



Permanency

Preservice

Learner Guide

October 2022

Version 1.0



Table of Contents

Learning Objectives 2

Permanency Options 2

Post-Finalization Adoption Support 6

Preparing the Child for Permanency 6

Resources 8



Notes:

A series of horizontal lines for taking notes, contained within a red-bordered box.

Learning Objectives

- Identify **legal permanency options** for the child
- Describe the **caregiver's role** in supporting permanency goals

Permanency Options



Write down the difference between legal permanency and relational permanency.

Two horizontal lines for writing the answer to the first question.

Write down key points from the Permanency segment of Life of a Case.

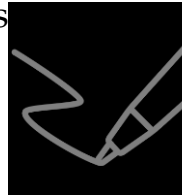
Three horizontal lines for writing the answer to the second question.

The most common permanency goal is **reunification** for the following reasons:

- Improved Outcomes
- Positive Impact on Parents
- Better Development
- Less Stress for Children
- Ties to Extended Family

It is the expectation of the agency that you will **actively support the reunification goal** even if you are fostering in the hopes of expanding your family through adoption.

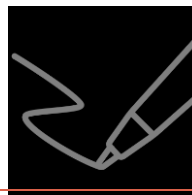
Reflection: As you decide if fostering is right for you and your family, you should consider whether you can manage the complex feelings that can come with supporting reunification. Will you be able to do what is best for the child, even when it doesn't feel like it is in your best interest?



PPLA

In a **Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (PPLA)**, the agency maintains custody of the youth without terminating parental rights for youths 16 years of age and older. The youth is not connected to a permanent family.

Reflection: What would you say to a youth who is interested in PPLA?

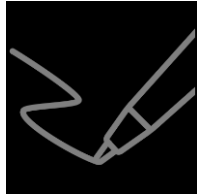


Notes:

Legal Custody

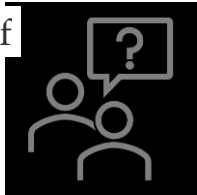
When a family takes legal custody of the child, it is permanent unless there is a **change in the parents' and the child's circumstances**. Through legal custody, the child has both stability and connection to their family, culture, and history which can help form a positive identity.

Reflection: Do you think you can support the permanency goal, even when it feels the goal has abruptly changed?



Adoption

As you watch the **Adoption** segment of **Life of a Case**, complete the fill-in-the-blank sentences below.



Special caseworkers called _____ complete a matching and selection process that demonstrates a _____ process.

Order of consideration:

- For children recognized as members of a tribe, _____ guidelines take precedence.

Notes:

- Families who will _____.
- Any _____, or the child’s current caregiver
- A _____ with whom the child has resided in the past
- Any other approved adoptive family.

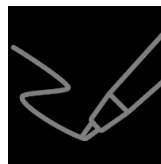
Families will receive an _____ application to sign. It will be placed in their file.

The assessor will hold a face-to-face visit with the family and child with in the first _____, again at _____ and _____ thereafter until the adoption is finalized in no less than _____. The _____ is issued in probate court.

Adoption’s purpose is to **find a permanent home for a child**; the focus is on the **child’s needs and best interests**.

If you adopt, the child will be a permanent full and legal member of your family with the same rights as a child born to you.

Reflection: Can you embrace a child as a permanent member of your family while still supporting their connections to their “roots”?



Notes:

Post-Finalization Adoption Support

[OhioKan](#) offers support and services to families who adopt or take custody of a child.

If you adopt, you may be eligible to receive monetary support through one or more adoption subsidy programs:

- Title IV-E Adoption Assistance
- Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Connections (AAC)
- Nonrecurring Adoption Expenses Subsidy
- State Adoption Subsidy programs
- Post-Adoption Special Services Subsidy (PASSS) funds

Preparing the Child for Permanency

There are three ways you can help prepare the child in your home for permanency.

1. Learn how to talk to children about permanency.
2. Make permanency an ongoing conversation.
3. Connect the child to supportive services.

Given what you know about the impact of trauma, why might a child not trust the child protection system to help them find a family?

Notes:

Resources

Families Considering Foster Care and Adoption:

https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubpdfs/f_fospar.pdf

How to Talk About Permanence:

<https://www.ccfhnc.org/resources/explaining-permanence/>

Keeping the Family Conversation Alive:

<https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/aecf-brainframes-permanence-2017.pdf>

Kinship Guardianship as a Permanency Option:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubpdfs/kinshipguardianship.pdf>

NACAC adoption tax credit information: <https://nacac.org/help/adoption-tax-credit/>

Ohio Adoption Subsidy Guide:

<http://ocwtp.net/PDFs/Trainee%20Resources/Assessor%20Resources/Adoption%20Assistance/2B%20Adoption%20Subsidies%20Guide.pdf>

OhioKAN: <https://ohiokan.jfs.ohio.gov/>

Pathways To Permanency: Collaborating on The APPLA Provisions Of P.L.

113–183: <https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/courts/resources/appla-provisions-pl-113183>

Preparing Children and Youth for Adoption and Other Permanency Options

https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/preparing_youth.pdf

Reunify and Thrive: <https://foster.wachildrenandfamilies.org/reunification>

Unpacking the No: Helping Young People Explore the Idea of Adoption:

<https://nacac.org/resource/unpacking-the-no-helping-young-people-explore-the-idea-of-adoption/>

ODJFS Programs Supporting Kinship Caregivers

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/PUB-JFS08072-ProgramsSupportingKinshipCaregivers.stm>