

What to Expect: A Guide to the First 30 Days

- **Worker Interaction**

CPS will place a foster child in your home but foster care will quickly take over. After initial placement, the foster care worker must make two face-to-face contacts with the child, one which shall occur in the foster home. One contact has to occur in five business day, and the second within the first 30 calendar days of placement. From the 30-60 day time frame, another two face-to-face contacts must occur with the child. After 60 days, face-to-face visits will occur once monthly.

- **Documents**

Items to be furnished prior to, or at the time of placement, or those that will be completed with you:

- Placement Outline – Provides information on reasons the child was removed, history of abuse/neglect, physician information, health information, emotional/behavioral factors, and plans for visitation.
- Consent to Treat Card – Card with the Medicaid ID for the child to use at medical appointments or to seek treatment.
- Medical Passport – A listing of the child’s medical history.
- Educational Records
- Treatment Plan (if the case has already been open and placement in home is not first placement for the child).
- DOC (Determination of Care) – Done at case onset and every six months to determine supplemental payment amount for the care of the youth.
- Clothing Inventory – Provided by foster parent and returned to worker to access funds for clothing. Seasonal allowances will be issued twice annually following the initial clothing allowance provision.
- Foster Care Bill of Rights – Form provided to explain rights and responsibilities of foster care worker and youth.

- **Tasks**

- A well-child exam shall be completed with the child’s primary doctor within 30 days.
- A dental exam shall be completed within 90 days.
*An HLO (Health Liaison) is available to aide in scheduling.
- Trauma screens will be completed to assess need for mental health services for the youth.
- Apply through DHHS for daycare assistance.
- Apply through the health department for WIC (if age applicable).
- Request transportation logs for reimbursement to and from parenting visits.
- Attend an FTM (Family Team Meeting). This meeting will be held within the first 30 days and again each 90 days for interaction and collaboration in case planning.

- **Court**

The child will be assigned an attorney (GAL) who will visit every quarter, before court.

The court proceedings occur as follows:

- Pretrial- Opportunity for parent discussion with the court and their attorney on whether they are choosing to take the case to a bench trial, jury trial or plea to the petition that was filed to give the County jurisdiction over the youth. This can take 90 days some times.
- Bench trial- DHHS/private agency provides a list of witnesses to prove why the court should take jurisdiction over the child, Judge only hears this case and makes a decision.
- Jury Trial- Same as a bench trial except it is in the jury's hands regarding the decision.
- Disposition- Hearing where the parents are order to do services anything before this date-services are voluntary to do.
- Initial Review Hearing - This is a hearing that is held to provide updates regarding the progress and barriers still in place.
- Permanency Planning Hearings - This is where DHHS reviews the permanency goal and can request goal change. If there is a goal change to adoption, DHHS has 28 days to file a termination petition.
- Termination Trial- DHHS and service providers provide testimony regarding what was offered to the parents to rectify the barriers and the lack of progress.
- Post Termination Hearing - These are only for permanent court wards, following termination of parental rights.