

POLICY VIII-B: EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

04509/20132022

Even after reaching the legal age of majority (~~i.e. that being, eighteen (18)~~ years of age), all youth need additional support and access to an array of resources as they continue their transition into adulthood. As such, youth who are ages eighteen (18) through twenty-one (21) years of age (or such other age as may be required under federal law) may choose to participate in the Extended Foster Care Program for education, ~~treatment~~, work, or other programs and services ~~as determined appropriate by their Transitional Team~~ in order to help them achieve a successful transition into adulthood.

Extended foster care provides case management services and support,s as well as financial assistance with room and board costs for a youth who:

- A. Was adjudicated dependent or dependent neglected;
- B. Was in foster care at eighteen (18) years of age but is not yet twenty-one (21) years of age (or such other age as may be required under federal law);
- C. Wishes to participate in extended foster care to benefit from the program; and

A. ~~Is one or more of the following:~~

D.

~~— In order to be eligible for extended foster care, youth must meet one of the following criteria:~~

~~2) ~~C~~The youth is completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential; ~~or,~~~~

1)

~~3) ~~E~~The youth is enrolled in an institution ~~which that~~ provides post-secondary or vocational education; ~~or,~~~~

2)

~~4) ~~P~~The youth is participating in a program or activity designed to promote, or remove barriers to, employment; ~~or,~~~~

3)

~~1) ~~E~~The youth is employed for at least eighty (80) hours per month; ~~or,~~~~

4)

5) Has a viable plan to meet the requirements one (1) –through four (4) above; or,

~~E.6) The youth is incapable of ~~doing any of the above described activities~~ completing school or work activities above due to a documented medical condition, which incapability is supported by regularly updated information in the youth's case plan.~~

Participation in extended foster care does not impede or otherwise alter any right afforded to the youth by virtue of their age of majority, including without limitation the right to consent to medical treatment or enter into contracts.

A six-month review hearing is not required for a juvenile who is over eighteen (18) years of age and has elected to remain in extended foster care or to return to extended foster care.

A copy of the youth's entire record will be made available to them at no cost at the final Transitional Team meeting, which will occur within ninety (90) days of youth's planned exit from care.

TRANSITIONAL YOUTH SERVICES SPONSOR

Youth who elect to participate in the Extended Foster Care Program will select a Transitional Youth Services (TYS) Sponsor. The sponsor will be a supportive adult with whom the youth already has a connection, such as the youth's previous out-of-home provider. For youth who are unable to identify such an individual, staff may recommend someone who is already serving as a sponsor to other youth in extended foster care or a volunteer from the community. The role of the sponsor is to provide support and guidance to the youth as they transition to adulthood. The sponsor will also receive the board payment on the youth's behalf. The sponsor will then assist the youth in managing the board payment according to their established budget developed by the youth and their Transitional Team. Exceptions for sponsors may be approved by the DivisionDepartment of Child and Family Services (DCFS) Director or designee. See Procedure VIII-B2 below for more information regarding TYS Sponsors.

If a youth was in foster care on or after his 16th birthday and was adopted or a guardianship was put into place on behalf of the youth before his or her 18th birthday, he or she will be eligible for Transitional Youth Services until his or her 21st birthday.

Board payments for IV-E eligible youth maywill be made through title IV-E funds as appropriate. Board payments for youth who are not IV-E eligible will be paid using State General Revenue funds or other federal funds as allowed under federal law and regulations.

A copy of the youth's entire record will be made available to him or her at no cost at the final Transitional Team meeting which will occur within 90 days of youth's planned exit from care.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTENDED FOSTER CARE AFTER A PREVIOUS EXIT

Youth who left foster care at eighteen (18) years of age or older may later participate in the Extended Foster Care Program if the youth submits a request in writing or in person to the

department to participate in extended foster care. Division staff will inform the youth of the option to have a petition filed on their behalf by their previous attorney ad litem if the youth also wishes for the court to have jurisdiction over their extended foster care case.

After receiving a request to return to the Extended Foster Care Program, the youth's case will be reopened in the Division's information management system by the next business day. A TYS sponsor will be secured and keyed with a corresponding board rate within seven (7) business days after the request to return to the Extended Foster Care Program is received. Additional urgency in keying the sponsor and board rate will be exercised as needed to ensure this information is keyed prior to the monthly board payment run that occurs after the youth's return date.

The department may discharge a juvenile from extended foster care program if the juvenile:

- A. Is over eighteen (18) years of age;
- B. Reenters extended foster care after having his or her request to reenter foster care approved; and
- C. Fails to engage in or have a viable plan to meet the extended foster care requirements listed above or have a viable plan to meet those requirements for more than sixty (60) days.

PROCEDURE VIII-B1: Extended Foster Care

054/20122022

The Family Service Worker, with support from the Transitional Youth Services Coordinator, will:

- A. Explain and complete CFS-009: Extended Foster Care Agreement with the youth when the youth decides to participate in Extended Foster Care and preferably before turning 18.

A-B. Consider the following issues with the youth:

- 1) The school the youth will attend, if applicable;
 - 2) Searching for and securing a job, if applicable;
 - 3) Living arrangements, including without limitation helping the youth locate a residence and assisting with any apartment applications;
 - 4) Choosing a sponsor;
 - 5) Budgeted income/expenses;
 - 6) Amount of board payment;
 - 7) Start-up items;
 - 8) Transportation needs;
 - 9) Continued life-skills training;
 - 10) Support needed to help youth remain in school, if applicable; and
- Designating a health care power of attorney or health care proxy. (if not already determined before entering extended foster care)

11)

- C. Assist the youth and their Transitional Team in determining appropriate housing and needed support.
- D. Complete CFS-370: Residence Checklist for Youth for any youth living in their own apartment or other independent setting.
- E. Develop a budget via CFS-025 with the youth and their Transitional Team.
- F. Visit the youth face-to-face at least once a month.
- G. Obtain approval for less than twice-monthly visits from the County Supervisor, if appropriate.
- H. Maintain monthly contacts with the youth's sponsor. Contacts may be by telephone.
- I. Obtain the youth's consumer credit report annually until the youth exits foster care, and::
 - 1) Access the report via www.annualcreditreport.com within thirty (30) days of the youth's birthday or within thirty (30) days of the youth entering care, whichever comes first; however, only access it on an annual basis (i.e. that being, ensure that one (1) full year has passed since accessing the previous year's report before viewing the current year's report);:
 - 2) Review report with the youth and help youth in interpreting the report within ten (10) working days of accessing the report;:
 - 3) Assist youth in resolving any inaccuracies found in the report;:
 - 4) Document the credit report review in the Division's information management system, selecting "Annual Credit Check – Engage Youth"; and
 - 5) Share relevant information with the youth's Transitional Services Coordinator.
- J. Update or otherwise complete CFS-003: Checklist for Youth Approaching Adulthood as the youth approaches 21 or other planned exit from the Extended Foster Care Program.

PROCEDURE VIII-B2: TYS Sponsors

054/2022

The Family Service Worker, with support from the TYS Coordinator, will:

- A. Assist the youth in locating and choosing a sponsor who is not the person from whom the youth was removed.
 - 1) ~~who may be the youth's out of home provider, attorney ad litem, apartment manager/owner, or a volunteer from the community.~~ Before finalizing a sponsor for a youth, a State Police Criminal Record Check and Child Maltreatment Central Registry Check will be conducted on the proposed sponsor.
 - B.a) In emergency situations in which a family member (other than the person from whom the youth was removed) wishes to serve as the sponsor, a Lexis Nexis check may be run in lieu of the State Police Criminal Record Check and Child Maltreatment Central Registry Check.
- B. ~~Approve the sponsor chosen by the youth.~~ Request that the local Resource team establish an "ILP Sponsor" service for the approved sponsor in the Division's information management system and key the youth into the placement service with the board amount listed in the youth's approved budget.

~~C.~~

~~Notify the Transitional Services Coordinator of the youth's sponsor.~~

~~D. Assist the youth and his or her Transitional Team in determining appropriate housing and needed support for the first school year. (If youth intends to reside with sponsor, he or she must be an approved placement.)~~

~~D. Complete CFS 370: Residence Checklist for Youth.~~

~~D. Notify Resource Worker to initiate the youth's monthly board payments when residence is selected.~~

~~D. Develop a budget with the youth and share it with the Transitional Team.~~

~~D. Visit the youth face to face at least once a month.~~

~~D. Obtain approval for less than twice monthly visits from the County Supervisor, if appropriate.~~

~~D. Maintain monthly contacts with the youth's sponsor. Contacts may be by telephone.~~

~~D. Obtain the youth's consumer credit report annually until the youth exits foster care.~~

~~0) Access the report via www.annualcreditreport.com within 30 days of the youth's birthday or within 30 days of the youth entering care, whichever comes first; however, only access it on an annual basis (i.e., ensure that one full year has passed since accessing the previous year's report before viewing the current year's report).~~

~~0) Review report with the youth and help youth in interpreting the report within ten (10) working days of accessing the report.~~

~~0) Assist youth in resolving any inaccuracies found in the report.~~

~~0) Document the credit report review in the contacts screen in CHRIS.~~

~~0) Share relevant information with the youth's Transitional Services Coordinator.~~

The youth's sTYS Sponsor will, as appropriate:

A. Serve as a member of the youth's Transitional Team to include participating in the youth's Transitional Team meetings.

B. Provide support and guidance to the youth as they transition to adulthood (for example, assisting with decision making, including without limitation decisions regarding education, employment, and housing).

C. Assist the youth with budgeting the youth's board payment.

D. Help to ensure the youth meets at least one (1) of the Extended Foster Care Program requirements or has a viable plan in place to meet one (1) of the Extended Foster Care Program requirements.

~~A. Attend and participate in Team Meetings.~~

~~B. Assist the youth in selecting the transitional living residence.~~

~~C. Assist the youth with managing their budget if selected as board payment payee.~~

~~D-E. _____ Maintain regular contact with the youth.~~

In addition, youth eighteen (18) years of age and older who are participating in the Extended Foster Care Program may live with their TYS Sponsors (even if the TYS Sponsor is not an approved resource home) as appropriate, provided that:

- A. A State Police Criminal Background and Child Maltreatment Registry checks are clear and up to date (that being, within the past two (2) years);
- B. A visual inspection of the sponsor's home is conducted, and the home is deemed safe and appropriate for a young adult;
- C. The Area Director or designee and the youth's attorney ad litem approves the living arrangement with the sponsor; and,
- D. A Transitional Team Meeting is held to ensure the sponsor understands their role and that individualized guidelines and expectations are established for any youth who will reside with their sponsor (including without limitation curfews and responsibility for assisting with costs of living, if applicable, via the youth's board payment).

An approved resource parent may serve as both a resource parent for children placed in their home and a TYS Sponsor for a youth in extended foster care but who is not residing in the resource home. However, an 'ILP Sponsor' service will have to be opened for that individual. Any resource parent who wishes to serve as a sponsor for a youth and who is set up under a master provider (such as Therapeutic Foster Care or Private Licensed Placement Agencies), must be set up with a new ILP Sponsor service with a new provider number.

If a youth in foster care was placed in a resource home prior to turning eighteen (18) years of age and continues to stay in that resource home after turning eighteen (18) years of age (and while participating in the Extended Foster Care Program), the youth will remain keyed into the resource home as a regular placement rather than keying the resource parent as the sponsor for the youth.

POLICY VIII-C: AFTER CARE SERVICES ~~AND~~ SUPPORT

~~0105/2011~~2022

~~After care Chafee funds can be used to~~may provide assistance and services to youth who have left foster care because they have attained eighteen (18) years of age ~~but and who~~ have not attained twenty-one (21) years of age. ~~These services are called After Care.~~ The youth must have been in foster care on ~~his or her~~their eighteenth 18th-birthday and must not currently ~~in be DHS custody~~participating in the Extended Foster Care Program to be eligible for after care services and support. However, associated financial paperwork processes for after care services may begin prior to a youth's exit from care in order to ensure a more seamless transition. After care is funded by the John F. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood grant award.

~~In order to be eligible for after care, youth must meet one of the following criteria:~~

- ~~1. Youth must have been in foster care at or before age 17, OR~~
- ~~2. Youth must have entered care at age 17 or after due to dependency-neglect, OR~~
- ~~3. Youth must have entered foster care at age 17 or after with a prior dependency-neglect status.~~

Additionally, a youth is encouraged to~~must~~ have a budget and a viable plan that includes participation in education, employment, or training. If the youth is incapable of school or work requirements due to , or a documented medical condition, they are also eligible for after care treatment in order to be eligible for after care. After care support is generally limited to five hundred dollars (\$500) in any one (1) month and may be requested for a total of two thousand dollars (\$2000). However, more than five hundred dollars (\$500) per month may be provided to a youth on an as needed basis. After care support may include without limitation expenditures for ~~education or training programs,~~ housing, insurance, housing set-up, transportation, utility bills, and or utility deposits. After care support does not include amounts available through the Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program.

After care support is paid to the provider of the good or service, rather than~~not~~ the youth. However, reimbursement may be made to the youth if the documentation of the expense, as well as the paperwork needed by the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for reimbursement, is provided.

For youth who initially elect to participate in the Extended Foster Care Program but then choose to leave that program prior to twenty-one (21) years of age, after care funding will still be

available on a prorated amount based on the number of months remaining until the youth's twenty-first birthday.

~~After care support does not include amounts available through ETV.~~ Youth eligible for after care may also participate in life skills classes, and staff may help with transportation needs of these youth as staff capacity allows.

Mark-UP

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S3/2/21

93rd General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2021

HOUSE BILL 1358

By: Representative Barker

By: Senator G. Stubblefield

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CERTAIN
DISCLOSURES OF INFORMATION BY CHILDREN; CONCERNING
FOSTER YOUTH TRANSITIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CERTAIN
DISCLOSURES OF INFORMATION PERMITTED
UNDER THE CHILD WELFARE AGENCY LICENSING
ACT; AND CONCERNING FOSTER YOUTH
TRANSITIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-306(a)(1)(B), concerning jurisdiction
under the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Proceedings in which a juvenile is alleged to be
dependent or dependent-neglected from birth to eighteen (18) years of age,
except for the following:

(i)(a) A juvenile who has been adjudicated dependent
or dependent-neglected before eighteen (18) years of age may request the
court to continue jurisdiction over the juvenile until twenty-one (21) years
of age so long as the juvenile is ~~engaged in a course of instruction or~~
~~treatment;~~

(1) Completing secondary education or a
program leading to an equivalent credential;

(2) Enrolled in an institution providing



1 post-secondary or vocational education;

2 (3) Participating in a program or
3 activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment;

4 (4) ~~or is working~~ Employed for at least
5 eighty (80) hours a per month; or

6 (5) Incapable of completing school or
7 work requirements due to a documented medical condition ~~toward gaining self-~~
8 ~~sufficiency.~~

9 (b) The court shall retain jurisdiction only
10 if the juvenile ~~remains or has a viable plan to remain in instruction or~~
11 ~~treatment, or is working at least eighty (80) hours a month toward gaining~~
12 ~~self-sufficiency~~ meets the requirements of subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i)(a) of
13 this section or has a viable plan to meet the requirements.

14 (c) The court shall discontinue jurisdiction
15 only after a hearing to determine whether:

16 (1) The juvenile;

17 (A) knowingly ~~Knowingly~~ and
18 voluntarily is requesting to leave care;

19 (B) ~~or the juvenile has~~ Has failed
20 ~~to be engaged in or have a viable plan to participate in a course of~~
21 ~~instruction or treatment or is not working at least eighty (80) hours per~~
22 ~~month toward gaining self-sufficiency~~ meet the requirements of subdivision
23 (a)(1)(B)(i)(a) of this section; or

24 (C) Does not have a viable plan to
25 meet the requirements; and

26 (2) The Department of Human Services has
27 fully complied with §§ 9-27-363 and 9-28-114; or

28 (ii) A juvenile may contact his or her attorney ad
29 litem to petition the court to return to the court's jurisdiction to receive
30 ~~independent living or~~ transitional services if the juvenile:

31 (a) Was adjudicated dependent or dependent-
32 neglected;

33 (b) Was in foster care at eighteen (18) years
34 of age; and

35 (c) Left foster care but desires to submit to
36 the jurisdiction of the court before reaching twenty-one (21) years of age to

1 benefit from independent living or transitional services; or
2 ~~(d) Left foster care and decides to submit to~~
3 ~~the jurisdiction of the court and return to foster care to receive~~
4 ~~transitional services;~~

5
6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 9-27-363(b)(2), concerning foster youth
7 transitions under the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 (2) The plan shall include without limitation written
10 information and confirmation concerning:

11 (A) ~~The juvenile's right to stay in foster care after~~
12 ~~reaching eighteen (18) years of age for education, treatment, or work and~~
13 ~~specific programs and services, A description of the programs and services~~
14 which will help the juvenile prepare for transition from foster care to a
15 successful adulthood, including without limitation the John H. Chafee Foster
16 Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood and other transitional
17 services; and

18 (B) The right of the juvenile to remain in extended foster
19 care after reaching eighteen (18) years of age if the juvenile is:

20 (i) Completing secondary education or a program
21 leading to an equivalent credential;

22 (ii) Enrolled in an institution providing post-
23 secondary or vocational education;

24 (iii) Participating in a program or activity
25 designed to promote or remove barriers to employment;

26 (iv) Employed for at least eighty (80) hours per
27 month; or

28 (v) Incapable of performing the activities described
29 in subdivisions (b)(2)(B)(i)-(iv) of this section due to a documented medical
30 condition; and

31 (C) The juvenile's case, including his or her biological
32 family, foster care placement history, tribal information, if applicable, and
33 the whereabouts of siblings, if any, unless a court determines that release
34 of information pertaining to a sibling would jeopardize the safety or welfare
35 of the sibling.

36

1 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 9-28-114(e), concerning foster youth
2 transition, is amended to read as follows:

3 (e)(1) If a juvenile does not have the capacity to successfully
4 transition into adulthood without the assistance of the ~~Adult Protective~~
5 ~~Services Unit of the Department of Human Services~~ Office of Public Guardian
6 for Adults, the Division of Children and Family Services shall make a
7 referral to the ~~unit~~ office no later than six (6) months before the juvenile
8 reaches eighteen (18) years of age or upon entering foster care, whichever
9 occurs later.

10 (2) A representative from the ~~unit~~ office shall attend and
11 participate in the transitional youth staffing, and information shall be
12 provided to all of the parties about what services are available and how to
13 access services for the youth after reaching the age of majority.
14

15 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 9-28-114, concerning foster youth
16 transition, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

17 (j) Nothing in this subchapter prohibits a child in the custody of the
18 department from sharing at his or her discretion information concerning his
19 or her experience with the department after consultation with his or her
20 assigned attorney ad litem.
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25 /s/Barker
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28 **APPROVED: 3/10/21**
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State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: H3/31/21

93rd General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2021

HOUSE BILL 1736

By: Representative Furman

By: Senator K. Hammer

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE RIGHT OF A
JUVENILE TO REMAIN IN FOSTER CARE AFTER REACHING THE
AGE OF MAJORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE RIGHT OF
A JUVENILE TO REMAIN IN FOSTER CARE AFTER
REACHING THE AGE OF MAJORITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-306(a)(1)(B)(ii), concerning the
jurisdiction of the court under the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, is
amended to read as follows:

(ii) A juvenile may contact his or her attorney ad
litem to petition the court to return to the court's jurisdiction ~~to receive~~
~~independent living or transitional services~~ if the juvenile:

(a) Was adjudicated dependent or dependent-
neglected;

(b) Was in foster care at eighteen (18) years
of age; and

(c) Left foster care but desires to submit to
the jurisdiction of the court before reaching twenty-one (21) years of age to
benefit from ~~independent living or transitional services~~ extended foster
care; ~~or~~

~~(d) Left foster care and decides to submit to~~



1 ~~the jurisdiction of the court and return to foster care to receive~~
2 ~~transitional services;~~

3
4 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 9-27-306(f), concerning the jurisdiction of
5 the court under the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 (f) If a juvenile over eighteen (18) years of age who is allowed to
8 reenter extended foster care fails to be engaged in or have a viable plan to
9 ~~participate in a course of instruction or treatment or is not working at~~
10 ~~least eighty (80) hours per month toward gaining self-sufficiency~~ meet the
11 requirements in subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i)(a) of this section or have a viable
12 plan to meet the requirements of subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i)(a) of this section
13 for more than sixty (60) days, the department may file a motion to terminate
14 the jurisdiction of the court and discharge the juvenile from foster care.

15
16 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 9-27-337(a), concerning required six-month
17 reviews of dependency-neglect or families in need of services cases, is
18 amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

19 (3) A six-month review hearing shall not be required for a
20 juvenile who:

21 (A) Is over eighteen (18) years of age; and

22 (B) Has elected to remain in extended foster care or to
23 return to extended foster care under § 9-27-306(a)(1)(B)(ii).

24
25 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 9-27-363(b)(2), concerning foster youth
26 transition under the Arkansas Juvenile Code of 1989, is amended to read as
27 follows:

28 (2) The plan shall include without limitation written
29 information and confirmation concerning:

30 (A) The juvenile's right to stay in foster care after
31 reaching eighteen (18) years of age for education, treatment, or work and
32 specific programs and services, including without limitation the John H.
33 Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood ~~and other~~
34 ~~transitional services; and~~

35 (B) The juvenile's right to remain in extended foster care
36 after reaching eighteen (18) years of age if the juvenile:

1 (i) Is completing secondary education or a program
2 leading to an equivalent credential;

3 (ii) Is enrolled in an institution that provides
4 post-secondary or vocational education;

5 (iii) Is participating in a program or activity
6 designed to promote or remove barriers to employment;

7 (iv) Is employed for at least eighty (80) hours per
8 month;

9 (v) Has a viable plan to meet the requirements of
10 subdivisions (b)(2)(B)(i)-(iv) of this section; or

11 (vi) Is incapable of doing one (1) or more of the
12 activities listed in subdivisions (b)(2)(B)(i)-(v) of this section due to a
13 medical condition, which incapability is supported by regularly updated
14 information in the case plan of the juvenile; and

15 (C) The juvenile's case, including his or her biological
16 family, foster care placement history, tribal information, if applicable, and
17 the whereabouts of siblings, if any, unless a court determines that release
18 of information pertaining to a sibling would jeopardize the safety or welfare
19 of the sibling.

20
21 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 9-28-114(a)(3), concerning foster youth
22 transition, is amended to add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

23 (F) Offer an extended foster care program that provides:

24 (i) Case management services and supports; and

25 (ii) Financial assistance with room and board costs
26 for a juvenile who:

27 (a) Was adjudicated dependent or dependent-
28 neglected;

29 (b) Was in foster care at eighteen (18) years
30 of age but is not yet twenty-one (21) years of age or such other age as may
31 be required under federal law;

32 (c) Wishes to participate in extended foster
33 care to benefit from the program; and

34 d) Either:

35 (1) Is completing secondary education or
36 a program leading to an equivalent credential;

1 (2) Is enrolled in an institution that
2 provides post-secondary or vocational education;

3 (3) Is participating in a program or
4 activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment;

5 (4) Is employed for at least eighty
6 (80)hours per month;

7 (5) Has a viable plan to meet the
8 requirements of subdivisions (a)(3)(F)(ii)(d)(1)-(4) of this section; or

9 (6) Incapable of doing any of the
10 activities listed in subdivisions (a)(3)(F)(ii)(d)(1)-(5) of this section due
11 to a medical condition, which incapability is supported by regularly updated
12 information in the case plan of the juvenile;

13 (G)(i) Allow a juvenile described in subdivisions
14 (a)(3)(F)(ii)(a)-(d) of this section who left foster care to reenter the
15 extended foster care program if the juvenile submits a request in writing or
16 in person to the department for his or her return to foster care.

17 (ii) The department may discharge a juvenile from
18 extended foster care program if the juvenile:

19 (a) Is over eighteen (18) years of age;

20 (b) Reenters extended foster care after having
21 his or her request to reenter foster care approved; and

22 (c) Fails to engage in or have a viable plan
23 to meet the requirements listed in subdivision (a)(3)(F)(ii)(d) of this
24 section or have a viable plan to meet the requirements listed in subdivision
25 (a)(3)(F)(ii)(d) of this section for more than sixty (60) days; and

26 (H) Recognize that participation in extended foster care
27 does not impede or otherwise alter any right afforded to the youth by virtue
28 of his or her age of majority including without limitation the right to
29 consent to medical treatment or enter into contracts.

30
31 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 9-28-114(b)(2)(A), concerning foster youth
32 transition, is amended to read as follows:

33 (A) The juvenile's right to stay in extended foster care
34 after reaching eighteen (18) years of age ~~for education, treatment, or work~~
35 ~~and specify~~ in order to participate in specific transitional programs and
36 services, including without limitation the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program

for Successful Transition to Adulthood ~~and other transitional services~~; and

/s/Furman

APPROVED: 4/20/21