

Bridge to Independence (B2I) Court Questionnaire

This questionnaire was designed as a way for you to inform the judge handling your B2I case of your specific situation. The information you provide is strictly voluntary. The more details you share, the better the judge is able to make the best decision in your case. However, you do not have to answer every question. You should also keep in mind that this form will go into the official record of your case at the court. In addition, under current law, the judge, your Independence Coordinator, and your attorney (if you have one) are allowed to view your answers. Therefore, you should only share information that you are okay with these people knowing.

To make sure this questionnaire gets to the proper judge:

1. Send it online at hearmyvoice.throughtheeyes.org (Coming soon!)
2. Give it to your Independence Coordinator or, if you have one, your attorney or Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer
3. Bring it to your next hearing
4. Mail it to the court in your city or county

If you have questions or need assistance in completing the questionnaire, contact Project Everlast at 402.817.2003 or crockwell@nebraskachildren.org

Section 1: Opening Questions

- Are you planning to attend your upcoming hearing or review in person?
 - Yes – What would you like to talk about at your hearing/review?
 - No – What do you want the person reviewing your case to know?
- How are things going? (In your case, at your hearings, with meeting your goals, etc.)
- Which of these participation requirements are you currently meeting (check all that apply)?
 - Education (in high school, getting my GED, taking college classes, in trade school, etc.)
 - What program are you in?
 - How is this going?
 - Are there any problems?
 - Employment (working at least 80 hours per month)
 - Where are you working?
 - How is this going?
 - Are there any problems?
 - Employment activity (internship, Job Corps, activities/taking classes with local workforce centers, etc.)
 - What activity are you doing?
 - How is this going?
 - Are there any problems?
 - Medical condition that prevents me from working or going to school
 - Do you have any needs in this area?

Section 2: Housing, Basic Needs, Education/Employment, Permanency

- Tell us about your current housing situation. (Is it safe? Is it stable? Is there anywhere else you would rather live?)
- Are you able to meet your basic needs? (Enough to eat, enough clothing, shelter, utilities, safety, etc.) Yes No
 - What, if any, needs are not being met?

Do you need help with any other services? Examples could be:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> finding a job or other financial assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> getting copies of your health or education records |
| <input type="checkbox"/> getting an ID card (e.g. a driver's license) | <input type="checkbox"/> applying for benefits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> getting a copy of your birth certificate and/or social security card | <input type="checkbox"/> finding and maintaining relationships with people important to you (including relatives and siblings) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> having a bank account | <input type="checkbox"/> getting connected to empowering opportunities (e.g. Project Everlast and other peer support groups) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sealing your juvenile court record | <input type="checkbox"/> accessing pregnancy and parenting resources and services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> finishing up high school/GED program | <input type="checkbox"/> accessing transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> getting into college or vocational course | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> adjusting your immigration status | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> creating a health care power of attorney (AKA someone to make decisions about your health care/medical treatment if you aren't able to) | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A (I do not need help with any of these services) |

- Are you able to meet your physical and mental health needs? (Do you have access to a doctor and a dentist when you need one? Do you have transportation to and from appointments? Are you getting treatment for any mental health needs you have, e.g. depression, anxiety, attention problems, thoughts of hurting yourself, problems sleeping or eating, etc.? Are you receiving the disability services and support you need?) Yes No
 - What, if any, needs are not being met?
 - Do you know how to make an appointment for your physical and mental health needs? Yes No
- Do you have people in your life who are positive and supportive of you? Yes No
 - If yes, who are these people?
 - What additional connections, if any, would you like to make? (e.g. community resources, family members, mentors, supportive adults, etc.)

Section 3: Future Goals, Next Hearing/Review

- What short-term goals do you have? (For the next few months)
 - Are you facing any problems or barriers in achieving these goals?
 - Who is helping you achieve these goals?
 - How do you plan to achieve these goals? What do you need to be successful?
- What long-term goals do you have? (For the next few years)
 - Are you facing any problems or barriers in achieving these goals?
 - Who is helping you achieve these goals?
 - How do you plan to achieve these goals? What do you need to be successful?
- Have you been given a recent copy of your case plan? Yes No
 - Did you help develop this plan? Yes No
 - What concerns or comments do you have about your plan?

- Who do you want invited to your next case review or permanency hearing (e.g. parents, foster parents, siblings, CASA volunteer, therapist/counselor, teacher, etc.)?
 - Is there anyone you do not want to attend your next review or hearing?

- Are you interested in any of the following:
 - Having an attorney to represent you at permanency hearings
This attorney would be client-directed, which means that s/he must advocate for what you want - not what s/he thinks is best for you. Your attorney would represent you at your annual permanency hearings. Your attorney could also attend your 6-month case review if you want him/her to.
 - Having a CASA volunteer to help advocate for you (if one is available)
A CASA volunteer is a person who volunteers to help you in court. They are volunteering to help young people who are in your situation, and they are trained to help you make decisions and find the resources that are best for you. They may not always agree with you on what is best for you. CASA volunteers work with one to two young people at a time, unlike attorneys and caseworkers, so you will likely be the only young person they are assigned. A CASA volunteer would likely attend both your annual permanency hearings and your 6-month case reviews and meet with you regularly in-between. They will check in to see if you need any help and just to talk with you to find out how you are doing.

- Is there anything else you would like to share?