

# Independent Living 101 Training Questions & Answers

August 6, 2020

Question 1: Can Chafee or TANF IL funds be used to pay for car insurance for an emancipated youth who is 18 or older?

Answer: Chafee and TANF/IL funds will pay for temporary driver permit, driver's education classes and their driver's license, but not car insurance. Youth should be encouraged to save money earned from employment or incentives to assist with paying for necessities that are not covered by federal funds.

Question 2: Are there any resources on housing options for high functioning autism? Working with a youth who needs supportive housing. Located in Northeast Ohio.

Answer: Contact the local Developmental Disability Board, the local housing authority as well as, the county department of mental health and drug addiction services to assist in find housing resources for youth with special needs.

Question 3: Can a young adult change Bridges provider networks?

Answer: The process for a young adult to communicate a concern is located on the Bridges website under the Contact Us/Have a Concern? Tabs. The Young adult can explain their grievance through the website.

Question 4: Are there any templates for writing IL Plans, Final Transition Plans, and Emancipated Youth Plans?

Answer: The templates to create IL Plans, Final Transition Plans and an Emancipated Youth Plan are built into SACWIS. To access the plans from the SACWIS home screen, click the Case tab, click on the Workload tab, then select the appropriate Case ID link. The Case Overview screen will appear. Click on the Independent Living link in the Navigation menu. The Independent Living Filter Criteria screen appears displaying the Independent Living Records grid. The grid displays the Independent Living, Final Transition Plan and Emancipation Plan for any active or inactive case member on the current case. To obtain a step by step guide on how to create each of these plans, this can be found in the SACWIS Knowledge Base article titled "Creating an Independent Living Plan". The web address to access the article is as follows: <https://jfskb.com/sacwis/index.php/case/88-independent-living-nytd/736-creating-an-independent-living-plan>.

Question 5: Question about readiness reviews - for adoption - we had the close the family case, which closed the independent living plan. Therefore, a new independent living plan was made when we made the adoption case. For the readiness reviews, do we go by the new adoption independent living plan date or the original independent living plan date?

Answer: Agencies are to use the date of their original independent living plan. If the caseworker did not have a readiness review, use the date of the last case review in the family case. If the caseworker had a readiness review, use the readiness review from the last 90 days.

Question 6: Is it possible to share the PowerPoint with the attendees?

Answer: The Power Point presentation is one of the handouts attachments in the control panel of the screen. The webinar handouts will also be made available on the SACWIS Knowledge Base website.

Question 7: We've referred clients 90 days before and they got closed out because they weren't 30 days before...what are we doing wrong?

Answer: What is your county? You are not doing anything wrong, but I can have a Regional Coordinator reach out to get some specifics to see what happened. Rule 5101:2-42-19 states a youth can be referred to the Bridges Program 90 days prior to emancipation.

Question 8: I have several youths who want to get their permits, how can they do that in regard to Insurance? Are we able to get our youth their licenses prior to emancipation? Will any TANF or CHAFFEE pay for insurance?

Answer: Chafee and TANF/IL funds can pay for a youth to get a d temporary driver permit, driver's education classes and their driver's license. However, youth under the age of 18 years of age are not able to obtain their own car insurance. For a youth to get their temporary driver's permit, an adult must sign the temporary permit form and the driver's license form indicating that they will be financially liable for the youth. Most PCSAs will not take on that liability. Therefore, if the youth is placed in kinship care setting, a family member can accept the liability and sign the temporary permit and driver's license forms or if a youth has a good relationship with their foster parents, foster parents have been known to accept the liability and the above noted forms as well. If not, the youth will have to wait until they reach the age of 18.

Question 9: Are the youth to receive a hard copy or copy of the Independent Living Plan, Transition Plan and the Final Transition Plan, should it still be signed and uploaded into the Reading File?

Answer: OAC rule 5101:2-42-19 requires that the caseworker provides the youth with a copy of each Independent Living Plan, Final Transition Plan, Emancipation Plan and any subsequent updates to those plans. Regarding signatures, SACWIS allows caseworkers to add the appropriate values (names) to indicate if there was input from the Youth, Case Manager, Significant Other(s), and Substitute Caregiver when completing the plan and the plan developed date. Therefore, the plans can be printed and given as a hard copy or if your agency has developed an electronic mechanism to send the plans electronically without compromising confidential information, then the agency can send the plans electronically.

Question 10: Where can we find the NYTD sample that is due in September? Is it all of the 17 -years old?

Answer: The list of your counties' NYTD sample (select youth that are 17 years of age) is in SACWIS under the Administration tab, click on Reports, then scroll to " NYTD Statistical Report" link.

Question 11: Do goals on the Independent Living Plan need to be linked in SACWIS?

Answer: The goals of the Independent Living Plan is built into SACWIS. Therefore, in order to add goals for the youth's independent living plan, click the Goals tab, then the Independent Living Goals screen will appear. If the plan has no goals yet, the Add Topics to Current Plan hyperlink is expanded by default to display the list of goals. If any goals have already been added to the plan, the Add Topics to Current Plan hyperlink is collapsed, and the added goals display in the Current Plan section. In the Independent Living Goals section, click the checkbox beside each goal you wish to add to the plan. To obtain a step by step guide on how to create independent living goals, this can be found in the SACWIS Knowledge Base article titled "Creating an Independent Living Plan" – Completing the Goals Tab. The web address to access the article is as follows: <https://ifskb.com/sacwis/index.php/case/88-independent-living-nytd/736-creating-an-independent-living-plan>. For further assistance, you can contact OFC SACWIS Help Desk at: [SACWIS\\_HELP\\_DESK@ifs.ohio.gov](mailto:SACWIS_HELP_DESK@ifs.ohio.gov)

Question 12: What was the Online Coursework for youth to do independent living skills? What is the program called or how do we go about signing up for that?

Answer: The name of online course for independent living skills is called Life Skill Reimagined. For more information and to purchase a subscription, visit the Life Skills Reimagined website at: <https://www.lifeskillsreimagined.com/>.

Question 13: Can you share the BMV info again?

Answer: For agencies who do not have the youth's original social security card, the caseworker can apply to receive a youth's State I.D. by following the steps below:

- Go to the Ohio BMV website at: <https://www.bmv.ohio.gov/index.aspx#gsc.tab=0>; (next)
- Click on **Contact** – in the red headed bar at the top of screen; (next)
- Click on **Email BMV** at the top in blue letters; (next)
- Fill out the form noting the county the youth is from and state that the youth is in foster care and needs a State ID.
- Once you hit **Submit** the form will go directly to the BMV contact person responsible in assisting the youth obtain their State I.D. The BMV will contact the caseworker within 1-3 days from the time the form is submitted. After the youth receives their State ID, the caseworker can take the youth with their State ID card to the Social Security office to request an original Social Security card.

If you have questions regarding the process to obtain a State I.D. , please call the Driver License/ID Card phone number at: (844) 644-6268 Mon – Fri 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Question 14: Where do you find information again that gives examples of what to spend TANF and Chafee funds?

Answer: Information and examples on how to utilize TANF/IL and Chafee funds can be found in the Independent Living Skills Toolkit. In the Appendices of the section of the Toolkit, there is also the IL Funding Guidance document for both TANF/IL and Chafee Allocations.

Question 15: Where is the checklist in SACWIS for the Final Transition Plan?

Answer: The Final Transition Plan checklist can be found in SACWIS in the Independent Living link in the Navigation menu. The Independent Living Filter Criteria screen appears displaying the Independent Living Records grid. The grid displays the Independent Living, Final Transition Plan and Emancipation Plan for any active or inactive case member on the current case. When creating the Final Transition Plan the following tabs will appear on the screen: Youth's information, Final Transition Plan Resources, Necessary Documents (checklist), Contact Directory and Signatures.

Question 16: Why can't gift cards be used as incentives for NYTD? Is that on guidance from the Feds?

Answer: Gift cards are not permissible due to the tracking of expenditure requirements associated with gift cards. Gift card expenses are not trackable, and accounts connected

to gift cards poses issues for Fiscal when reconciling accounts at the end of the fiscal year. PCSAs can provide youth in custody or young adults who have emancipated from care with incentives in the form of cash or a check. This is supported by ODJFS Office of Fiscal and our Federal partners.

Question 17: The minor affidavit under handouts will not open or download

Answer: If you can not download the minor affidavit that is attached in the webinar control panel, send an email to the Independent Living/Transition Age Youth Mailbox at: [Transitional-Youth-Programs@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Transitional-Youth-Programs@jfs.ohio.gov) letting the TAY staff know that you would like to receive a copy of the Ohio Attorney General's ID Theft Notification and Affidavit Minors form and you will be emailed a copy of that form.

Question 18: Does NYAP has access to the Chafee and TANF IL funds?

Answer: No. The Chafee and the TANF IL funds comes from the federal government to ODJFS. ODJFS, then distributes those funds to the 88 county PCSAs. Private agencies who are contracted to perform independent living services from a PCSA should work with their PCSA (contractor) to discuss the need for additional funding and have that incorporated in the contract.

Question 19: What was the name of this online program again? Life Skills we Imaging?

Answer: The name of online course for independent living skills is called Life Skill Reimagined. For more information and to purchase a subscription, visit the Life Skills Reimagined website at: <https://www.lifeskillsreimagined.com/>.

Question 20: Where can we access the toolkit? Not sure if I missed that.

Answer: The IL Skills Toolkit can be ordered through ODJFS Forms Central at: <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/> form number JFS 08046. The toolkit is also an attachment in the control panel of this webinar.

Question 21: Do you have a good assessment resource for children who have disabilities, such as autism?

Answer: OAC 5101:4-42-19 does not speak to a specific type of assessment tool caseworkers can use when conducting independent living assessments. There are a variety of assessment tools available caseworkers can use for youth with disabilities. Some county workers use the OEDDIE OR COEDDIE assessment or other assessment that their local board of Developmental Disability office who have youth that developmental disabilities.

