

Identification of Court-Ordered Family Reunification (FR) Services

(Revised 02/16/18)

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Eligible Cases

Family Reunification (FR) will be the case plan goal when a child:

- has been placed in out-of-home care, **or**
- is placed in the care of a previously non-custodial parent under the supervision of Juvenile Court *and* reunification services are being provided to the custodial parent.

NOTE: The WIC does not *require* services to be provided to the previously custodial parent. Contact County Counsel to discuss.

FR Services

The table below displays when the case can be identified as receiving FR services and the effective date of reporting such services, per state regulations (31-088).

When	Criteria	Effective Date
Prior to the dispositional hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child receiving ER or voluntary FM services; and• Petition filed for detention and/or jurisdiction; and• PSS approved case plan recommending FR services.	Date supervisor approved case plan.
At the dispositional or review hearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child declared a dependent; and• Court orders FR services.	Date of hearing.
Child has the potential to be declared a dependent and the family is voluntarily accepting FR services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The SW has completed a case plan recommending voluntary FR services; and• The parent/guardian has reviewed and signed the case plan; and• PSS approved case plan recommending FR services.	Date supervisor approved case plan.

Time Limits

FR services are time-limited, based on factors such as the age of the child, the parent's compliance with the case plan, and the probability of return home.

When the time limits expire (which is generally when the court terminates services), the SW shall recommend:

- FM services for the parent(s) if the child can safely return home, **or**
- PP services for the child. (PP services for a *parent* require CWS Manager approval.)

NOTE: If the court orders continued services for a parent when the Case Plan does not, the SW must do a Case Plan Update to include the parents and the services.

Newborns in FR Cases

If the parent has a new child while the FR case is open, the SW will follow the policy and procedures in the Highly Vulnerable Children Protocol.

Alignment with SET

This policy aligns with SET [Value 3](#) helping children and youth achieve their full potential and develop lifelong relationships.
