



January 11, 2021

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Ms. Kay Inabet
Assistant Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Mr. Mike Queensland
Senate Chief Clerk
B20 – Southeast, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Ms. Inabet and Mr. Queensland:

Sections 48.685(5g) and 48.686(5g) of the Wisconsin Statutes directs DCF to submit an annual report to the Wisconsin Legislature that specifies the number of persons in the previous year who have requested to demonstrate that they have been rehabilitated under sec. 48.685(5)(a) or 48.686(5)(a), the number of persons who successfully demonstrated that they have been rehabilitated under sec. 48.685(5)(a) or 48.686(5)(a), and the reasons for the success or failure of a person who has attempted to demonstrate that he or she has been rehabilitated. The attached report reflects the rehabilitation review applications processed by DCF in 2020.

Questions about this report should be referred to Devon Lee at (608) 422-7037.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emilie Amundson".

Emilie Amundson
Secretary

2020 Annual Report on Rehabilitation Review Requests

REQUESTS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|--|
| 59 | Pending requests at start of 2020 | 150 | Approvals with standard conditions |
| 168 | Requests received in 2020 | 12 | Approvals with additional specific conditions |
| 227 | Total requests | 20 | Denials (including 16 for not following through with process) |
| | | 12 | Rehabilitation reviews not required (including 2 due to permanent barred offense) |
| | | 1 | Premature request (applied prior to barred offense expiration) |
| | | 0 | Decision deferred pending additional information |
| | | 2 | Applicants withdrew request |
| | | 6 | Approval and Denial (applicants had multiple requests) |
| | | 0 | No DCF jurisdiction; referred to proper reviewing agency |
| | | 24 | Requests awaiting requested missing information or awaiting scheduled panel meetings |

REASONS FOR DCF APPROVAL

The applicant demonstrated sufficient evidence of rehabilitation in the areas of position related offense factors and the applicant’s personal development and progress. Where applicable, standard conditions include: no (further) criminal law violations, no (further) acts or threats of violence toward others, no use of illegal drugs, no offenses that lead to arrest, conviction or findings by a government agency of misconduct, and the applicant must share a copy of the decision letter with any entity or agency that they may be licensed by, employed with, or reside at.

Additional conditions that may apply to more than one approval include:

- Applicant may not use physical discipline/corporal punishment.
- Applicant must continue/participate in counseling as recommended.

2020 Annual Report on Rehabilitation Review Requests

- Applicant is approved for employment in supervised positions only (when in direct contact with children).
- Applicant is approved for a limited number and/or specific foster child(ren).
- Applicant may not be responsible for billing subsidy and other financial matters.
- Applicant is approved for employment in certain positions only.
- Applicant must successfully complete a course prior to licensure or employment.
- Applicant given conditions regarding alcohol use.
- Applicant may not have any law enforcement contacts besides non-traffic law violations.
- If applicant is using any prescribed medications, must be used as prescribed.
- Applicant must have a valid driver's license if transporting children at any child care centers.
- Applicant needs additional time to demonstrate competence and compliance with Department of Children and Families' rules and regulations to reflect fitness for a certain position.

REASONS FOR DCF DENIAL

- Applicant failed to provide evidence of acceptable performance or competency in the positions for which approval was sought.
- Applicant denied basic facts that were clearly indicated in the documented findings and reports.
- Applicant failed to take responsibility for the offense(s) and minimized the seriousness of the offense(s).
- Applicant did not provide adequate documentation to support rehabilitation.
- Applicant displayed questionable veracity.
- Applicant has been the subject of numerous Child Protective Services reports.
- Panel felt applicant needed additional time to demonstrate the ability to successfully and safely care for children in entities regulated by the Department of Children and Families.
- Panel questioned applicant's protective capacity and ability to provide a safe environment for young, vulnerable children.
- Panel had concerns relating to applicant's alcohol and drug use.
- Panel had concerns that requested positions would present applicant with similar opportunities to commit similar offenses.
- Panel had concerns regarding applicant's understanding of trauma and its effect on youth and applicant's ability to work with youth.
- Panel had concerns regarding applicant's financial obligations.
- Panel had concerns about potential untreated mental health and substance use issues.

2020 Annual Report on Rehabilitation Review Requests

REQUESTS RECEIVED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND REPORTED TO DCF

11 Approvals with standard conditions
4 Approval with additional conditions
2 Denials (0 due to incomplete application)

REQUESTS RECEIVED BY CHILD PLACING AGENCIES AND REPORTED TO DCF

1 Approval with additional conditions

REQUESTS RECEIVED BY SCHOOL BOARDS AND TRIBES REPORTED TO DCF

None were reported