

Residential Program Service Categories & Basic Standards

Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Services: This program provides highly structured, intensive services, to children with developmental and intellectual disabilities including autism spectrum disorders, designed to facilitate developmental growth and decrease maladaptive behaviors. This service may be provided in a setting licensed as a group home, child caring institution or private secure facility. This service must be located in a living unit which houses only this program.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Services: This program provides, highly structured, intensive substance abuse treatment services that are designed to modify behaviors and/or alleviate causative factors that have attributed to high risk behavior to children who are using, who have a history of using and/or who have a dependence on illegal substances. This service may be provided in a setting licensed as a group home, child caring institution or private secure facility.

Emergency Shelter Services: This program provides emergency services to children who are in need of short term placement in which the basic needs for safety, food, clothing, shelter, education, and recreation can be met. There must be access to and the availability for admission to these services 24 hours per day, seven days per week. This program can be provided in a setting licensed as a child caring institution or group home and the maximum length of stay is twenty (20) days pursuant to IC § 31-27-3-10, unless an exception is made in writing by the DCS Director or designee. An exception request must be submitted in writing to ESCExtensions@dcs.in.gov prior to the fifteenth day of placement and will only be granted for exceptional circumstances.

High Acuity Behavior Residential Services: This program provides intensive services to children characterized by their display of excessive and inappropriate aggression combined with other high risk behaviors. This program is designed to decrease the occurrence of aggression and other behaviors that are a barrier to societal integration and permanency. This program, which is a specialized Secure Treatment Services program, may only be provided in a setting licensed as a private secure facility. This service shall be located in a living unit which houses only this program.

Independent Living or Residential Step-Down Services: This program provides services, to older children, designed to assist participants to gain the skills required to live healthy, productive, and responsible lives as self-sufficient adults while still being provided needed supervision. This program may only be operated in a setting with a group home license unless special approval is granted to operate this program in a setting licensed as a child caring institution.

Open Residential Services: This program provides generalized residential services at a moderate level, to a broad unspecialized population of children with moderate need for supervision. This program provides a full range of therapeutic, educational, recreational, and support services. This program may be located in a setting licensed as a child caring institution or group home.

Open Residential plus Emergency Shelter Services: This category is applicable when both an open residential and emergency shelter care program are being offered within the same unit and have the same programmatic and cost structure. This program category is most often based in a facility licensed as a group home but may, in certain circumstances, be located in setting licensed as a child caring institution.

Secure Treatment Services: This program provides generalized residential services at a secure level, to children with severe and/or chronic needs and who present a significant risk of being a danger to themselves or others. This program provides a full range of therapeutic, educational, recreational, and support services that are the most intense, which occur with the greatest frequency and for which there is the most intense staffing pattern as compared to other programs in the service continuum. Intense

behavioral health and/or behavior management services are also provided within a locked, secure setting. This program can only be operated in a setting that is licensed as a private secure facility.

Youth with Sexually Harmful Behavior Services: This program provides highly structured, intensive, sex offender specific treatment, designed to improve public safety by reducing the risk of reoccurring sexually based offenses, to children who have a history of engaging in sexually maladaptive behavior. This service is most often provided in a setting licensed as a child caring institution or a private secure facility, although the service could be provided in a setting licensed as a group home. This service shall be located in a living unit which houses only this program.

Short-Term Diagnostic and Evaluation Services: This program provides diagnostic and assessment services to children in need of a comprehensive evaluation. This program implements a process by which the nature and cause of presenting issues are determined and appropriate services and treatment modalities are identified for each Child and family. The maximum length of stay in this program is thirty (30) days unless an exception is granted in writing by the Deputy Director of Child Welfare Services or designee. An exception request to the 30 day maximum stay shall be submitted in writing prior to the twentieth day of placement and will only be granted for exceptional circumstances. This program may be provided in a setting licensed as a group home, child caring institution, or private secure facility.

Stabilization and Diagnostic Services: This program provides crisis intervention, stabilization, and diagnostic and evaluation services to children for whom the presence of disruptive behavior is a barrier to available alternatives for placement. This program will facilitate the child's achievement of a post crisis level of functioning and identify programs and services which are appropriate to the child's needs. There must be access to and the availability for admission to these services 24 hours per day, seven (7) days per week. The maximum length of stay in this program is sixty (60) days, absent approval of the Deputy Director of Child Welfare Services or designee. An exception request to the 60 day maximum stay shall be submitted in writing prior to the fiftieth day of placement and will only be granted for exceptional circumstances. This program may be provided in a setting licensed as a child caring institution or a private secure facility. This service shall be located in a living unit which houses only this program.

Staff Secure Services: This program provides residential services to a broad, unspecialized, population of children who have a more intense need for supervision than children in an open residential setting. This program provides a full range of therapeutic, educational, recreational, and support services that are more intense, occur with greater frequency and for which there is a more intense staffing pattern than those services provided in the open residential setting. This program can only be operated in a setting that is licensed as a child caring institution.

Teen Mom and Baby Services: This program provides comprehensive, specialized services to pregnant or parenting teens and their children, designed to increase/improve the parenting skills and increase independent living skills of mothers while they are in a setting that assures the safety of their children. This program may be located within a setting that is licensed as a group home or child caring institution.

Sex Trafficking/Commercial Sexual Exploitation Services: This program provides intensive services to children who have been victims of sexual trafficking, and it addresses the complex needs which are a result of the child having experienced the trauma of being sexually trafficked. This program must be provided in a setting licensed as a private secure facility. This service must be located in a living unit which houses only this program.