
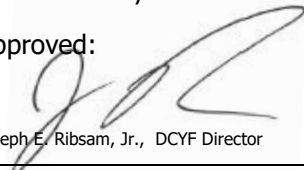


1603 ADOLESCENT FOSTER HOMES	
Chapter: <b>Out-of-Home Placement</b>	Section: <b>Finding a Placement</b>
	New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families Policy Manual Policy Directive: <b>19-43</b> Effective Date: <b>August 2019</b> Scheduled Review Date:
	Approved:  Joseph E. Ribsam, Jr., DCYF Director
Related Statute(s): <a href="#">RSA 169-B</a> , <a href="#">RSA 169-C</a> , <a href="#">RSA 169-D</a> , and <a href="#">RSA 170-E</a> Related Admin Rule(s): <a href="#">He-C 6347</a> , <a href="#">He-C 6423</a> , and <a href="#">He-C 6446</a> Related Federal Regulation(s):	Related Form(s): <b>FORM 1553, FORM 1656, and FORM 1695</b> Bridges' Screen(s) and Attachment(s):

A key component of DCYF practices is the principle that we prepare youth for adulthood and that we listen to youth and their voices valued and considered. The goal of the Adolescent Program is to ensure that current and former youth in care obtain the preparation, resources, and positive youth development they need to establish connections with caring adults, and become healthier, self-sufficient, and successful adults. Foster homes for adolescents are a type of foster care category intended to provide structured living in a family setting and to enable youth in care to develop the skills needed to live independently by providing normalcy and emotional support. This program assesses the adult living strengths and needs of older youth in DCYF placement in order to plan for their acquisition of adult living skills as part of the transition out of placement and into adulthood.

### Purpose

This policy supports the identification and use of Adolescent Foster Homes by Child Protective and Juvenile Justice Services staff.

### Definitions

**"Adolescent Foster Home"** means a category of foster family care for adolescents, ages 14-21 years with specialized needs, provided by foster parents that have been recruited, selected, and trained to serve this specialized population.

**"CPSW"** or **"Child Protective Service Worker"** means an employee of DCYF who is authorized by the Division to perform functions of the job classification Child Protective Service Worker.

**"DCYF"** or the **"Division"** means the Department of Health and Human Services' Division for Children, Youth and Families.

**"JPPO"** or **"Juvenile Probation and Parole Officer"** means an employee of DCYF who is authorized by the Division to perform functions of the job classification Juvenile Probation and Parole Officer.

### Policy

- I. Youth considered for an Adolescent Foster Home must:
  - A. Be eligible for foster care;

- B. Be between age 14 years old up to age 21 years old;
  - C. Participate in the Adolescent Program;
  - D. Indicate a willingness to live with a family; and
  - E. Must be willing to:
    - 1. Attend school, work, volunteer part-time, or engage in other age appropriate activities including consideration of participating in Adolescent Program activities;
    - 2. Work with the CPSW/JPPO to complete the Adolescent Program's Adult Living Preparation paperwork and process including career assessment; and
    - 3. Participate in transition and aftercare planning.
- II. Foster Parents shall receive the Adolescent Care category pursuant to He-c 6347 Certification for Payment Standards for Foster Care Service Credentials and will be eligible for reimbursement at the Adolescent rate in table 6423.2 of He-C 6423 Foster Family Home Rate-Setting.

### **Procedures**

- I. The Adolescent Worker:
  - A. Trains the potential Adolescent Foster Home provider in the completion of the Adult Living Preparation process;
  - B. Completes the Adult Living Preparation process with the youth, CPSW/JPPO, the foster parent, the youth's family, or other connections, if available;
  - C. Authorizes Adolescent Program services as listed in the Adult Living Preparation Plan, Form 1695; and
  - D. Attends team meetings as requested.
- II. The CPSW/JPPO:
  - A. Contacts the Resource Worker and Adolescent Worker concerning the licensed foster family homes for adolescents;
  - B. Arranges the placement of the youth;
  - C. Participates in the Adult Living Preparation process with the youth, foster parent(s), youth's parents, and other connections, if available pursuant to policy 1695 Preparing Youth for Adulthood;
  - D. Notifies the Fiscal Specialist and Adolescent Worker of the youth's current address;
  - E. Obtains the Medical Authorization Form 1656 and the Youth Information Sheet from the youth's parents or the last placement;
  - F. Obtains the youth's education record and follows policy 1666 Educational Planning for Children/Youth in Placement; and

- G. Follows policy 1530 FAIR Reviews for FAIR meetings and attends any other team meetings as necessary, including IEP meetings through the school.
- III. No more than two (2) youth who require adolescent foster care services shall be placed in the same Adolescent Foster Home at the same time, unless other adolescent siblings in care are also placed in the home.

### Practice Guidance

#### **What are the expectations for foster parents who provide an Adolescent Foster Home?**

- Foster parents who provide Adolescent Foster Homes shall meet the requirements of He-C 6347 including:
  - Be a licensed foster parent with at least one (1) year of experience;
  - Meet pre-service and ongoing training requirements;
  - Provide board, care, and enhanced support for youth aged 14 years to 21 years;
  - Providing modeling and instruction to the youth on adult living preparation including:
    - ◆ The development of life skills;
    - ◆ The process to identify and access resources;
    - ◆ Assisting the youth in gaining employment and/or volunteer opportunities;
    - ◆ Assisting the youth in applying to college or a career training program and with other aftercare planning as needed;
    - ◆ Supporting the youth participating in extracurricular activities and opportunities for the Division's adolescent program sponsored activities; and
    - ◆ Assisting the youth with transition and post-care planning at least six (6) months before the youth will leave foster care;
  - Ensuring that the youth has opportunities and supports to meet their case plan needs for permanency, including but not limited to:
    - ◆ The opportunity to make positive connections with family, friends, and community members including a commitment to a long-term relationship and connection to the youth beyond the DCYF closure of the youth's case; and
    - ◆ Collaborating with the CPSW/JPPPO and the Court in identifying a Primary Caring Adult for the youth, if the court-ordered permanency goal is Another Planned Permanency Living Arrangement;
  - Participate in monthly team and aftercare planning meetings to discuss service needs and progress with the CPSW/JPPPO, Adolescent Worker, the youth, the youth's parents, and service providers for each of the first three (3) months of care and then as needed. This includes attending the youth's 90 day transition meeting as requested by the youth prior to discharge;
  - The foster parent shall complete necessary documentation including:
    - ◆ Track daily living skill acquisition, and school and employment attendance;
    - ◆ Complete and submit to the CPSW/JPPPO by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month, a written monthly report on the progress of the youth towards the goals established in the Adult Living Preparation Plan, Form 1695; and
    - ◆ Complete and submit to the CPSW/JPPPO for each calendar month, a Form 1969 Monthly National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) Checklist, documenting support provided for the NYTD categories.