



Tennessee Department of Children's Services  
**Pre-Release Readiness Work Aid for Delinquent Youth**

Complete this work aid checklist prior to the release CFTM and ensure the areas listed below are addressed in the release summary:

<b>Completed</b>	
<b>Legal:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	When and Why did the youth enter custody? (List charges)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Number of custody episodes and the details of these instances including prior charges and/or placements and interventions
<b>Assessment:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	What needs and strengths did the youth have at the time of entry into DCS?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss the results of all assessments and how assessment results were followed with treatment provisions for the youth and family.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Note CANS recommendations, if applicable and indicate if the recommendations were or were not addressed and how they were or why they were not.
<b>Education:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	What is the youth's current grade level and educational status? Has the youth received or is pursuing a diploma, GED, Special Education Diploma, etc? What are the youth's educational goals and progress toward those goals?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indicate the youth's career plans ( <i>i.e.</i> , college, trade school, military, <i>etc.</i> ) and if those plans are realistic and/or what the FSW and the team needs to do to ensure a smooth transition. The FSW is working with the Interdependent Living specialist as applicable.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Has the education specialist been notified about prerelease planning? If applicable, has the education specialist been notified per DCS policy <a href="#">21.18 Notification to School Principals of Certain Delinquency Adjudications</a> if the youth is returning to the public school system? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Comments:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Has the Education Passport has been updated by the FSW and ready to go to the school? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Comments:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Are plans in place for anticipated transition problems?
<b>Child's Treatment:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Document all services the youth received while in care, especially those related to specific needs identified, ( <i>i.e.</i> , alcohol/drug, sex offender treatment, <i>etc.</i> ), including who specifically provided the services and the dates during which the treatment was received.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Document the youth's success in addressing these issues while in DCS custody. ( <i>i.e.</i> , attach applicable reports and recommendations of counselors, therapists, psychiatrist, A&D programs, YDC

	recommendations, court reports, etc.) Documentation of progress can also be explained by summarizing his/her history of behavior versus his/her current behavior (i.e., current reduction in behavior reports being received, increase in behavior points, etc.)
<b>Child's Behavior History:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major incidents that occurred regarding the behavior of the youth within the past three (3) months. (i.e., attach serious incident reports or other pertinent documents, etc.) <b>Note:</b> this may be accomplished with the documentation in section <u>Child's Treatment</u> section above.
<b>Family Treatment and Custodial Issues:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Was a home visit made prior to the CFTM to assess the family and home placement?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name the legal custodian prior to commitment and who the youth is going to be placed with upon release. If different, explain why they are not being placed with the original custodian.
<input type="checkbox"/>	If the youth is being placed with someone other than an adult who had legal custody prior to committal and the youth is under 18 years of age, a background check must be done as indicated in DCS Policy <a href="#">16.20. Expedited Custodial Placements</a> . If this is done, include the results of the background check.
<input type="checkbox"/>	When applicable, ensure that a legal referral has been done to change the youth's legal custody with a different person; if this is done, include the results of the background check.
<input type="checkbox"/>	There should be documented proof of the youth's family's readiness for the youth's return to home, (i.e., document whether or not services for the family required in the <b>Family Permanency Plan</b> have been provided and the family's response, etc).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Note specific services that were provided while in custody and that will be necessary in the home to help the youth and the family succeed and to ensure community safety. Provide details such as who provided the services and the dates and attach pertinent documents from providers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that the <b>Family Permanency Plan</b> gives specific directions/information for the family in order to secure needed services.
<b>Community Reintegration:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	In the case of a child age 16 or older, the youth must have notice, and understanding of, his or her opportunity to receive any applicable post-custody services.  <b>Note:</b> Three months prior to the planned release of a child at age seventeen (17) or older, a permanency hearing shall be held for the purposes of reviewing the child's transition plan to Independent Living. See DCS Policies and <i>TCA Section 37-2-409(b) (4)</i> for specifics:  <a href="#">16.51 Independent Living and Transition Planning</a> <a href="#">16.52 Extension or Re-Establishment of Foster Care for Young Adults</a> <a href="#">16.53 Eligibility for Independent Living Services</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Does the youth understand the requirements of aftercare pursuant to DCS Policy <a href="#">12.1 Return to Home Placement-Aftercare Supervision for Delinquent Youth</a> ? Are the Rules of Aftercare attached for signature by the Court?