

CHAPTER 31-200 ASSESSMENT AND CASE PLAN

31-201 ASSESSMENT AND CASE PLANNING PROCESS **31-201**

- .1 When it has been determined that child welfare services are to be provided the social worker shall:
- .11 Complete an assessment.
 - .111 An assessment is completed for each child for whom child welfare services are to be provided, and includes gathering and evaluating information relevant to the case situation and appraising case services needs.
 - .12 Determine the case plan goal.
 - .121 When determining the case plan goal, the social worker shall consider the following order of priority for services:
 - (a) Family maintenance services - In order to maintain the child in his/her own home, when the protective needs of the child can be met.
 - (b) Family reunification services - If the family potentially can be successfully reunified within the time limits specified in Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 16507 and 16507.3. If the child is placed out of home and is receiving family reunification services, the case plan shall have two tracks:
 - (1) The family reunification track, which consists of services described in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 16501(h).
 - (2) The concurrent services track, which identifies the child's permanency alternative and the services necessary to achieve legal permanence should family reunification fail.
 - (c) Permanent placement services - Only when there are no feasible means of maintaining or reuniting the child with his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).
 - (1) When the child has been detained and one or more of the following circumstances exist, the social worker may recommend permanent placement services.
 - (A) The whereabouts of the parent(s)/guardian(s) is unknown.
 - (B) The parent(s)/guardian(s) is suffering from a mental disability that renders him/her incapable of utilizing family reunification services.