



Clark County Family Services

Frank Prado, Director
Wonswayla Mackey, Deputy Director
Lisa Martinez, Deputy Director
Pamela Kowalski, Deputy Director
Stacie Dastrup, Deputy Director

Clark County Department of Family Services Policy and Procedures

SUBJECT:

Independent Living Agreements

Effective Date	Amendment Number	Amendment Effective Date
May 1, 2025	NA	NA

SCOPE:

The preparation and development of an agreement to support the youth in living independently with a relative, mentor, advisor or by themselves in an unlicensed but approved living arrangement.

SPECIFIC LEGAL and OTHER REFERENCES:

Background Check Policy and Procedures

Case Plan Facilitation – Children Policy and Procedures

Children under Court Jurisdiction who turn Eighteen (18) Years Old Policy and Procedures

Independent Living Program Policy and

Procedures NAC 432B

NRS 432B

PROGRAMS IMPACTED:

Independent Living

LifeSet

Permanency

SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

New

Supersedes:

Independent Living Policy and Procedures (Effective: 8/12/11)

Section 11920: IL Program Agreement

DEFINITIONS:

For a list of acronyms and a glossary of terms used throughout DFS refer to Acronyms and Glossary located on DFSNet.

Independent Living Agreement (ILA):

An agreement between a youth enrolled in the Independent Living Program and the Permanency Specialist to arrange for a safe, authorized living arrangement and allows the youth to receive a monthly provider check in the amount of the family foster care rate for their age.

FORMS, PUBLICATIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONAL (FPI) DOCUMENTS:

Casey Life Skills Assessment (FPI Library)

Independent Living Program Agreement (UNITY)

Independent Living Agreement Checklist and Cover Letter (UNITY)

Medical Passport (in UNITY)

W-9 (Maintained by Fiscal)

POLICY:

I. Overview

- A. The Permanency Specialist, in conjunction with the youth and the youth's team, considers all reasonable alternatives for the youth's living arrangement in their preparation for adulthood at the age of seventeen (17) or older.
- B. The youth, the Permanency Specialist, and the youth's team may agree that the best option for the youth is independent living with a relative or community advisor/mentor or by themselves in an unlicensed but approved living arrangement.
- C. While the youth is placed under the terms of an *Independent Living Agreement (ILA)*, they remain in custody and continue to receive all permanency case management and Independent Living services based on their *Independent Living Transitional Plan (ILTP)*.

II. Eligibility

- A. Youth must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible for an Independent Living Agreement:
 - 1. In Clark Custody
 - 2. Placed in an out-of-home setting
 - 3. Enrolled in the Independent Living Program
 - 4. Be age seventeen (17) or older
 - a. In some cases, youth aged sixteen (16) who have demonstrated that they are prepared to assume responsibility for the tasks of daily living may be eligible to make this agreement. In order to be considered for an Independent Living Agreement, youth aged sixteen (16) must:
 - i. Live with a responsible adult who has had a background clearance completed by CCFS, or
 - ii. Have weekly contact with a responsible adult who has had a background clearance completed; and
 - iii. Staff request with Independent Living Manager prior to completion.
 - 5. Must meet one (1) of the following:
 - a. Completing high school education or a program leading to an equivalent credential;
 - a. Enrolled in an institution which provides postsecondary or vocational education;
 - b. Participating in a program or activity designed to promote, or remove barriers to, employment; or
 - c. Completed education, and employed for at least 80 hours per month.
- B. Youth continue receiving SSI or death benefits when on an Independent Living Agreement.
- C. A foster home will not be paid for the same period as a youth is paid for an Independent Living Agreement.

Frank Prado, Director
Clark County Department of Family Services

February 11, 2025

Approved Date