



Services to 16 and 17 year olds

about

Who Can Receive Services?

The Child and Family Services Act gives the Ministry of Social Services the authority to provide support and services to 16 and 17 year old youth when:

- the 16 or 17 year old appears to be in need of care and supervision; and
- there is no parent who is willing or able to take responsibility for the young person; or
- the young person cannot return to live with his or her family for reasons of safety.

How does a young person apply for services?

The young person should telephone or go in person to the nearest Social Services' office. If it is not possible to see a worker right away, an appointment will be set up.

Who decides whether a young person or their family can receive services?

After talking with the young person and finding out why he or she sought help, the social worker, with the youth's permission, will discuss the situation with the young person's parents. If there are safety concerns related to abuse in the home, the social worker will discuss these concerns in detail with the youth before contacting one or both of his/her parent(s). The worker may also contact

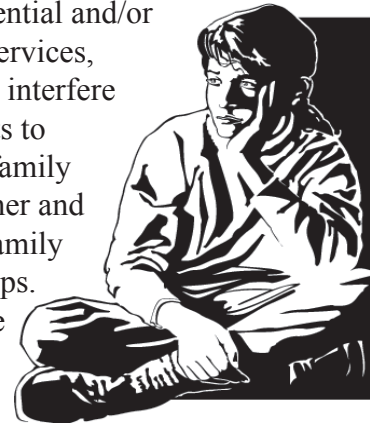
the young person's school, or others who may be able to provide additional information.

The worker will consider program guidelines when deciding whether the Ministry will provide assistance or if there are other choices available.

What are the guidelines behind the program?

Listed below are the four major guiding principles which workers must follow:

- All 16 and 17 year olds need adult support, guidance, and direction, at least some of the time.
 - Wherever possible, this support, guidance and direction should be provided by the young person's family.
 - It may be necessary to work with the young person's family to help them become stronger and better able to deal with their stresses and problems, particularly problems related to parenting and/or family functioning.
 - Helping 16 and 17 year olds to live away from home by providing them with residential and/or financial services, should not interfere with efforts to bring the family back together and improve family relationships.
- Supportive services



Further information please call your local regional office. (See reverse side of this factsheet.)

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www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca



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should ensure there is an ongoing family connection unless such a connection is not in the youth's best interest.

What happens when a young person cannot live at home?

If the young person cannot live with his or her family, the young person and the Ministry of Social Services can enter into an agreement for services under Section 10 of *The Child and Family Services Act*. This means the youth can receive the support he/she requires.

What is an Agreement for Services to 16 and 17 Year Olds?

This is a formal agreement under which the Ministry provides preventive services to families and, where required, residential support services to the 16 or 17 year old. Depending upon the situation, the agreement may require the youth and/or parent to take part in counselling, education and/or rehabilitative services.

In return, the young person must be willing to accept care, supervision and direction from the Ministry. The young person and the worker will then develop a Case Plan.

What is a case plan?

This is a plan of action agreed to between the young person and the worker. It might include enrolling in some type of educational, vocational training and/or

treatment plan. He or she may also be expected to attend counselling, anger management programs, treatment for substance abuse, or other program/services to address their problems as identified.

The youth will agree to live in a suitable residence and accept reasonable supervision. The plan outlines what the youth agrees to do in order to receive services.

Is the young person expected to return home?

The main focus of case planning will be to return the young

person to his or her family. If it is determined that the youth cannot return home, the case plan will work towards preparing the young person for independence.

In cases of disagreement

If disagreements occur over the way a case is handled or the decisions made on the services offered, steps can be taken to resolve the issue. The pamphlet called "Your Right to Appeal" outlines the steps and contact information to have the case reviewed.

For more information, contact your local Social Services' office.

Buffalo Narrows	1-800-667-7685	235-1700
Estevan	637-4550	
Fort Qu'Appelle	1-800-667-3260	332-3260
Kindersley	463-5470	
La Loche	1-877-371-1131	822-1711
La Ronge	1-800-567-4066	425-4544
Lloydminster	1-877-367-7707	820-4250
Meadow Lake	1-877-368-8898	236-7500
Melfort	1-800-487-8640	752-6100
Moose Jaw	694-3647	
Nipawin	1-800-487-8594	862-1700
North Battleford	1-877-993-9911	446-7535
Prince Albert	1-800-487-8603	953-2345
Regina	787-3800	
Rosetown	882-5400	
Saskatoon	(Saskatoon city intake)	933-7445
	(Saskatoon rural intake)	933-5602
Swift Current	778-8219	
Weyburn	848-2404	
Yorkton	1-877-786-3288	786-1300

Toll-Free Provincial Inquiry Line: 1-800-667-7002