HANDOUT- Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) Placement Timeline

Last Revised: 12/29/2023

MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH

This chart illustrates the process and timeline to follow when a child is placed in a QRTP to ensure child well-being and federal funding to support the placement. For more in-depth information, please refer to the <u>FFPSA - Guide to Qualified Residential Treatment Programs</u> located on the court's website on the Help Topic for <u>Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)</u>.

Proposed QRTP Placement

A Qualified Individual (QI) completes a QRTP assessment prior to placement when possible. However, sometimes the child must be placed immediately due to crisis.

QRTP Assessment by QI

Assessment of the child's strengths and needs in consultation with family and permanency team.

*Conducted within 30 days of actual or proposed placement.

Social Services Agency Report

If the QI approves the QRTP placement, the agency places the child and prepares a report to the court, including:

- Out-of-home placement plan.
- QRTP assessment by QI.
- Request for hearing or admin review.
- Other info provided by the parties.

*File with district court within 35 days of placement.

Court Review

The court determines whether the QRTP is the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment.

Court Hearing

A formal court hearing is required (either as a standalone event or in combination with an already scheduled hearing) if:

- Agency requests it.
- Party or child over 10 years old requests it.
- Court, in its discretion, finds it necessary.

Administrative Review

If a hearing is not requested or required by the court, the court may review the matter and make its decision without a hearing.

Court Decision

The court issues an order either approving or disapproving the placement.



*Issue within 60 days of placement.

Approved

While the child remains in the QRTP, the court must review the appropriateness of the QRTP placement at all subsequent hearings.

Disapproved

If the court does not approve the QRTP placement, the agency has **30 days** from the date of the court's order to move the child to a more appropriate placement.

What about 260D Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment Cases?

For cases involving QRTP placement, court involvement begins sooner. The court receives notification, then reviews, and issues an order approving or not a QRTP placement within 60 days of the placement.

- Notification to the court should include the date of the QRTP placement, whether a formal hearing is requested, and a citation to Minn. Stat. §260D as the legal authority.
- Unless a request is made for a formal hearing or the court feels it's necessary, the court review can be done administratively, and an order can issue without a formal hearing.
- Once approved, it's subject to all the regular review requirements of a 260D case with the first continuing review occurring when the initial review would have occurred at **175** days of placement (or within **10** days of receiving the report required to be filed within **165** days of placement).
- At each regularly scheduled review in the case, the court needs to find that the QRTP placement continues to be the most effective and appropriate level of care for the child in the least restrictive environment. This is to ensure that the child's best interests are being met and IV-E reimbursement continues to support the placement.

For more information about the court's role and expectations around placement of children in QRTPs, please refer to the <u>Court Review of Qualified</u> <u>Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) Placements Handout.</u>