

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services Section 06: Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 11

POLICY OVERVIEW

The Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood is a written plan that helps the youth in out-of-home care prepare for adult life. It includes a Transitional Services Plan and is updated at every meeting with the youth and the Child and Family Team (CFT).

POLICY STATEMENT

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will make sure every youth in out-of-home care has a written Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood beginning at age 14 and continuing until they leave care.

The plan will include an Independent Living (IL) placement and will:

1. Be created with the help of DCS and the youth's CFT, including up to two (2) child representatives;
2. Be as detailed as the youth chooses;
3. List the Older Youth Services (OYS) the youth will receive (see policy [11.01](#));
4. Include short-term and long-term goals that are realistic and measurable;
5. Be updated every six (6) months until the case is closed; and
6. Be given to the youth each time it is updated (see the Transition Plan for Successful Adulthood).

A Transitional Services Plan will:

1. Be completed 90 days before the youth turns age 18, or
2. Be completed within 60 days of if the youth enters care less than 90 days before turning age 18.

Note: Probation Officers are responsible for completing the Transition Plan for probation youth (see policy [2.25](#)).

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 21-12-6: Chapter 6. Twenty-First Century Scholars Program; Tuition Grants](#)
- [IC 31-25-2-21: Transitional services plan; participation by child representatives](#)
- [IC 31-28-5.8-6: Updating case plans; transitional services plan; visitation with family case manager](#)
- [IC 31-34-15-7: Consult with child; selection of child representatives; adviser](#)
- [IC 31-34-21-7: Permanency hearing](#)
- [42 USC 675\(5\)\(H\): Transition plan for children aging out of foster care](#)
- [42 USC 677: John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood](#)