
N-FOCUS Interim Release

Combined All Divisions

January 11, 2026

An Interim Release of the N-FOCUS System is being implemented January 11, 2026. This document provides information explaining new functionality, enhancements and problem resolutions made effective with this release. This document is divided into two main sections and addresses all of the Divisions, MLTC, EA, CFS, DD and BH.

General Interest and Mainframe Topics: All N-FOCUS users should read this section.

Expert System: All N-FOCUS workers with responsibilities for case entry for AABD, ADC, SNAP, LIHEAP, Medicaid, CFS, etc. should read this section.

Home and Community Based Services: NFOCUS workers who work directly with DD/BH Programs and those who work with the related Medicaid cases should read this section.

Note: This section will only appear when there are tips, enhancements or fixes specific to Developmental Disabilities or Behavioral Health Programs.

Note: When new functionality is added to N-FOCUS that crosses multiple topics (i.e. General Interest and Mainframe, Alerts, Correspondence, Expert System etc.) the functionality will be described in one primary location. This location will usually be the General Interest and Mainframe section or the Expert System section. Alerts, Work Tasks and Correspondence that are part of the new functionality may be documented in both the primary location that describes the entire process in addition to being in the Alerts, Work Tasks and Correspondence sections.

Interfaces, Document Imaging and N-FOCUS Tips sections will be added as appropriate for the release.

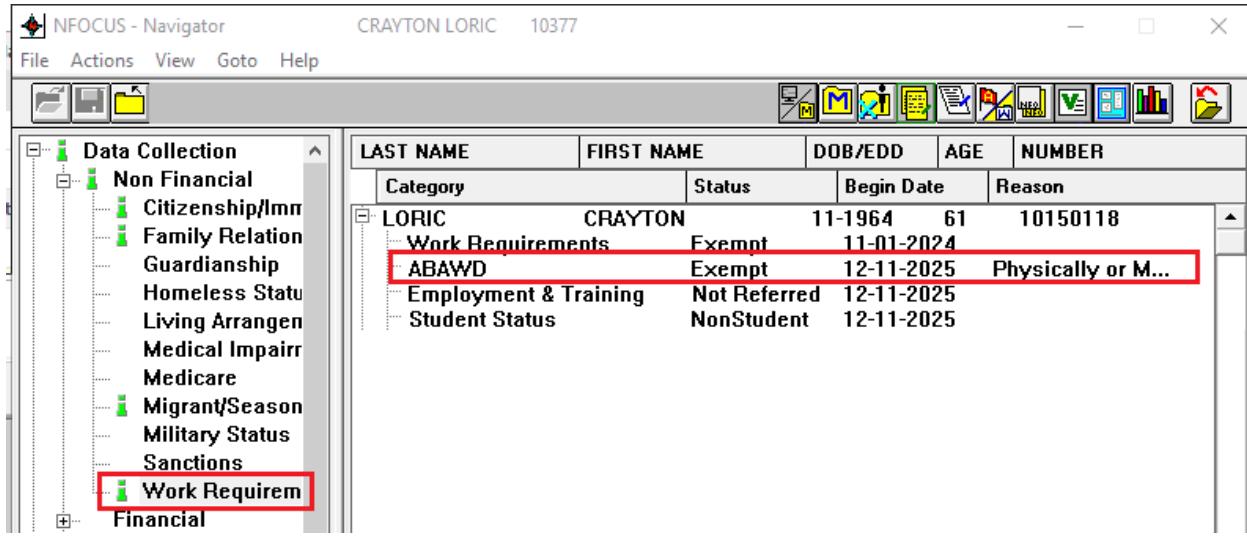
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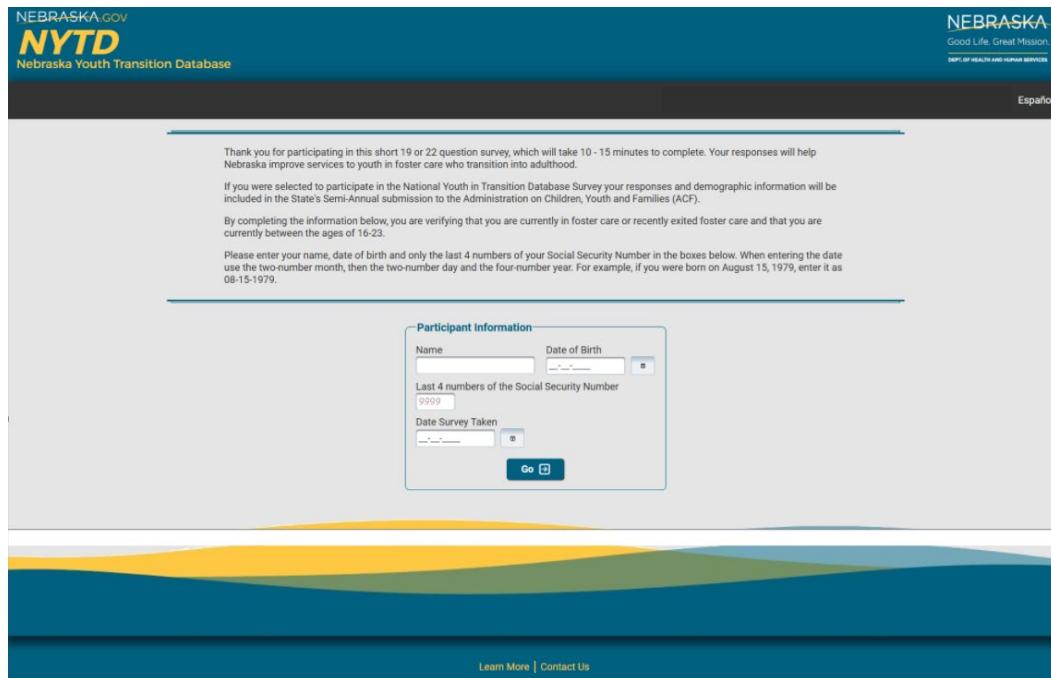
General Interest and Mainframe

CFS – Clinical Coordination Narrative (Change)

CFS Clinical Coordination narratives have been updated to include a new subject of 'Clinical Review.' This subject should be used to document assessment notes, including review type, level of care recommendation, next review date and provider notes.

CFS – Nebraska Youth Transition Database Web Application (Change)

As part of security systems maintenance and ensuring compatibility with the latest technology, the Nebraska Youth Transition Database (NYTD) survey web application has received new changes and updates. Existing functions, wording, survey questions and their selection choices and notes remain unchanged (English and Spanish versions).



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NYTD
Nebraska Youth Transition Database

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Espanol

Thank you for participating in this short 19 or 22 question survey, which will take 10 - 15 minutes to complete. Your responses will help Nebraska improve services to youth in foster care who transition into adulthood.

If you were selected to participate in the National Youth in Transition Database Survey your responses and demographic information will be included in the State's Semi-Annual submission to the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACF).

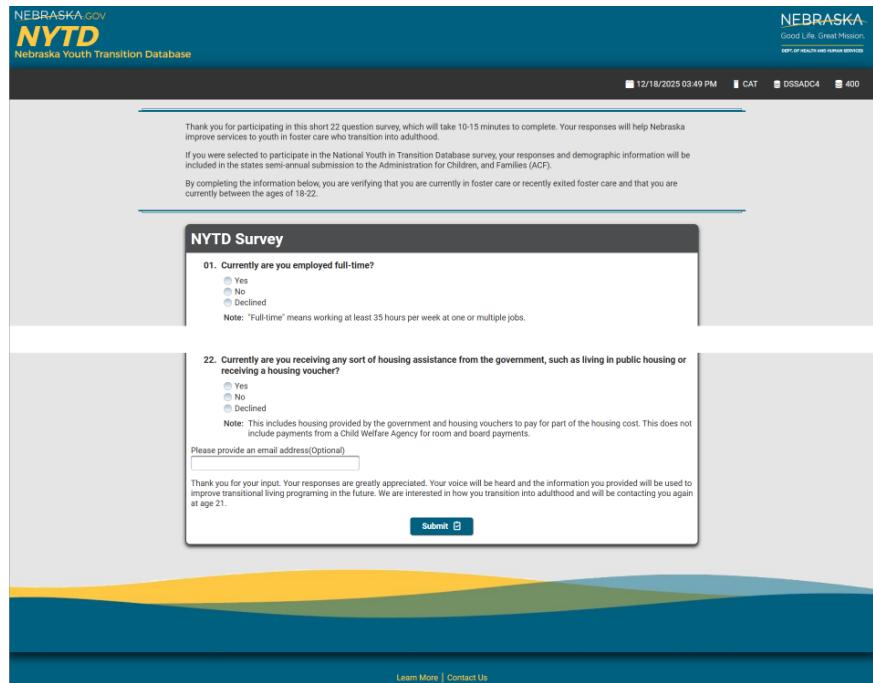
By completing the information below, you are verifying that you are currently in foster care or recently exited foster care and that you are currently between the ages of 16-23.

Please enter your name, date of birth and only the last 4 numbers of your Social Security Number in the boxes below. When entering the date use the two-number month, then the two-number day and the four-number year. For example, if you were born on August 15, 1979, enter it as 08-15-1979.

Participant Information

Name	Date of Birth
Last 4 numbers of the Social Security Number	
Date Survey Taken	
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	

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NYTD
Nebraska Youth Transition Database

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12/18/2023 03:49 PM CAT DSSADC4 400

Thank you for participating in this short 22 question survey, which will take 10-15 minutes to complete. Your responses will help Nebraska improve services to youth in foster care who transition into adulthood.

If you were selected to participate in the National Youth in Transition Database survey, your responses and demographic information will be included in the states semi-annual submission to the Administration for Children, and Families (ACF).

By completing the information below, you are verifying that you are currently in foster care or recently exited foster care and that you are currently between the ages of 18-22.

NYTD Survey

01. Currently are you employed full-time?

Yes
 No
 Declined

Note: "Full-time" means working at least 35 hours per week at one or multiple jobs.

22. Currently are you receiving any sort of housing assistance from the government, such as living in public housing or receiving a housing voucher?

Yes
 No
 Declined

Note: This includes housing provided by the government and housing vouchers to pay for part of the housing cost. This does not include payments from a Child Welfare Agency for room and board payments.

Please provide an email address (Optional)

Thank you for your input. Your responses are greatly appreciated. Your voice will be heard and the information you provided will be used to improve transitional living programming in the future. We are interested in how you transition into adulthood and will be contacting you again at age 21.

Submit 

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New

- Major style sheets (visual presentations) upgrades for cleaner look and improved user experience.
- Added the label 'Participant Information' to the search field to be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliant.
- Added icon to the 'Go' button on the search field.
- Added the label 'NYTD Survey' to the survey field.
- Added icon to the 'Submit' button on survey field.
- Added icon to the 'Back" button on the Warning message pop-up.
- Added icon to the 'Continue' button on the Warning message pop-up.

Updates

- Replaced the old 'Official Nebraska Government Website' branding website link with the current 'NEBRASKA.GOV.'
- For security purposes, search fields will no longer display participants' search/entry history.
- Background highlight (and text) of informational message(s) will now display in blue instead of red.
- Removed red background highlight from prompt messages as that is reserved for system critical errors – Their texts will continue to display in red.

CFS - Guardianship Trust Fund Accounts Social Security \$1000 Save (Fix)

There was an issue with the Guardianship Trust Fund Accounts for repeat State Wards. When a ward had previously left state custody and then re-entered state custody and their Guardianship Trust Fund account was re-opened, NFOCUS was not enforcing the saving of the first \$1,000.00 of SSI/SSA funds. This has been corrected.

CFS – Guardianship Trust Fund Accounts Personal Assets Balance (Change)

When the Guardianship Trust Fund 'Personal Assets Balance' falls below \$1,000.00, NFOCUS will now allocate needed monies from the next SSI/SSA check to the 'Personal Assets Balance' in order to build the 'Personal Assets Balance' amount back to \$1,000.00. If the SSI/SSA check does not satisfy the amount needed to regain the \$1,000.00 amount, the entire SSI/SSA check will deposit into the 'Personal Assets Balance.' Any subsequent SSI/SSA checks received will continue to allocate funds to the 'Personal Assets Balance' until the \$1,000.00 amount is reached. The remaining funds from the SSI/SSA check (after 'Personal Assets Balance' \$1,000.00 is satisfied) will be allocated to the 'Excess Available' balance.

CFS – Tribal User Security Access (Change)

The security access level for tribal users has been updated to mirror DHHS CFS user access levels.

All Divisions – City of Papillion Added to Address Window Zip Codes

Previously the city of Papillion was associated to zip codes 68046 and 68133. Papillion has now been added to zip codes 68128, 68138, and 68157. When updating or adding an address with the zip code of 68128, 68138, 68157, 68046, or 68133, the 'Choose City for ZIP' box will pop-up and will include the city of Papillion as an option. Note: Papillion is already displaying correctly for zip codes 68046 and 68133.

All Divisions – Address Name Field Numeric Restriction Removed

In a previous release, edits were deployed to restrict special characters in the Address Name field to prevent downstream interface issues. These edits have been relaxed to now allow numerals in the Name field.

All Divisions – W2 Wage Threshold Amount (Change)

The W2 wage threshold amount used for FICA withholding for providers has increased to \$3,000 effective 1-1-2026.

Expert System

OEA – Child Care Sliding Fee Maximum Income (Change)

The increase in Child Care Sliding Fee Maximum income that was effective on August 28, 2021 will be reduced from 185% FPL to 130% FPL. This is effective with April 2026 budgets. **Note this change is currently targeted for a special release on January 25th.**

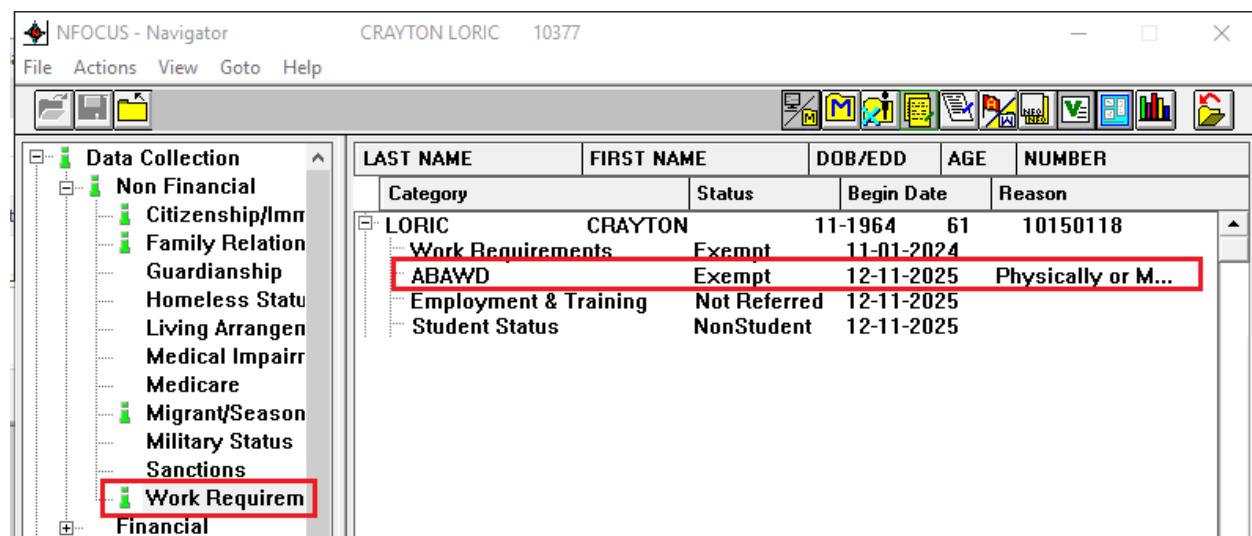
OEA – SNAP Eligibility Notices Healthy Choice Waiver Wording (New)

SNAP has added new wording to all the notice of eligibility correspondences that have SNAP. The following wording will inform households that SNAP can no longer be used on certain items.

IMPORTANT: SNAP benefits can no longer be used to purchase Soda or Soft Drinks and Energy Drinks. For additional information, visit <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Healthy-Choices-Waiver.aspx>

OEA – SNAP Work Requirements Wizard ABAWD screen (Fix)

An enhancement to the Work Requirements Wizard – ABAWD Screen in the December release caused an unexpected issue with the Red X on the Expert System Navigation Tree for Work Requirements; this caused downstream budget processing for SNAP cases and an approved work around. This only impacted Individuals aged 60 to 64 as an exempt ABAWD for being unfit for employment (reason 4). This issue has been resolved, and the Work Requirements navigation tree item is marked with the green information icon accordingly.



OEA – Medicaid Missing Expiry Dates (Fix)

An issue was discovered where some Medicaid eligible individuals had a blank expiry date. This happened if the person was a participant in an older closed retro Medicaid case prior to the introduction of expiry dates, was closed more than 90 days prior to expiry dates, was added to a separate program case with an infant child for continuous eligibility purposes and then later Pended in a previous Medicaid case. Expert system logic has been updated to handle this scenario.

OEA – Medicaid SIMP Standard Utility Allowance (Change)

The Spousal Impoverishment standard utility allowance amount for 2025 was updated to \$599 effective 7-1-2025. This amount was updated to \$615 effective 1-1-2026.