

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE MANUAL	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services	Effective Date: June 1, 2016
	Section 5: Driver's Training and Driver's License	Version: 2

POLICY [REVISED] *This policy does not pertain to youth who are residing in in-home care.*

[REVISED] The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will ensure youth in out-of-home care who are interested in pursuing a driver's license or permit will be provided with information explaining the process. DCS will not prohibit youth in out-of-home care from participating in driver's education and/or obtaining a driver's license.

[REVISED] DCS staff will not sign for youth to obtain a driver's license or permit. DCS does not assume responsibility for any injury or damage caused by a minor while driving.

[REVISED] DCS may fund driver's training. Youth under age 18 must receive court approval to participate in driver's education prior to enrolling in the driver's training course. DCS will allow youth who are 16 years of age and older and are adjudicated as either a Child In Need Of Services (CHINS) or Juvenile Delinquent/Juvenile Status (JD/JS) to participate in driver's training when there is an appropriate adult (not DCS staff) willing to sign the Agreement of Financial Liability (see Practice Guidance), assuming financial liability for the particular youth.

[NEW] Note: Youth age 18 and older, including wards, do not require court permission or a signed Agreement of Financial Liability to take driver's training and/or obtain a driver's license.

Code References

1. **[NEW]** [IC 9-24-9-2: Information required by application for license or permit](#)
2. [IC 9-24-9-3: Applications of minors; signing and swearing by parents, guardians, custodians, employers, or responsible individuals](#)

PROCEDURE

The Family Case Manager (FCM) and/or the Collaborative Care Case Manager (3CM) will:

1. **[REVISED]** Obtain court approval, via a court order, authorizing youth to participate in driver's education;

Note: If the youth is 18 or older, a court order is not needed.

2. **[REVISED]** Assist the youth's caregiver in locating driver's training if there is an appropriate adult willing to sign the Agreement of Financial Liability for youth under age 18 to obtain a learner's permit;
3. **[REVISED]** Request approval for funds via a Global Services referral for youth 16 years of age and older who are currently participating in OYS and have permission, if needed, to participate in driver's training; and
4. Obtain documentation of the youth's driver's training and maintain this information in the youth's DCS case file.

PRACTICE GUIDANCE

[REVISED] Agreement of Financial Liability

Any adult, including an adult who is not a custodian, caregiver, or legal guardian, is allowed to sign the Agreement of Financial Liability, which is required to obtain a driver's license or permit. A resource parent may legally sign the application. By signing, the resource parent assumes responsibility both for authorizing the child to receive driver's training and for providing auto insurance coverage for the youth. Any person signing a minor's application must also provide documents to prove identity and age, and the person is accepting joint responsibility for any injury or damage caused by the minor. For further information regarding the Agreement of Financial Information (including the order of preference of adults who sign the agreement and how to request to terminate the agreement), see <http://www.in.gov/bmv/2718.htm>.

FORMS AND TOOLS

N/A

RELATED INFORMATION

N/A