

Department of Children, Youth, and Families

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) brings together programs from existing state agencies to center and sharpen the focus on early childhood, youth investment, and family well-being programs in state government. The programs scheduled to move to the new agency are listed here. For more information on the transfer of programs, please visit the DCYF Implementation Office website: mn.gov/mmb/dcyf-implementation.

Programs from the Department of Human Services

Children and Family Services

Programs from the Children and Family Services Administration transferred to DCYF in July 2024, including the following divisions.

Business Integration Division

The Business Integration Division represents all program areas in the department's modernization efforts. The division's work includes addressing program simplification and alignment opportunities, continuous improvement, and business and technology transformation. Staff collaborate with leadership and MNIT to establish data standards, tools, and information management practices and to ensure existing information systems serve Minnesotans' needs and comply with state and federal requirements. The Social Services Information System (SSIS) teams provide user support, subject matter expertise, and leadership related to the case management system for child welfare and other programs.

Child Care Services Division

The Child Care Services Division oversees Tribal and county administration of Child Care Assistance Program subsidies for families with low incomes. It works in partnership with communities and other state agencies to develop high-quality and accessible child care options, provide information for families on these options, and support Minnesota's child care workforce. It is responsible for the oversight of numerous grants and systems to support child care providers and early childhood education. The division brings together interested and affected groups representing Minnesota's racial, cultural, and geographic diversity to identify challenges and barriers to promote an effective early childhood system and community-developed solutions. Programs include:

- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Child Care Aware Grants
- Child Care Access Grants
- Child Care Provider Technology Grants
- Child Care Workforce Development Grant
- Child Care Wayfinder
- Develop: Minnesota's Quality Improvement & Registry Tool
- Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program
- Early Childhood and School-Age Professional Development System
- Early Childhood Suspension and Expulsion Prevention
- Facility Improvement Loans and Grants
- Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Grant Program
- Great Start Compensation Support Payment Program
- Migrant Child Care Services
- Minnesota Tribal Resources for Early Childhood Care (MNTRECC)

- Parent Aware Quality Rating and Improvement System
- Preschool Development Grant (in partnership with MDE and MDH)
- School Age Care Continuous Improvement and Accreditation Program
- Family Child Care Shared Services Grants
- TEACH Scholarships
- REETAIN Wage Bonuses
- Whole Family Systems Grant Program (in partnership with EAESD & CSP)

Child Safety and Permanency Division

The Child Safety and Permanency Division oversees prevention and early intervention services, adolescent services, family preservation services, child protection services, and emergency and transitional housing for homeless youth. It is also responsible for the oversight of out-of-home placement, including foster care, American Indian child welfare, and adoption services. The division provides statewide, competency-based child welfare training in partnership with counties. This includes working with Tribes, counties, other state agencies, community-based agencies, and others to secure positive child and family outcomes for those served by the child welfare system, preventing child maltreatment, and intervening when child maltreatment occurs. Work units and programs include:

- Adolescent Services
- Adoption Assistance
- African American Child Well-being Unit
- American Indian Child Welfare Initiative
- American Indian Well Being Unit
- Case Review Unit
- Change Management Unit
- Child Welfare
- Child Protection
- Child Protection Grants
- Child Protection Opioid Allocation
- Children in Voluntary Foster Care for Treatment
- Community Based Child Abuse Prevention
- Community Resource Centers
- Education and Training Voucher Program (ETV)
- Extended Foster Care
- Family First Prevention and Early Intervention Allocation Program
- Family First Prevention Services Act Kinship Navigator Program
- Family Foster Home Recruitment
- Federal Title IV-E and related programs
- Foster Care and Permanency Planning
- Guardianship of Children in Foster Care
- Indian Child Welfare Grants
- Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children
- Juvenile Safety and Placement
- Minnesota Child Welfare Training Academy
- Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) and ICWA Compliance
- Minor Parent Services
- Northstar Care for Children (Foster Care, Adoption, Kinship Care)
- Parent Support Outreach Program (PSOP)
- Permanency Quality Assurance
- Post Adoption Search
- Post Permanency Support Services Grants
- Public Private Adoption Initiative (PPAI)
- Qualified Individual Program Grant
- Qualified Residential Treatment Program (Q RTP) Assessment Grant
- Quality Parenting Initiative Grant Program
- Relative Custody Assistance

- Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors
- Research and Evaluation Unit
- Safe Place for Newborns
- Successful Transitions to Adulthood for Youth (STAY in the Community)
- Tribal Child Welfare, including Prevention and Early Services Grants

Child Support Division

The Child Support Division, with their partners, collects, processes, and distributes child support payments. It provides training, manuals, information, policy, and technical support for county staff and partners. The division supervises county administration of Minnesota's child support program while working collaboratively with other agencies and partners to locate parents; establish parentage; establish, modify, and enforce support obligations; and collect and disburse payments. Work units and programs include:

- Advancing Equity Grant
- Child Support Payment Center
- County and Public Help Desk
- Division Operations and Grant Management
- Paths to Parenthood Grant
- Performance Analysis and Systems
- Policy and Planning
- Program Support
- SAVES Grant
- System Modernization and Strategic Planning
- Training

Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division

The Economic Assistance and Employment Supports Division supervises and supports county and Tribal administration of cash and food programs for families and individuals with low-income while managing benefit issuance through Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT). Services and programs are designed to strengthen Minnesota families and individuals by helping them meet their basic needs as they go to work, look for work, attend school or are unable to work. The division develops and implement policy; delivers statewide training; develops bulletins and manuals; and provides system and policy support to counties, tribes, and community partners. The division is also responsible for program data and analysis, program integrity, quality assurance and outcome evaluation for Minnesota's economic assistance programs. Programs and work units include:

- Diversionary Work Program (DWP)
(Legislation signed into law repealed this program effective March 1, 2026)
- Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)
- Emergency Assistance (EA)
- Minnesota Food Assistance Program (MFAP)
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Minnesota Whole Family Systems Initiative
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - SNAP Employment and Training (E&T)
- Summer EBT
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Work Units:

- Call Center
- Local Agency Support
- MFIP Policy

- Research and Operations
- SNAP Quality Assurance
- SNAP Policy
- SNAP E&T
- Tribal Affairs

Equity and Inclusion Office

The role of this team is to build capacity of staff and implement systemic interventions to advance equity within the department. In practice, this team leads and champions equity alignment and goals for employees and communities; implements the Equity Policy; reinforces compliance; educates staff on how to integrate an equity lens into their work to ensure equitable access and outcomes from programs; supports the intercultural development of employees; oversees the Equity Committee; and advises the Division Equity Teams.

- Agency Equity Policy
- Employee Support and Resources
- Equity Committee and Division Equity Teams
- Inclusive Development
- Strategy and Consultation

Management Operations Division

Management Operations oversees operational and legislative budgets, personnel, and special projects. It is also responsible for business continuity, compliance, enterprise risk management and managing communications.

- Communications
- Data/Compliance
- Finance
- Legislative Affairs
- Legislative and Budget

Office of Economic Opportunity Division

The Office of Economic Opportunity works to remove the barriers imposed by poverty on the health and development of individuals, children, and families at the community level through Community Action Agencies and food shelves. It oversees numerous grants.

Homelessness programs from the Office of Economic Opportunity were also intended to transfer with the rest of the Children and Family Services Administration. However, during the 2024 legislative session, a group of legislators strongly advocated that homelessness service providers continue at DHS.

In response, DHS has decided to separate the Behavioral Health, Housing and Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services Administration into two separate administrations, creating the Behavioral Health Administration, and the Homelessness, Housing and Support Services Administration to allow for greater focus on these two important program areas. The Homelessness, Housing and Support Services Administration will be responsible for policy and grant-making for all adults and youth experiencing homelessness in Minnesota and will administer adult income support services.

Work units that will transfer to DCYF include:

- American Indian Food Sovereignty Funding Program
- Capital for Emergency Food Distribution Facilities
- Community Action Programs
- Diaper Distribution Grant Program
- Early Childhood Learning and Child Protection Facilities

- Family Assets for Independence (FAIM)
- Grants for Prepared Meals Food Relief
- Minnesota Food Bank Program
- Minnesota Food Shelf Program
- SNAP Education
- SNAP Outreach
- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Office of Inspector General

Under the current planning timeline, the licensing functions and program integrity and fraud prevention units for related Children and Family Services programs and units will move in June 2025:

- Certified Child Care Programs
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Child Care Centers
- Child Foster Care
- Family Child Care
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Programs from the Department of Education

Office of Teaching and Learning

Early Learning Services Division

Except for the programming and support for Part B 619, programs from the Early Learning Services Division transferred to DCYF in July 2024:

- Children's Savings Account Startup program
- Early Childhood Curriculum Grants
- Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program
- Early Childhood Health and Developmental Screening program
- Early Learning Scholarships
- Executive Function Across Generations program
- Great Start Scholarship program
- Grow Your Own Program
- Head Start and Early Head Start Programs
- Parent Aware Public Program Support
- Parent Child Plus program
- Part C Early Intervention Services
- Preschool Development Grant (PDG)
- School Readiness
- Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) and School Readiness Plus programs (SRP)

State Libraries Services and Expanded Learning Opportunities Division

As part of the focus on centering and serving older youth, the After-School Community Learning Grant program will move to the new agency if ongoing funding for the program is allocated.

Programs from the Department of Public Safety

Office of Justice

Under the current planning timeline, these programs and units will move in June 2025:

- Crossover and Dual-Status Youth Model Grants
- Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee
- Office of Restorative Practices
- Title II Delinquency Prevention Grants
- Youth Intervention Program Grants
- Youth Justice Office

Program from the Department of Health

Child and Family Health Division

Help Me Connect transferred in January 2025.

Central Operating Functions

Central operating functions will continue to move in phases between July 2024 and July 2025. Central operating functions include, but are not limited to:

- Budget
- Communications
- Compliance
- Equity and Inclusion
- External Relations: Tribal, County, Legislative, Federal, and Community Relations
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Legal
- Management Services
- Strategy and Performance