

Termination of Services

(Revised 06/08/18)

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Definition

Termination of services is when all child welfare services cease and CWS closes its case. Although there may at times be overlap, termination of services is not the same as termination of **reunification services** or termination of **jurisdiction**.

If jurisdiction is terminated but CWS services will be continued, an approved VS case plan is required (see Termination of Jurisdiction).

Termination

The table below displays the situations described in state regulations where termination of services occurs, and the corresponding effective dates and service programs.

Situation	Effective Date	Program
Court terminates jurisdiction. Child is emancipated.	Date of Hearing	FM, FR, PP
Child dies.	No later than 30 days from date SW informed	FM, FR, PP
Dependent child's and/or family's whereabouts unknown.	Case remains open until child reaches age 18	FM, FR, PP
Non-dependent child's whereabouts unknown.	No later than 30 days from date SW informed	ER, VS (in-home and out-of-home)
Youth reaches age 18 or is no longer eligible for foster care payment (see exception in Termination of Jurisdiction).	Whichever date occurs last	FR, PP

Termination (cont.)

Situation	Effective Date	Program
Youth reaches age 18.	Birth date	FM
CWS time limit expired.	Date CWS time limits expire	FM, FR
Guardian appointed and AFDC-FC is discontinued.	Date AFDC-FC is discontinued	PP
Child is adopted.	Date of Adoption Hearing or date court terminates jurisdiction ex parte, if not terminated at the time of the Adoption Hearing	PP

Birth Certificates

When the court orders the termination of **reunification** services to the parent or guardian, the court will also order that the child's caregiver receive the child's birth certificate. If the child is 16 or older, the court may order that the youth receive his or her birth certificate instead.

Termination of Jurisdiction

For more information on what SW tasks need to be completed when jurisdiction is terminated, see Termination of Jurisdiction.

Alignment with SET

This policy supports SET [Value 1: Relationships with Children, Youth, and Families Are the Foundation](#) and SET [Value 3: Helping Children and Youth Achieve Their Full Potential and Develop Lifelong Relationships](#) by partnering with the family and listening to the voice of the child to focus on the child's safety, and by identifying any family support systems to keep the child safe.
