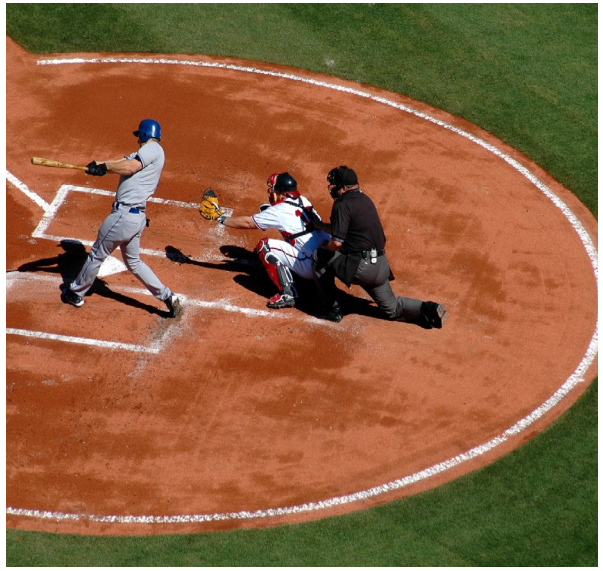


Client Engagement

Barriers and Strategies to Overcome Them

Highlight EFC is a whole new ballgame

- Past trauma
- CPS mistrust/fatigue
- Family pressure
- Current stressors
- Adolescent development



- Highlight EFC is a new ballgame in CPS
- This is a voluntary choice, a collaborative effort, and the agenda is client-driven
- They are adults for all purposes except the continued provision of foster care benefits
- Compliment them for their adult choice to participate
- Express respect that they are the experts in their own lives

Encouragement to Continue in EFC

- Highlight the MONEY $1191 x 36 months at basic rate **$42,876**
- Client chooses how they qualify and it is often doing things they will be doing anyway now
- Case management can be extremely helpful in maximizing the other benefits available to them, youth often end up with a new SW and can ask that the GAL be discharged
- Living situation needs to be safe, stable and suitable but does NOT need to be licensed
- This is voluntary and low risk -- can try it, leave, and come back (although not the best plan)
- Half or fewer court hearings

Remind Your Client What You Can Do for Them as Their Child Protection Attorney and as a Trustworthy Adult

- Represent and advocate for them at EFC review hearings
- Communicate their wishes and concerns to the ACA in between
- Facilitate their participation if they choose to attend their hearings
- Serve as a confidential older adult that cannot and will not disclose what they share
- Check in with them on their important issues, successes and concerns
- Be someone they can count on to care who has no agenda but theirs

Let the Client Steer the Ship and Serve as their Anchor in EFC

Ask the client:

*Is it OK if I reach out to check in with you at least once a month?

*Are there times that are typically good or bad to reach you?

*What communication methods do you prefer?

Remind the client:

*You are the one who will get notice if their benefits are at risk for termination





Termination and Re-Entry Processes

Notice to Terminate Benefits

Minn. Stat. 260C.451, subd. 8 requires:

- Written notice to the youth (and their attorney) that termination of EFC is set to occur 30 days from the date the notice is sent
- Use of DCYF prescribed form which includes notice that the youth has a right to have the agency's determination of ineligibility reviewed by the juvenile court judge
- Youth may file motion objecting within 15 days of receiving the notice
- Youth cannot be discharged until motion hearing

- **Sess. L. Ch. 127 – Health and Human Services Omnibus Bill (SF 4612)**
  - Notices to terminate EFC must be sent to DCYF

Hennepin County

- Notice sent through a Court Notification (CN)
- CN is signed by judge and filed
- Case added to the next EFC calendar (occurs monthly on Monday mornings)
- Can request a copy of the written termination notice through the Assistant County Attorney (ACA)

(T) CF 1316 (9-03)
Legal

☒ COURT NOTIFICATION REQUEST FOR ORDER ☐

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

☐ EMERGENCY ☒ NON-EMERGENCY

JUVENILE DIVISION
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Type: ☐ Medical ☐ Placement ☐ Visitation ☒ Other

Case Name: Child 2 HSPHD Case Number: [redacted] Date Prepared: 08/28/2026

SW / MC / Fax: Michael Vogel FAM ID Number: [redacted] J.C. Case Number: [redacted]

Child: Child 2 , DOB , Age

Judge: Judge Fellman HC Atty: Maggie Vickerman

Current Order / Date:

Narrative:

The above-named child remains under the jurisdiction of the court
☐ LTFC
☐ State Ward
☒ Extended Foster Care

The above-named child is in placement in a foster care setting pursuant to his/her Independent Living Plan. Under §260C.451, the child is eligible to continue in foster care to age 21 as the child requested that foster care benefits continue and the youth is:
☐ Completing secondary education or program leading to an equivalent credential
☐ Enrolled in an institution which provides postsecondary or vocational education
☐ Participating in a program/activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment
☐ Employed for at least 80 hours per month
☒ Incapable of doing any of the above activities due to a medical condition
☐ The youth is not eligible to remain in foster care under Minn. Stat. §260C.451, as the youth is not ccompleting secondary education or program leading to equivalent credential; and is not enrolled in an institution which provides postsecondary or vocational education; and is not participating in a program/activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment; and is not employed for at least 80 hours per month; nor is the youth incapable of doing any of the above activities due to medical condition. On the youth received written notice of termination of foster care under Minn. Stat. §260C.451, subd. 6.

The particulars of the case are as follows:

Ramsey County

- Assistant County Attorney e-files a copy of the Written Notice of Termination of Foster Care

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER
OF MINNESOTA

STATE OF MINNESOTA	DISTRICT COURT:
COUNTY: Ramsey	JUDICIAL DISTRICT: Second

In the Matter of the Child of: [redacted]	Court File Number: [redacted]

Notice to Child of Termination of Foster Care Benefits
Youth Ages 18-21

May 26, 2022

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]:

This notice is to inform you that your foster care benefits are scheduled to end on 06/26/2022. The ending of foster care benefits means the payments that you, your foster parent(s) is/are receiving, or payments that are set up for rent or other costs associated with your room and board will end on the date above unless there is an appeal. This notice is filed with the court.

Reason benefits are ending

(Choose all that apply)
☐ You and the agency social worker agree on discharge.
☒ You do not meet requirements to stay in extended foster care, specifically you are not enrolled in school or employed_____.
☐ You do not meet the conditions of your case plan, a basic requirement for you to be in foster care, specifically [state the specific case plan requirement that the youth is not meeting] _____.
☐ Other: SPECIFY REASON_____.

Legal authority for this decision
Minnesota Statutes, sections 260C.212, subds. 1 and 12; 260C.451, subds. 3a, 4 and 8.

Transition help

Termination of foster care benefits will affect your eligibility for Medical Assistance. It may be necessary for you to reapply for services. Information about specific options on housing, health insurance, education, local opportunities for mentors, continuing support services, work force supports and employment services is provided by the agency in the transition plan. The transition plan must be developed by the responsible social service agency with you during the 90-day

Right to a Hearing

- Youth has a right to “file a motion asking the court to review the agency's determination within 15 days of receiving the notice. The child shall not be discharged from foster care until the motion is heard.”
- In practice, we object based on the following grounds:
  - Client qualifies because the youth is working, enrolled in school, actively looking for a job, or unable to do so for health reasons
  - Client is willing to meet monthly with EFC worker
  - Client is willing to agree to live in a place approved by the EFC worker
- Deadline:
  - 15 days from notice date + 3 days for mail (Minn. R. Juv. Prot. P. 4.02)
- Process:
  - Depends on county

Objecting in Hennepin County

- Informal process – CN triggers a hearing date be set
- “Reply All” to email with CN
  - Formally objecting
  - Requesting a hearing
  - Requesting a copy of the notice
  - Requesting benefits continue to be paid until the court reviews the termination decision
- CLC will send a sample email

Objecting in Ramsey County

More formal

Requires a motion

- Request hearing date from chambers by email or phone call
- E-file Notice of Motion and Motion
- Check confidential status– may need the 11.4 form

CLC will send templates and can file for volunteers

Hearing

- Via zoom
- Case specific
  - May be able to resolve before hearing in consultation with ACA
- Have documentation to prove youth qualifies
- This is a hearing your client should attend
- Prepare client for questions from the court



Youth Have the Ability to Re-enter EFC

Minn. Stat. 260C.451, subd.6:

Until their 21st birthday, youth can reenter EFC after termination if they are willing and able to connect with the agency and demonstrate a month of eligibility.

The youth must be in compliance for 30 days before the county will request the court re-open court jurisdiction over the youth.

No benefits provided until the 30 days of compliance have been established and the court has re-opened court jurisdiction.

Youth Contact: EFC SWs

Hennepin

Tracy Neil at 612-432-7041

tracy.neil@hennepin.us

Intake: 612-348-3552

Ramsey

Julie Johns at 651-266-4223/651-788-2738
julie.johns@ramseycountymn.gov

(or youth's previous EFC worker)

Ramsey: 651-266-4500

Attorney Contact: ACAs

Hennepin

Maggie Vickerman at 612-543-4560

maggie.vickerman@hennepin.us

Ramsey

Amanda Sackmaster at 651-266-3137
amanda.sackmaster@ramseycountymn.gov

Grace Song at 651-266-3003
grace.song@ramseycountymn.gov

Court Approval Required to Reopen EFC Case

- Both counties will file a request for a court hearing to re-open court jurisdiction over the youth
- Court Notification “CN” in Hennepin and Motion in Ramsey
- A court hearing is required with findings of eligibility, best interests, and affirmed or new VPA to re-open. Minn. Stat. § 260C.229



Preparing for 21st Birthday

Preparing for Your Client's 21st Birthday

- Transition Plan – ensure the agency has created it and request a copy.
- Topics include:
  - Housing
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Supportive services and connections with adults
  - Vital documents



Vital Documents

ensure your client has these before turning 21

- Social security card
- Birth certificate
- State ID or driver's license
- Tribal enrollment ID card
- Contact information for siblings
- Contact list of medical, dental and mental health providers
- Social and medical history
- Medical and dental records
- Immigration documents
- Credit reports
- Proof of foster care

Attorney Tips

- Ensure client's worker has taught them how to maintain their health insurance.
- Ensure client has received a complete set of school records, including a detailed list of school providers and grade level performance.
- If your client has a disability, consult with the ACA to ascertain if their worker has assessed whether they qualify for adult services. If they do, make sure that your client is enrolled in an adult program before your client's extended foster care case is dismissed.
- It is crucial to identify if your client has any outstanding medical bills before they turn 21. You may have to make a motion to compel the county to pay outstanding medical bills if the child's county worker failed to get or maintain coverage for your client while they were in care.

Remember: Benefits Available After Age 21

- Medical Assistance (MA) - until age 26
- Fostering Independence Grants (FIG) - until age 26
- Education Training Voucher (ETVs) - until age 26
- STAY program – until age 23

Questions?

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Thank you!