

**PART A.**

**Notice of Rights for a Child in Out-of-Home Care**

**You, as a child in out-of-home care, have the right to:**

- Live in a place that provides the amount of supervision and guidance that you need without restricting you from normal activities.
- Live in a safe, healthy and comfortable home where your caregivers speak the same language as you, show respect for you, protect you from harm, give you personal privacy, healthy food and clothing, allow you to have personal possessions (as long as they don't offend your caregiver) and enough space to store all of your things.
- Know why you are in out-of-home care and what will happen to you, your siblings and family. You also have the right to help create your "case plan" and receive a copy of the plan.
- To have visits with your family while you are away from home, with any restrictions explained to you in a way you can understand.
- Receive guidance that helps you learn to develop and maintain self-control, self-reliance, self-esteem and good conduct.
- Go to community, school and religious services and activities of your choice, as agreed to by your caregivers, and to receive an education that fits you best.
- Learn how to take care of your personal hygiene and grooming.
- Have contact information for your Child Safety Specialist, attorney and advocate, speak with them in private if necessary, and attend court hearings and speak to the judge.
- Have your records and personal information kept private and only given to people who need the information in order to take care of you.
- Have necessary medical, mental health or chemical dependency treatment, and to be free of unnecessary or excessive medication.
- To contact the Arizona Protection and Advocacy System for Disability Assistance at [center@azdisabilitylaw.org](mailto:center@azdisabilitylaw.org) or by calling (800) 922-1447 or (800) 927-2260. The Arizona Center for Disability Law is a protection and advocacy system that makes sure the rights of persons with disabilities are protected by investigating reports of abuse and neglect and violations of the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Receive a copy of these rights, and to report a violation of these rights without fear of punishment. To report a violation, you may contact your Child Safety Specialist, your GAL/attorney or speak to the Judge in court. The telephone numbers are on Part B of this notice. You may also write to the Judge or contact the Family Advocate Office at 602-364-0777.

**If you are at least sixteen years of age you also have the right to:**

- Attend life skills training and participate in activities that allow you to practice these skills.
- A transition plan that includes career planning and assistance with enrolling in an educational or vocational job training program.
- Be informed of educational opportunities before you leave out-of-home care.
- Assistance in obtaining a place to live when you are ready to leave out-of-home care.
- Request a court hearing to determine if you can consent to your own medical care.
- Receive help with obtaining a driver license, Social Security number, birth certificate or state identification card.
- Receive personal information within thirty days after leaving out-of-home care including your birth certificate, immunization records, and education and health information.

**For a child 12 years and older, please sign and confirm you have received a copy of A.R.S. § 8-529 and the "Notice of Rights for a Child in Out-of-Home Care" and have discussed it with my Child Safety Specialist.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Child's Name (Printed)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Child's Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Child Safety Specialist's Name(Printed)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Child Safety Specialist's Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Routing: Original and yellow-youth; pink-case file

For more information on the requirements for caregivers of children with disabilities, please go to

**[www.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_06/6-06.htm](http://www.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_06/6-06.htm)**

**PART B.**

# Contact Information

## My Child Safety Specialist

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone No.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email address*

## My Attorney(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone No.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone No.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email address*

## Other important people in my life

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Phone No.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email address*

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program • Under Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI & VII), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008; the Department prohibits discrimination in admissions, programs, services, activities, or employment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics and retaliation. The Department must make a reasonable accommodation to allow a person with a disability to take part in a program, service or activity. For example, this means if necessary, the Department must provide sign language interpreters for people who are deaf, a wheelchair accessible location, or enlarged print materials. It also means that the Department will take any other reasonable action that allows you to take part in and understand a program or activity, including making reasonable changes to an activity. If you believe that you will not be able to understand or take part in a program or activity because of your disability, please let us know of your disability needs in advance if at all possible. To request this document in alternative format or for further information about this policy, contact 602-542-4248; TTY/TDD Services: 7-1-1. • Free language assistance for Department services is available upon request. • Disponible en español en línea o en la oficina local.

## **PART C.**

## **Arizona Revised Statutes § 8-529**

### **A. A child in foster care has the following rights:**

1. To appropriate care and treatment in the least restrictive setting available that can meet the child's needs according to the best judgment of the foster parent.
2. To live in a safe, healthy and comfortable placement where the child can receive reasonable protection from harm and appropriate privacy for personal needs and where the child is treated with respect.
3. To know why the child is in foster care and what will happen to the child and to the child's family, including siblings, and case plans.
4. Whenever possible, to be placed with a foster family that can accommodate the child's communication needs.
5. To be disciplined in a manner that is appropriate to the child's level of maturity.
6. To attend community, school and religious services and activities of the child's choice to the extent that it is appropriate for the child, as planned and discussed with the child's placement worker and caseworker and based on caregiver ability if transportation is available through a responsible party.
7. To go to school and receive an education that fits the child's age and individual needs.
8. To training in personal care, hygiene and grooming.
9. To clothing that fits comfortably and is adequate to protect the child against natural elements such as rain, snow, wind, cold and sun.
10. To have personal possessions at home that are not offensive to the foster family and to acquire additional possessions within reasonable limits, as planned and discussed with the child's foster parent, placement worker and caseworker, and based on caregiver ability.
11. To personal space, in the foster home preferably, in the child's bedroom for storing clothing and belongings.
12. To healthy foods in healthy portions that are appropriate for the child's age.
13. To comply with any approved visitation plan, and to have any restrictions explained to the child in a manner and level of details deemed age appropriate by the foster parent in agreement with the caseworker and documented in the child's record.
14. If the child is six years of age or older, to receive contact information for the child's caseworker, attorney or advocate and to speak with them in private if necessary.
15. To participate in age appropriate child's service planning and permanency planning meetings and to be given a copy or summary of each service plan and service plan review. The child may request someone to participate on the child's behalf or to support the child in this participation.
16. To attend the child's court hearing and speak to the judge.
17. To have the child's records and personal information kept private and discussed only when it is about the child's care except the foster parent shall have full access to the records to determine if the child will be successful in the home. During the foster placement, if the foster parent requests to view the record upon experiencing problems with the child's adjustment, the full record shall be made available for viewing by the foster parent.
18. To be free of unnecessary or excessive medication.
19. To receive emotional, mental health or chemical dependency treatment separately from adults who are receiving services, as planned and discussed with the child's placement worker and caseworker, as is financially reasonable for the foster parent.
20. To report a violation of personal rights specified in this section without fear of punishment, interference, coercion or retaliation, except that an appropriate level of punishment may be applied if the child is proven to have maliciously or wrongfully accused the foster parent.
21. To be informed in writing of the name, address, telephone number and purpose of the Arizona protection and advocacy system for disability assistance.
22. To understand and have a copy of the rights listed in this section.

### **B. A child in foster care who is at least sixteen years of age has the following rights:**

1. To attend preparation for adult living classes and activities as appropriate to the child's case plan, as is financially reasonable for the foster parent.
2. To a transition plan that includes career planning and assistance with enrolling in an educational or vocational job training program.
3. To be informed of educational opportunities before the child leaves foster care.
4. To assistance in obtaining an independent residency when the child is too old to remain in foster care from the child's caseworker, attorney or advocate.
5. To request a court hearing for a court to determine if the child has the capacity to consent to medical care that is directly related to an illness, disease, deformity or other physical malady.
6. To receive help with obtaining a driver license, social security number, birth certificate or state identification card, except that the foster parent shall have discretion to determine if the child is responsible and mature enough to become a licensed driver.
7. To receive necessary personal information within thirty days after leaving foster care, including the child's birth certificate, immunization records and information contained in the child's education portfolio and health passport.

### **C. This section does not establish any legally enforceable right or cause of action on behalf of any person.**