

Title 31. Family Law and Juvenile Law (Refs & Annos)

+ Article 34. Juvenile Law: Children in Need of Services

+ Chapter 15. Case Plan (Refs & Annos)

>> 31-34-15-4 Form; contents

Sec. 4. A child's case plan must be set out in a form prescribed by the department that meets the specifications set by 45 CFR 1356.21. The case plan must include a description and discussion of the following:

- (1) A permanent plan for the child and an estimated date for achieving the goal of the plan.
- (2) The appropriate placement for the child based on the child's special needs and best interests.
- (3) The least restrictive family-like setting that is close to the home of the child's parent, custodian, or guardian if out-of-home placement is recommended. If an out-of-home placement is appropriate, the county office or department shall consider whether a child in need of services should be placed with the child's suitable and willing blood or adoptive relative caretaker, including a grandparent, an aunt, an uncle, or an adult sibling, before considering other out-of-home placements for the child.
- (4) Family services recommended for the child, parent, guardian, or custodian.
- (5) Efforts already made to provide family services to the child, parent, guardian, or custodian.
- (6) Efforts that will be made to provide family services that are ordered by the court.
- (7) A plan for ensuring the educational stability of the child while in foster care that includes assurances that the:

(A) placement of the child in foster care considers the appropriateness of the current educational setting of the child and the proximity to the school where the child is presently enrolled; and

(B) department has coordinated with local educational agencies to ensure:

(i) the child remains in the school where the child is enrolled at the time of removal; or

(ii) immediate, appropriate enrollment of the child in a different school, including arrangements for the transfer of the child's school records to the new school, if remaining in the same school is not in the best interests of the child.