

PRE-ENROLLMENT PRIORITY CATEGORIES –
SECTION 393.065(5), FLORIDA STATUTES

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) pre-enrollment categories are listed from the highest priority to the lowest. Category 1 is the highest priority. Category 7 is the lowest priority.

Category 1 includes clients deemed to be in crisis as described in Rule 65G-1.047, *Florida Administrative Code*. Crisis includes homelessness, danger to self or others, and caregiver unable to give care.

- Documentation required for change: Documentation for this category is required to demonstrate that one is in crisis in accordance with Rule 65G-1.047, *Florida Administrative Code*. The Agency may request additional documentation to make a determination of Crisis. You may reach out to your regional office for more information.

Category 2 includes individuals with an open case in the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) statewide automated child welfare information system who are either:

- 1. Transitioning out of the child welfare system into permanency; or**
 - 2. At least 18 years old but not yet 22 years old and who need both waiver services and extended foster care services; or**
 - 3. At least 18 years old but not yet 22 years old who withdrew consent pursuant to s. 39.6251(5)(c), F.S., to remain in the extended foster care system.**
- Documentation required for change: Documentation from DCF that confirms the individual has an open case in the child welfare system and related court or other records.

Category 3 includes clients:

- 1. Whose caregiver has a documented condition that is expected to render the caregiver unable to provide care within the next 12 months and for whom a caregiver is required but no alternate caregiver is available.**
 - Documentation required for change: Documentation that provides evidence of the condition or circumstance that is expected to render the caregiver unable to provide care within the next 12 months. If the condition or circumstance is due to a medical condition, a physician's statement must be provided to explain why the current caregiver cannot continue. Circumstances that are not medical in nature must be described and signed by the caregiver.
- 2. Who are at substantial risk of incarceration or court commitment without supports, who are currently incarcerated and are expected to be released within 12 months from law enforcement, and court ordered competency evaluations.**
 - Documentation required for change: A summary of incidents in which the individual has engaged in dangerous or criminal charges; a summary of incidents in which the individual has engaged in dangerous behavior; a summary of past history of involvement with the court system or law enforcement, any current involvement with the court system or law enforcement; a summary of any past history of multiple arrests, incarceration in jail, prison, or admission to the Developmental Disabilities Defendant Program; a copy of any past court commitments, documentation from law enforcement, and court ordered competent evaluations.

3. Whose documented behaviors or physical needs place them or their caregiver at risk of serious harm and other supports are not currently available to meet their needs.

Documentation required for change: Description of the behaviors or physical needs that are causing the risk or potential harm and the medical treatment provided to the individual or to others because of the individual's behaviors or physical needs must be provided; and documentation of the frequency, intensity and duration of behavioral incidents with an explanation of behavioral intervention that have been used to address the behaviors must also be provided.

4. Who are identified as ready for discharge within the next year from a state mental health hospital, intermediate care facility, skilled nursing facility, correctional facility, or a secure forensic facility within the next 12 months.

- Documentation required for change: A discharge summary from the facility; a status of available caregivers for the individual and documentation that without the provision of waiver-funded services, these individuals will be at risk of readmission to an institution due to a lack of available caregiver or a lack of appropriate or available services.

5. Individuals receiving Voluntary Protective Services (VPS) or requesting DCF assistance to prevent their child from entering foster care.

- Documentation required for change: Documentation from the applicable agencies or departments confirming this information.

Category 4 includes clients whose caregivers are 60 years of age or older, and for whom a caregiver is required but no alternate caregiver is available.

- Documentation required for change: Date of birth of the primary caregiver must be provided as well as verification that no alternate caregiver is available. Acceptable proofs of date of birth include, but are not limited to, birth certificates and state-issued identifications.

Category 5 includes clients who are expected to graduate within the next 12 months from secondary school or have received a special diploma and need support to obtain or maintain competitive employment, or who have applied for and been accepted to an accredited institution for postsecondary education.

- Documentation required for change: School documentation of the individual's graduation date and documentation there are no other resources other than waiver-funded services to provide the individual with support to obtain or maintain a job.

Category 6 includes clients 21 years of age or older who do not meet the criteria for category 1, category 2, category 3, category 4, or category 5.

- Documentation required for change: Individual's date of birth and that no other category criteria apply. Acceptable proofs of date of birth include, but are not limited to, birth certificates and state-issued identifications.

Category 7 includes clients younger than 21 years of age who do not meet the criteria for category 1, category 2, category 3, or category 4. Prevention and early intervention services that are critical to the child's developmental growth shall be a high priority for services from the Agency as well as support to the parents or caregivers to maintain the child in the family home.

- Documentation required for change: Individual's date of birth and that no other category criteria apply. Acceptable proofs of date of birth include, but are not limited to, birth certificates and state-issued identifications.

The local Family Care Council organization is a resource for families to discuss this information and is operated by families and self-advocates. The Family Care Council website is:
<http://www.fccflorida.org/>