



State of Florida  
Department of Children and Families


Rick Scott  
Governor


Rebecca Kapusta  
Interim Secretary

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**DATE:** December 10, 2019

**TO:** Regional Managing Directors  
Community-Based Care Lead Agency CEOs

**THROUGH:** David L. Fairbanks, Deputy Secretary 

**FROM:** JoShonda Guerrier, Assistant Secretary for Child Welfare 

**SUBJECT:** FSFN Implementation: Extended Foster Care

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**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this memorandum is to provide implementation guidance for the Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) build regarding the Extended Foster Care (EFC).

**BACKGROUND:** In preparation of the end of Florida's Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project, Florida has implemented a Path Forward initiative to explore ways to maximize federal dollars received by our state. This initiative includes the implementation of the Title IV-E funded EFC program effective January 2019. Since Florida has only offered a state funded EFC program since January 2014, it is necessary for the department to establish this additional guidance for the transition of the young adults currently participating in the program in order to claim these federal funds beginning with the January 2019 service dates. To appropriately document and monitor EFC expenditures, as well as to support the claiming of federal funds with the implementation of the new Title IV-E funded EFC program, guidance is being provided via this memorandum.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Please share this memorandum with all staff that process out-of-home placements, non-placement services, maintain Service Types, and complete Title IV-E Eligibility determinations.

Upon FSFN Go-Live on January 4, 2019, the following activities shall begin and be completed no later than January 31, 2019:

1. Create standardized Service Types for four Reporting Categories as follows utilizing the Service Type titles below (Helpful Hint: Keep the medium description unique for each Service Type title within each of the Reporting Categories since all of them will be available for the Independent Living Service Category):

Reporting Categories

- **Extended Foster Care:** Intended for young adults who enter EFC on or after 1/4/2019.
  - Service Category = Independent Living
  - Effective Date = 1/2019
  - Eligibility = Applicable
- **Extended Foster Care - Age 21:** Intended for young adults who remain in EFC while the age of 21 due to a disability.

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- Service Category = Independent Living
- Effective Date = 1/2019
- Eligibility = Not Applicable
- **EFC IV-E Eligible (Transition):** Intended for young adults active in the state-funded EFC program prior to 1/4/2019 and were Title IV-E Eligible for their removal prior to age 18 and have continuously participated in EFC as of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
  - Service Category = Independent Living
  - Effective Date = 1/2019
  - Eligibility = Not Applicable
- **EFC Non IV-E Eligible (Transition):** Intended for young adults active in the state-funded EFC program prior to 1/4/2019 and were Title IV-E Ineligible for their removal prior to age 18 or have had a break in EFC participation since their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
  - Service Category = Independent Living
  - Effective Date = 1/2019
  - Eligibility = Not Applicable

#### Service Type Titles and Descriptions

Note: The Office of CBC/ME Financial Accountability will monitor FSFN to ensure that only the following Placement Service Types are utilized.

- **SLA Licensed Foster Home** – Placement Service Type used when an EFC young adult resides in a Foster Home licensed by DCF. The basic services within this type of placement include, but are not limited to, housing, caregiving supervision, life skills, transportation, mental and physical health care coordination assistance.
- **SLA Licensed Group Home** – Placement Service Type used when an EFC young adult resides in a Group Home licensed by DCF. The basic services within this type of placement include, but are not limited to, housing, caregiving supervision, life skills, transportation, mental and physical health care coordination assistance.
- **SLA Transitional Living Program** – Placement Service Type used when an EFC young adult resides in a Transitional Living Program (TLP), providing services and supports to help young people develop skills necessary to move to independence. The basic services within this type of placement include housing, counseling, money management, job attainment skills, mental and physical health care coordination assistance. TLP may or may not be operating under a license.
- **SLA Assisted Living Facility** – Placement Service Type used for Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) which provide full-time services and supports. The basic services within this type of placement include, but are not limited to: housing nutritional meals; help with activities of daily living, like bathing, eating, walking, administration of medication; arrange for health care services; provide or arrange for transportation to health care services; and social activities. ALFs are licensed.
- **SLA Shared Housing** – Placement Service Type used when the EFC young adult shares housing with another person or roommate and lives independently, requiring minimal assistance with life skills and other transitional type services.
- **SLA Shared Housing-Host Home** -- Placement Service Type used when the EFC young adult shares housing with a host person or family. The basic services within this type of

placement include, but are not limited to, housing, caregiving supervision, life skills, transportation, mental and physical health care coordination assistance.

- **SLA Individual Housing** – Placement Service Type used when the EFC young adult lives independently by themselves, requiring minimal assistance with life skills and other transitional type services.
2. For EFC program participants prior to 1/4/2019, end date the open Living Arrangement and create an Out-of-Home placement.
    - Effective date = 1/2019
    - Service Category = Independent Living
    - Use the applicable placement service type/reporting category: EFC IV-E Eligible (Transition) or EFC Non IV-E Eligible (Transition)
    - Title IV-E Eligibility shall remain pending until the young adult is terminated from the EFC program and the current foster care episode needs to be discharged.
  3. All children who turn 18 years old while in the legal custody of the Department, regardless of placement setting, are entitled to CIC Medicaid until the age of 21. To successfully maintain the CIC Medicaid case, a Closure row shall not be submitted in the FSFN Medicaid Eligibility module upon the child's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
    - Complete the Create Young Adult Case functionality for all children who turn 18 years old in the Legal Custody of the Department. The Young Adult FSFN case shall remain open until the young adult no longer qualifies for CIC Medicaid.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If you have any questions or need clarification regarding this memorandum, please submit your questions to the eligibility redesign mailbox at [Eligibility.Redesign@myflfamilies.com](mailto:Eligibility.Redesign@myflfamilies.com).

cc: Office of Child Welfare Directors  
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