

232.125 Petition.

1. A family in need of assistance proceeding shall be initiated by the filing of a petition alleging that a child and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian are a family in need of assistance.

2. Such a petition may be filed by the child's parent, guardian, or custodian, by the child, or on the court's own motion as provided in [section 232C.2](#). The judge, county attorney, or juvenile court officer may authorize such parent, guardian, custodian, or child to file a petition with the clerk of the court without the payment of a filing fee.

3. The petition and subsequent court documents shall be entitled "In re the family of" .

4. The petition shall state all of the following:

- a. The names and residences of the child.
- b. The names and residences of the child's living parents, guardian, custodian, and guardian ad litem, if any.
- c. The age of the child.

5. The petition shall allege that there has been a breakdown in the familial relationship and that the petitioner has sought services from public or private agencies to maintain and improve the familial relationship.

[C79, 81, §232.125]

[83 Acts, ch 186, §10055, 10201](#); [2009 Acts, ch 153, §1](#); [2015 Acts, ch 30, §78](#)

Referred to in [§232.21](#), [232C.2](#), [232C.3](#)