441—175.31 (232) Completion of required correspondence.

175.31(1) Notification to parents that an assessment is being conducted. Written notice shall be provided to the parents of a child who is the subject of an assessment within five working days of commencing an assessment. Both custodial and noncustodial parents shall be notified, if their whereabouts are known. If it is believed that notification will result in danger to the child or others, an emergency order to prohibit parental notification shall be sought from juvenile court.

175.31(2) Notification of completion of assessment and right to request correction. Written notice which indicates that the child abuse assessment is completed shall be provided to all subjects of a child abuse assessment and to the mandatory reporter who made the report of child abuse. Both custodial and noncustodial parents shall be notified if their whereabouts are known.

a. The notice shall contain the following information pursuant to Iowa Code section 235A.19:

(1) A subject may request correction of the information contained within the child abuse assessment report if the subject disagrees with the information.

(2) A person named responsible for the abuse has the right to appeal if the department does not correct the data or findings as requested.

(3) A subject, other than the person named responsible for the abuse, has the opportunity to file a motion to intervene in an appeal hearing.

b. If the child abuse assessment results in a determination that abuse is confirmed, the notice shall indicate the type of abuse, name of the child and name of the person responsible for the abuse and whether the report has been placed on the central abuse registry.

c. The department shall provide written notice to the parent or guardian of each child listed in the family assessment report of the completion of the assessment and review any service recommendations. Because no determination concerning child abuse or neglect is made and nothing is reported to the central abuse registry, a subject of a family assessment shall not be afforded the opportunity for a contested case hearing pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 17A.

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