

## Independent Living Roles and Responsibilities

The chart below summarizes the targeted outcomes for transitioning youth that child welfare agencies and regional transition resource agencies will be responsible for, with corresponding examples of milestones and responsibilities. Visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/il> > *Resources and Training* tab for more resources.

IL Domain and Goal	County/Tribal Child Welfare Agency Role	Regional Transition Resource Agency Role
<p><i>General responsibilities</i> Child welfare agency and regional Transition Resource Agency work together to create seamless access to youth-led opportunities.</p>	<p>Placement, care, supervision, and permanency planning for children and youth in out-of-home care (OHC).</p> <p>Complete independent living assessments and independent living plans within required timeframes and in alignment with case and permanency planning. Initiate and facilitate the Independent Living Transition to Discharge process, starting at 17 ½ by coordinating with the youth, supportive adults, and Transition Resource Agency worker.</p>	<p>Develop community resources and partnerships that support transitioning IL-eligible youth ages 14-21 and facilitate connections between child welfare agency, youth, and community resource/partner.</p> <p>Support youth transition during the ILTD process. Connect youth with desired services and supports and provide ongoing engagement through social media, youth councils, community outreach, etc.</p>
<p><i>Education</i> Youth has a high school diploma and has the support to access and succeed in postsecondary education or training for employment.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth completes high school with diploma.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Help the youth complete secondary education and plan for postsecondary education/training goals. This may include, but is not limited to, tutoring and other academic supports, course selection, credit recovery, pre-college activities, postsecondary school information-gathering, and program applications.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth completes postsecondary education or employment training.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Help the youth access their desired education/training, including, but not limited to, supports in the areas of financial assistance, transportation, supplies and materials, and program applications.</p>
<p><i>Employment/ Income</i> Youth has the skills needed for successful employment that provides a living wage.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth has at least one paid job experience before turning 18. They have a resume and at least one job reference.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Work with the youth to practice completing applications and interviews; connect youth to employment opportunities; facilitate career exploration through school (e.g. work study or job shadowing) and volunteerism. Consult with the Transition Resource Agency about youth employment needs and interests prior to the age of 18.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth secures and maintains employment and has a living wage (or public assistance, when applicable).</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Develop and maintain community resources and partnerships responsive to youth's employment and income needs. This includes a having a working knowledge of local youth and young adult employment programs, support services, and employment opportunities and creating inroads to participation.</p> <p>While the youth is still in care, use this knowledge to provide youth-specific consultation to the Child Welfare Agency regarding youth employment. This may include connections to community partners or employers, soft skill development, and/or information-sharing.</p>
<p><i>Financial Management</i> Youth has the financial literacy (e.g. budgeting skills) to achieve financial self-sufficiency.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth opens a savings account and contributes to its balance.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Work with the youth on budgeting exercises by way of an allowance, bank account, and/or income; complete cost saving and comparison exercises with the youth; educate the youth on credit and debt; provide the youth their credit report, review it with them, and complete credit remediation when needed.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth is on stable financial footing through budgeting practices, regular saving, and responsible purchasing.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Continue to assist the youth with budgeting, paying bills, use of credit and debt, and/or access to public assistance. Provide necessary support for credit report remediation.</p>

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<p><i>Health and Well-being</i> Youth's physical, mental, and emotional health needs are met, and they are able to access services when needed. Youth is insured.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth is connected to healthcare providers. Youth's BadgerCare+ enrollment is initiated before they leave care.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Assist youth in learning personal health care, medication, wellness, and hygiene; understanding their mental and physical health needs and diagnoses, their potential effects, and necessary maintenance; knowing what and how to communicate to healthcare providers; and how to advocate for and access services.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth is connected to healthcare providers. Youth receives health insurance through employer or BadgerCare+; insurance does not lapse.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Assist youth with maintaining enrollment in BadgerCare+ or other insurance, accessing services, and maintaining care. Facilitate youth understanding of making and keeping appointments, medication, and having a health care proxy. Support youth access to and follow through on necessary care and treatments (e.g. therapy, medications).</p>
<p><i>Housing</i> Youth has access to a range of housing options; secures safe, stable, and affordable housing; and understands housing upkeep and safety.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth has housing knowledge and viable plan for housing after leaving care.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Help youth explore housing options, educate youth on budgeting and tasks related to home upkeep and cooking. Through the ILTD process and other conversations, help youth develop a viable housing plan for post-discharge.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth maintains consistent, safe, and stable housing and has a landlord/housing reference.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Assist the youth with finding, applying for, budgeting for, and securing appropriate housing. Assist the youth in accessing housing supports, such as financial supports for rent assistance or utility costs. Develop relationships with landlords.</p>
<p><i>Permanent Connections</i> Youth is connected to multiple permanent and prosocial supportive adults, outside of formal systems. This includes at least one unpaid supportive adult.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth completes permanency roundtables and the ILTD Plan alongside supportive adults; efforts are individualized and youth-driven. Barriers to supportive relationships are acknowledged and removed.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Facilitate and support youth connections to life-long caring adults and peers. Educate youth on healthy relationships.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth has supportive adults to provide encouragement, support, and guidance, and help with identified needs and emergencies.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Educate youth on healthy relationships. Help youth identify and maintain connections to life-long caring adults and peers.</p>
<p><i>Transportation</i> Youth has a reliable mode of transportation.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth completes driver's education and obtains a driver's license (when possible). Youth knows how to safely and reliably access public transportation.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Ensure youth has transportation to school, extracurricular activities, volunteer activities, and/or employment; facilitate youth enrollment in driver's education courses; work with youth to practice use of public transportation.</p>	<p><i>Milestone:</i> Youth purchases safe and reliable vehicle for personal use and has current registration and insurance, or youth has reliable access to public transportation to meet needs.</p> <p><i>Responsibilities:</i> Assist youth in obtaining reliable transportation to meet needs. These needs may include, but are not limited to, getting a driver's license, keeping insurance and registration current, completing necessary repairs, having passes to use public transportation.</p>
<p><i>Other</i> Other youth outcomes and requirements, as outlined in federal law, state statutes, and ongoing standards are met. For example, the youth receives necessary and required documents (e.g. birth certificate).</p>	<p>Youth receives required documents prior to leaving care, as specified on their Independent Living page in eWiSACWIS. These include, but are not limited to, medical records, birth certificate, copy of their ILTD, social security card, etc.</p>	<p>Youth receives assistance when they need to replace lost or outdated documents.</p>