

LCCS POLICY 699
Obtaining a Driver’s License, Requesting to Drive
and/or Purchasing a Motor Vehicle

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Revision Number:	5
Current Effective Date:	11/19/2021
Obsolete/Combined Date:	
Reason for Obsoleting/Combining:	
See new Policy #:	

Scope:	The policy shall apply to employees of LCCS, approved substitute caregivers and youth for whom LCCS has custody.
Responsibility:	Program Managers
Purpose:	To define the agency's position regarding children in agency custody obtaining driver's licenses or operating and/or purchasing a motor vehicle because of liability issues involved and in the context of a reasonable and prudent parent standard.
Legal Cite:	O.R.C. 2151.315, 5103.162

POLICY STATEMENT

LCCS understands the need for youth in foster care to experience normal childhood events, such as obtaining their driver's license and operating a motor vehicle. It is also necessary for LCCS to utilize the reasonable and prudent parent standard when determining if a youth should obtain a driver's license or operate a motor vehicle. It is with this balance in mind that LCCS will allow youth who are in the Legal or Permanent Custody of LCCS and are at least 16 years old to apply for permission to take driver's education and obtain a driver's license.

DEFINITIONS

Foster care: 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from parents or guardians for whom the child welfare agency has placement and care responsibility.

PROCEDURE - including required timeframes and documentation

To obtain a driver's license and/or operate a motor vehicle, youth must have written approval via the following process. Each form will be completed and then passed along to the next person as part of the youth's "Request to obtain Driver's License form" packet.

1. Youth completes "Youth in agency custody-Request to obtain Driver's License form", (Form#9095B) and then submits form to WOR or IL support worker.
2. A copy of youth's completed form is given to the Caregiver for review. Caregiver completes Form#9095C. After this is completed, if youth is in LCCS foster home, then the Foster care worker and Foster Care Supervisor review and sign form (if approved). The form is then turned in to the WOR. If the youth is placed in a setting other than a LCCS foster home, the WOR Supervisor reviews the form for accuracy and signs form.
3. Youth's WOR and/or IL Support worker complete their section(s) of form Form#9095D after reviewing information submitted by both the youth and by the caregiver. The packet is then given to the respective supervisors for approval.
4. "Request to obtain Driver's License form" packet is then submitted to Manager(s) for approval along with Form#9095A which is the Youth in Agency Custody – Request to Obtain Driver's License COVER SHEET/CHECKLIST OVERVIEW.
5. Youth and caregiver are informed of decision.

If approved, the youth must complete and pass driver's training/education.

For those youth in Legal custody of LCCS, birth parents' permission may be sought when appropriate.

All completed forms and any attachments should be added to Traverse.

For youth under the age of 18, the birth family or approved substitute caregiver must be willing and able to add youth to their auto insurance policy. Note: it may be possible to reimburse caregiver for this cost utilizing Independent Living Chafee funds. The youth must be employed and Community Development Manager Approval is required for this reimbursement.

Criteria for a young adult in custody to purchase and operate their own motor vehicle.

- Youth must be 18 years or older to buy a motor vehicle.
- The young adult must have a full time job (or part time if he/she is in school). Exceptions may be approved if the young adult is involved with extracurricular activities/sports and is unable to work due to schedule. The young adult must still have the ability to pay for his/her own insurance.
- The young adult must research insurance rates, secure auto insurance and present paid liability insurance for three months initially and maintain automobile insurance on an ongoing basis.

- Before buying a motor vehicle, it is recommended that the young adult obtain a vehicle inspection by a trained, unbiased auto mechanic that states that the auto is in good mechanical condition. The young adult will be responsible to pay for the inspection.

Youth must obey the motor vehicles laws in Ohio surrounding getting a temporary permit or Ohio driver's license and operation of a motor vehicle. Failure to do so may result in restricted privileges and, if there are continued violations, it could result in termination of privileges.

Exceptions to the policy may only be made by the LCCS Executive Director.

CASE PRACTICE GUIDES

RELATED POLICIES and FORMS

Approval for Driver's License Form
LCCS Policy 662