



Ohio Administrative Code Rule 5180:5-50-01 Administration of bridges.

Effective: July 1, 2025

(A) For purposes of this program, in accordance with section 5101.1411 of the Revised Code, a bridges participant is defined as a person that:

(1) Was emancipated through the legal process of custody termination from a Title IV-E agency on or after a youth attains the age of eighteen;

(2) Has attained the age of eighteen but has not attained the age of twenty-one; and

(3) Meets one of the eligibility requirements pursuant to paragraph (B)(3) of rule 5180:5-50-02 of the Administrative Code.

(B) An Ohio department of children and youth (DCY) or bridges representative is to provide emancipated young adults with the DCY 01626 "Bridges Application" upon the young adult's request.

(C) The emancipated young adult is to submit the DCY 01626 and verification of eligibility to DCY.

(D) The bridges participant is to sign and enter into a DCY 01617 "Bridges Voluntary Participation Agreement" with DCY to begin receiving case management services.

(E) A bridges representative is to conduct monthly face-to-face visits with the participant and each minor dependent, if any. These visits are to occur in their approved supervised independent or non-reimbursable living setting. If a participant resides in a college dormitory, they may request the visit occur at another location on campus.

(1) Visits for bridges participants are to be documented as an activity log in Ohio's comprehensive child welfare information system (CCWIS) and at a minimum address the following:



- (a) The safety and well-being of the bridges participant, and any minor dependent child;
 - (b) The progress of the bridges participant toward their bridges case plan goals; and
 - (c) Any new or pertinent information that is affecting the bridges participant.
- (2) A bridges representative may request courtesy monthly face to face visits of an Ohio bridges participant residing in another state by following the directives outlined in Chapter 5180:2-52 of the Administrative Code.
- (3) A bridges representative is to conduct courtesy monthly face to face visits for eligible emancipated young adults placed into approved supervised independent living settings in Ohio through the "Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children" pursuant to the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008.
- (F) A participant may reside in the following supervised independent living settings with DCY retaining discretion to approve or deny any setting:
- (1) Leased housing;
 - (2) Room and board arrangements including in-home, supportive in-home, and host homes;
 - (3) College or university dormitories;
 - (4) Emergency housing;
 - (5) Community and supervised community housing; and
 - (6) Shared roommate settings.
- (G) A bridges representative is to conduct and approve or deny a safety check of a participant living setting within seven business days of the initial or any housing change, including settings outside of



Ohio. A safety check is to be completed with the participant present and signed by the participant and bridges representative.

(H) A bridges representative is to complete a bridges assessment with the participant within thirty calendar days of the effective date of the DCY 01617.

(I) A bridges representative is to work with the participant to develop a bridges plan within sixty calendar days of the DCY 01617 effective date.

(1) The plan is to be personalized and as detailed as the participant chooses.

(2) A copy of the participant signed plan is to be provided to the participant by hard copy or electronic format within seven calendar days of signature.

(3) The bridges plan may be amended at any time.

(J) A bridges representative is to work with the participant to complete a review of the plan every one hundred and eighty calendar days of the DCY 01617 effective date and is to include:

(1) Review of the current goals and services.

(2) Verification of eligibility.

(3) An updated bridges plan is to be signed by the participant and approved by a bridges representative, with a copy provided to the participant within seven calendar days of the review.

(K) A copy of the current signed bridges plan and review are to be submitted to the court fourteen calendar days prior to any scheduled bridges court hearing.

(L) A bridges representative is to request a credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies (CRA) at least annually during participant enrollment and ensure:

(1) A participant receives a copy and is provided interpretation of their consumer credit report



annually, and within 60 calendar days of attaining age 21; and

(2) Assistance in resolution of inaccuracies reported on a credit report by working with the participant and Ohio attorney general's office; and

(3) Documentation of efforts if a participant objects to having their credit report requested.

(M) All bridges case records prepared, maintained, and permanently kept by the bridges representative are confidential. Information contained in Ohio's Statewide Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) is confidential pursuant to section 5101.131 of the Revised Code. A bridges representative is to record case information in CCWIS, or alternately in electronic format if unable to be recorded in CCWIS.

(N) When requested by a bridges participant, a summary of bridges case services is to be provided.