

Child Welfare Policy Manual

Questions & Answers

3.1A Certifications and Requirements, Youth Participation

1. Question: Is there a Federal requirement for the State/Tribe to formulate a life skills assessment or enter into a personal responsibility contract with each youth receiving services under the Chafee Program?

Answer: No. The certification at section 477(b)(3)(H) of the Act requires the State/Tribe to ensure that youth participate directly in designing their own program activities "and accept personal responsibility for living up to their part of the program." There is no specific requirement for States/Tribes to utilize life skills assessments or personal responsibility contracts to comply with this certification. However, various assessment tools and personal responsibility contracts are currently used by some States to assist youth to make the transition to adulthood and we believe that this is a good approach to determining needs and developing appropriate services.

- **Source/Date:** 7/25/02; (3/28/2019)
- **Legal and Related References:** Social Security Act - section 477(b)(3)(H) and (j)