

PERMANENCY TIMELINE FOR CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

(Timeline shows maximum days for each event)

CHIPS Proceeding

0 3 13 28 30 53 63 103 123 180 193 283 335* 365* (Permanency Proceeding Commenced)

Child Petition Admit Sched. Out of Pretrial Trial⁸ Disp. Adjud.¹⁰ Perm. Disp. Disp. Perm.
 Removed Served¹ Deny Order Home Hearing⁷ Rev. & Dispo.¹¹ Progress Review Rev. Hearing⁹ Hearing⁹ Filed
 from & EPC Hearing⁴ Filed⁵ Place. Plan if Adj.& Hearing¹²
 home Hearing² (ADH) Filed⁶ Disp.at ADH⁹

***Only three exceptions:** The Admit/Deny Hearing on the perm. petition may be continued beyond month 12 ONLY if: (1) the child is on a trial home visit or (2) protective supervision with the parent from whom the child was removed, then the ADH may be continued for the remaining length of the trial home visit (a THV may last no more than 6-months); or (3) at least one other CHIPS petition has been filed within the last 5 years and the child has been in out-of-home placement for 365 days as part of the prior petition(s), then, if the agency establishes a compelling reason, the court may continue the ADH on the permanency petition for up to 6 months.¹⁵

GAL and SW reports must be filed and served at least 5 business days prior to each hearing³⁵

➔If child not removed from home: Protective Services Case Plan must be filed with petition.³

Permanency Proceeding (in order of statutory preference¹³)

Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) (leading to adoption)

Preferred permanency¹³:
 Adoption through either
 TPR or Consent to Adopt

Guardianship to Commissioner of Human Services – Consent to Adopt (GLCHS)

Transfer of Permanent Legal and Physical Custody to a Relative (TLC)

Permanent Custody to the Agency for Placement in Foster Care (PCA)

Temporary Legal Custody to the Agency for Specified Period of Time (TLCSP)

	335	365	415	425	485	575
TPR Petition Filed ¹⁴						
Admit/Deny Hearing ¹⁵						
Pretrial Hearing ¹⁶						
Trial Start ¹⁷						
Findings Decision Filed ¹⁸						
Post-TPR Review Hearing ¹⁹						
Consent To adopt Filed ²⁰						
Findings Filed ²¹						
90-Day Review Hearing ²²						
TLC Petition Filed ²³						
Admit/Deny Hearing ²⁴						
Pretrial Hearing ²⁵						
Trial Start ²⁶						
Findings Decision Filed ²⁷						
Post-TLC Review Hearing ²⁸						
PCA Petition Filed ²⁹						
Admit/Deny Hearing ³⁰						
Pretrial Hearing ³¹						
Trial Start ³²						
Findings Decision Filed ³³						
Annual Review Hearing ³⁴						
TLCSP Petition Filed ²⁹						
Admit/Deny Hearing ³⁰						
Pretrial Hearing ³¹						
Trial Start ³²						
Findings Decision Filed ³³						
Annual Review Hearing ³⁴						

CHIPS Proceeding

- 1 **Summons and Petition:** Must be filed by EPC hearing ([RJPP 33.05](#)) and served at or before EPC hearing or at least 3 days prior to Admit/Deny Hearing, whichever is earlier. ([RJPP 32.02, subd. 5\(a\)](#)).
- 2 **EPC:** Must be commenced within 72 hours of child's removal from home, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays ([RJPP 30.01, subd. 1](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.178, subd. 1\(a\)](#)). Court appointed attorneys must appear at EPC or Admit/Deny hearing, whichever is earlier. [Minn. Stat. § 260c.176, subd. 7](#) (*parents and child have right to be represented at detention – EPC – hearing*)
- 3 **Protective Services Cased Plan** (plan used when child has not been removed from home): Filed by social services at same time as CHIPS petition ([RJPP 37.04\(a\)](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.178, subd. 7](#); [Minn. Stat. § 626.556, subd. 10m](#)).
- 4 **Admit/Deny Hearing (ADH):** If all parties agree, ADH may be combined with EPC. If child removed from home, ADH within 10 days of EPC hearing ([RJPP 34.02, subd. 1\(a\)](#)); if child not removed from home, ADH no sooner than 5 days and no later than 20 days after service of Summons and Petition on parties ([RJPP 34.02, subd. 2](#)); if Indian child, ADH at least 10 days after tribe confirms ICWA notice received and tribe may request additional 20 days ([RJPP 34.02, subd. 1\(d\)](#))
- 5 **Scheduling Order:** Issued within 15 days of the Admit/Deny Hearing and must include dates for filing of permanency petition and Admit/Deny Hearing on Permanency Petition. ([RJPP 6.02](#))
- 6 **Out of Home Placement Plan** (plan used when child is removed from home): Filed by social services agency within 30 days of child's court-ordered placement or voluntary placement agree. ([RJPP 37.02, subd. 2](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.178, subd. 7](#) [Minn. Stat. § 260C.212, subd 1\(a\)](#))
- 7 **Pretrial:** At least 10 days prior to trial ([RJPP 36.01](#))
- 8 **Trial:** Commenced within 60 days of EPC or Admit/Deny, whichever is earlier; must be held on consecutive days; must be completed within 30 days of commencement ([RJPP 39.02, subd. 1\(a\)](#))
- 9 **Disposition Review Hearing:** When disposition is custody to agency, review hearing at least every 90 days following disposition ([RJPP 41.06, subd. 1](#)); when disposition is protective supervision, review hearing at least every 6 months following disposition ([RJPP 41.06, subd. 1](#)); when disposition is trial home visit, review hearing at least every 90 days ([RJPP 41.06, subd. 2\(b\)\(3\)](#)).
- 10 **Findings/Adjudication Order:** Within 15 days of conclusion of testimony, including time for filing briefs (may extend 15 days for good cause) ([RJPP 39.05, subd. 1, 2](#); [RJPP 40.01](#))
- 11 **Disposition Order:** Preferably issued on same day as adjudication finding, but no later than 10 days from adjudication order ([RJPP 41.02](#))
- 12 **Permanency Progress Review Hearing:** For any child who remains in placement, commenced not later than 180 days after court-ordered placement ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.204\(a\)](#))
- 13 **Preferred Permanency Option for child who cannot return home:** TPR and adoption, or guardianship to the commissioner of human services through a consent to adopt ([Minn. Stat. 260C.513](#)).

Permanency Proceedings Termination of parental rights or consent to adopt leading to adoption are the preferred permanency options when child cannot return home¹³ ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.513\(a\)](#))

Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) Proceeding

- 14 **TPR Petition:** Petition must be filed by month 11 for any child who remains in foster care or in care of nonresident parent (see limited exception*) ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.505\(a\)](#))
- 15 **Admit/Deny Hearing (ADH):** For any child (regardless of age) who remains in foster care or in care of nonresident parent, ADH must be commenced not later than 12 months after court-ordered placement. ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.507\(a\)](#)) *Exceptions to ADH timing: child in ongoing trial home visit and previous CHIPS petitions with 12+ months of OHP. ([Minn. Stat. 260C.503, subd. 3 \(b\)\(2\) and \(c\)](#))
- 16 **Pretrial Hearing:** At least 10 days prior to trial ([RJPP 36.01](#))
- 17 **Trial:** Commenced within 60 days of the first scheduled ADH; must be held on consecutive days; must be completed within 30 days of commencement ([RJPP 39.02, subd. 1\(c\)](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.509](#))
- 18 **Findings and Decision:** Issued within 15 days of conclusion of testimony (may extend 15 days if found to be in child's best interests) ([RJPP 39.05, subd. 1](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.517\(b\)](#))
- 19 **Post-TPR Review Hearing:** At least every 90 days following TPR decision until adoption finalized. ([RJPP 42.08, subd. 5](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.519](#) and [Minn. Stat. § 260C.607](#))

Guardianship and Legal Custody to Commissioner of Human Services

- 20 **Consent to Adopt by an identified adoptive home:** A permanency petition is not filed but, instead, the parent signs a consent to adopt by an adoptive parent that has been agreed to by the agency. ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.515, subd. 3](#)) The consent is irrevocable upon acceptance by the court, unless the child is an Indian child in which case the consent may be withdrawn for any reason at any time prior to entry of the final adoption decree. ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.629, subd. 1](#)). Acceptance of the consent does not automatically terminate parental rights, but it does vest with the commissioner of human services all legal authority regarding the child, including guardianship and legal custody of the child as if the child were a state ward after termination of parental rights. If an adoption is not finalized within 12 months of the execution of the consent to adopt, the commissioner or agency shall pursue adoptive placement in another home unless the commissioner certifies that the failure to finalize is not due to either an action or a failure to act by the prospective adoptive parent.
- 21 **Findings and Decision:** Within 15 days of the consent (may extend 15 days for good cause), court must issue findings and order transferring guardianship and legal custody. ([RJPP 42.10](#))
- 22 **Post-Consent Review Hearing:** At least every 90 days following consent until adoption finalized. ([RJPP 42.09, subd. 3](#))

Transfer of Permanent Legal and Physical Custody to a Relative (TPLPC) Proceeding

- 23 **TPLPC Petition:** Petition must be filed by month 11 for any child who remains in foster care or in care of nonresident parent at month 11 (see exception*) ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.505\(a\)](#))
- 24 **Admit/Deny Hearing:** For any child (regardless of age) who remains in foster care or in care of nonresident parent, ADH must be commenced not later than 12 months after court-ordered placement. ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.507\(a\)](#)) *Exceptions to ADH timing: child in ongoing trial home visit and previous CHIPS petitions with 12+ months of OHP. ([Minn. Stat. 260C.503, subd. 3 \(b\)\(2\) and \(c\)](#))
- 25 **Pretrial Hearing:** At least 10 days prior to trial ([RJPP 36.01](#))
- 26 **Trial:** Commenced within 60 days of the first scheduled ADH; must be held on consecutive days; must be completed within 30 days of commencement ([RJPP 39.02, subd. 1\(c\)](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.509](#))
- 27 **Findings and Decision:** Issued within 15 days of conclusion of testimony (may extend 15 days if found to be in child's best interests) ([RJPP 39.05, subd. 1](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.517\(b\)](#))
- 28 **Post-TPLPC Review Hearing:** Not required unless judge orders; however, best practice is to hold hearings 30 – 90 days to ensure smooth transition and needs of child are being met ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.521, subd. 2](#))

Permanent Custody to Agency for Placement in Foster Care (PCA) and Temporary Custody to Agency for Specified Period of Time Proceedings (TCASPT)

- 29 **PCA or TCASPT Petition:** Petition must be filed by month 11 for any child who remains in foster care or in care of nonresident parent at month 11 (see exception*) ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.505\(a\)](#))
 - 30 **Admit/Deny Hearing:** For any child (regardless of age) who remains in foster care or in care of nonresident parent, ADH must be commenced not later than 12 months after court-ordered placement. ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.507\(a\)](#)) *Exceptions to ADH timing: child in ongoing trial home visit and previous CHIPS petitions with 12+ months of OHP. ([Minn. Stat. 260C.503, subd. 3 \(b\)\(2\) and \(c\)](#))
 - 31 **Pretrial Hearing:** At least 10 days prior to trial ([RJPP 36.01](#))
 - 32 **Trial:** Commenced within 60 days of the first scheduled ADH; must be held on consecutive days; must be completed within 30 days of commencement ([RJPP 39.02, subd. 1\(c\)](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.509](#))
 - 33 **Findings and Decision:** Issued within 15 days of conclusion of testimony (may extend 15 days if found to be in child's best interests) ([RJPP 39.05, subd. 1](#); [Minn. Stat. § 260C.517\(b\)](#))
 - 34 **Post-PCA Review Hearing:** At least annually until child discharged from foster care; best practice is more frequent hearings for older youth age 17+ who are about to be discharged from foster care to ensure a smooth transition and understand details of adult life from checking accounts to rent to groceries to basic necessities ([Minn. Stat. § 260C.521, subd. 1](#))
 - 35 **GAL and Social worker reports:** Must be filed with court and served on all parties at least 5 business days prior to each hearing. ([RJPP 38.01, subd. 2 – social workers](#); [RJPP 38.11, subd. 2 – GALs](#))
- ***Limited Exceptions** to ADH timing: child in trial home visit or prot. supervision OR previous CHIPS petitions with 12+ months of OHP and court finds compelling reasons to extend ([Minn. Stat. 260C.503, subd. 3 \(b\)\(2\) and \(c\)](#))