

Child Protective Services: Juvenile Court Placement Issues

2102.15 Responsibility for Children in the Department's Custody

Requirement

Initial orders granting temporary custody to DFCS are in effect no longer than 12 months from the date of the removal of the child from the home.

Procedures/Practice Issues

If the child is found to be deprived, the court may via a dispositional order: (1) Permit the child to remain with his or her parents, guardian, or other custodian, including a putative father, or (2) transfer temporary legal custody to any of the following persons or entities:

- Any relative or individual, including a putative father, who has been studied and approved;
- An agency or other private organization licensed or legally authorized to receive and provide care for a child;
- Any public agency authorized by law to provide for the child; or
- An individual in another state (see Foster Care Policy ICPC section 1010).

When the county department becomes the temporary legal custodian, it can (subject to the conditions and limitations of the order) make certain decisions on behalf of the child, involve parents in this decision making whenever possible, and notify parents of any major changes. The department:

- Determines and monitors the place where the child will live to assure the child's safety and well-being;
- Selects an appropriate training/educational facility for the child;
- Delegates to someone else (e.g. a foster parent, a group residential facility) the day-to-day care and supervision of the child, including approval of supplemental care; i.e., day care, babysitters, etc.
- Obtains routine medical and dental care;
- Provides for usual recreational activities;
- Approves out-of-town trips;
- Arranges for purchase of appropriate clothing, haircuts, etc.;
- Informs parents of injuries, accidents and illnesses of the child; and

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- Arranges for and monitors visitation between the child and parents/other family members.