

**38-2202. Definitions.** As used in the revised Kansas code for care of children, unless the context otherwise indicates:

(a) "Abandon" or "abandonment" means to forsake, desert or, without making appropriate provision for substitute care, cease providing care for the child.

(b) "Adult correction facility" means any public or private facility, secure or nonsecure, that is used for the lawful custody of accused or convicted adult criminal offenders.

(c) "Aggravated circumstances" means the abandonment, torture, chronic abuse, sexual abuse or chronic, life threatening neglect of a child.

(d) "Child in need of care" means a person less than 18 years of age at the time of filing of the petition or issuance of an ex parte protective custody order pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2242](#), and amendments thereto, who:

(1) Is without adequate parental care, control or subsistence and the condition is not due solely to the lack of financial means of the child's parents or other custodian;

(2) is without the care or control necessary for the child's physical, mental or emotional health;

(3) has been physically, mentally or emotionally abused or neglected or sexually abused;

(4) has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law;

(5) has been abandoned or does not have a known living parent;

(6) is not attending school as required by K.S.A. [72-977](#) or [72-1111](#), and amendments thereto;

(7) except in the case of a violation of K.S.A. [41-727](#), K.S.A. [74-8810\(j\)](#), K.S.A. [79-3321\(m\)](#) or (n), or K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-6301\(a\)\(14\)](#), and amendments thereto, or, except as provided in paragraph (12), does an act which, when committed by a person under 18 years of age, is prohibited by state law, city ordinance or county resolution, but which is not prohibited when done by an adult;

(8) while less than 10 years of age, commits any act that if done by an adult would constitute the commission of a felony or misdemeanor as defined by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-5102](#), and amendments thereto;

(9) is willfully and voluntarily absent from the child's home without the consent of the child's parent or other custodian;

(10) is willfully and voluntarily absent at least a second time from a court ordered or designated placement, or a placement pursuant to court order, if the absence is without the consent of the person with whom the child is placed or, if the child is placed in a facility, without the consent of the person in charge of such facility or such person's designee;

(11) has been residing in the same residence with a sibling or another person under 18 years of age, who has been physically, mentally or emotionally abused or neglected, or sexually abused;

(12) while less than 10 years of age commits the offense defined in K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-6301\(a\)\(14\)](#), and amendments thereto;

(13) has had a permanent custodian appointed and the permanent custodian is no longer able or willing to serve; or

(14) has been subjected to an act that would constitute human trafficking or aggravated human trafficking, as defined by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-5426](#), and amendments thereto, or commercial sexual exploitation of a child, as defined by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-6422](#), and amendments thereto, or has committed an act which, if committed by an adult, would constitute selling sexual relations, as defined by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-6419](#), and amendments thereto.

(e) "Citizen review board" is a group of community volunteers appointed by the court and whose duties are prescribed by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2207](#) and [38-2208](#), and amendments thereto.

(f) "Civil custody case" includes any case filed under chapter 23 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, the Kansas family law code, article 11 of chapter 38 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, determination of parentage, article 21 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, adoption and relinquishment act, or article 30 of chapter 59 of the Kansas Statutes

Annotated, and amendments thereto, guardians and conservators.

(g) "Court-appointed special advocate" means a responsible adult other than an attorney guardian ad litem who is appointed by the court to represent the best interests of a child, as provided in K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2206](#), and amendments thereto, in a proceeding pursuant to this code.

(h) "Custody" whether temporary, protective or legal, means the status created by court order or statute that vests in a custodian, whether an individual or an agency, the right to physical possession of the child and the right to determine placement of the child, subject to restrictions placed by the court.

(i) "Extended out of home placement" means a child has been in the custody of the secretary and placed with neither parent for 15 of the most recent 22 months beginning 60 days after the date at which a child in the custody of the secretary was removed from the child's home.

(j) "Educational institution" means all schools at the elementary and secondary levels.

(k) "Educator" means any administrator, teacher or other professional or paraprofessional employee of an educational institution who has exposure to a pupil specified in K.S.A. [72-89b03](#)(a), and amendments thereto.

(l) "Harm" means physical or psychological injury or damage.

(m) "Interested party" means the grandparent of the child, a person with whom the child has been living for a significant period of time when the child in need of care petition is filed, and any person made an interested party by the court pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2241](#), and amendments thereto, or Indian tribe seeking to intervene that is not a party.

(n) "Jail" means:

(1) An adult jail or lockup; or

(2) a facility in the same building or on the same grounds as an adult jail or lockup, unless the facility meets all applicable standards and licensure requirements under law and there is: (A) Total separation of the juvenile and adult facility spatial areas such that there could be no haphazard or accidental contact between juvenile and adult residents in the respective facilities; (B) total separation in all juvenile and adult program activities within the facilities, including recreation, education, counseling, health care, dining, sleeping and general living activities; and (C) separate juvenile and adult staff, including management, security staff and direct care staff such as recreational, educational and counseling.

(o) "Juvenile detention facility" means any secure public or private facility used for the lawful custody of accused or adjudicated juvenile offenders that must not be a jail.

(p) "Juvenile intake and assessment worker" means a responsible adult authorized to perform intake and assessment services as part of the intake and assessment system established pursuant to K.S.A. [75-7023](#), and amendments thereto.

(q) "Kinship care placement" means the placement of a child in the home of an adult with whom the child or the child's parent already has close emotional ties.

(r) "Law enforcement officer" means any person who by virtue of office or public employment is vested by law with a duty to maintain public order or to make arrests for crimes, whether that duty extends to all crimes or is limited to specific crimes.

(s) "Multidisciplinary team" means a group of persons, appointed by the court under K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2228](#), and amendments thereto, that has knowledge of the circumstances of a child in need of care.

(t) "Neglect" means acts or omissions by a parent, guardian or person responsible for the care of a child resulting in harm to a child, or presenting a likelihood of harm, and the acts or omissions are not due solely to the lack of financial means of the child's parents or other custodian. Neglect may include, but shall not be limited to:

(1) Failure to provide the child with food, clothing or shelter necessary to sustain the life or health of the child;

(2) failure to provide adequate supervision of a child or to remove a child from a situation that requires judgment or actions beyond the child's level of maturity, physical condition or mental abilities and that results in bodily injury or a likelihood of harm to the child; or

(3) failure to use resources available to treat a diagnosed medical condition if such treatment will make a child

substantially more comfortable, reduce pain and suffering, or correct or substantially diminish a crippling condition from worsening. A parent legitimately practicing religious beliefs who does not provide specified medical treatment for a child because of religious beliefs shall, not for that reason, be considered a negligent parent; however, this exception shall not preclude a court from entering an order pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2217](#)(a)(2), and amendments thereto.

(u) "Parent" when used in relation to a child or children, includes a guardian and every person who is by law liable to maintain, care for or support the child.

(v) "Party" means the state, the petitioner, the child, any parent of the child and an Indian child's tribe intervening pursuant to the Indian child welfare act.

(w) "Permanency goal" means the outcome of the permanency planning process, which may be reintegration, adoption, appointment of a permanent custodian or another planned permanent living arrangement.

(x) "Permanent custodian" means a judicially approved permanent guardian of a child pursuant to K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [38-2272](#), and amendments thereto.

(y) "Physical, mental or emotional abuse" means the infliction of physical, mental or emotional harm or the causing of a deterioration of a child and may include, but shall not be limited to, maltreatment or exploiting a child to the extent that the child's health or emotional well-being is endangered.

(z) "Placement" means the designation by the individual or agency having custody of where and with whom the child will live.

(aa) "Qualified residential treatment program" means a program designated by the secretary for children and families as a qualified residential treatment program pursuant to federal law.

(bb) "Reasonable and prudent parenting standard" means the standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the health, safety and best interests of a child while at the same time encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child, that a caregiver shall use when determining whether to allow a child in foster care under the responsibility of the state to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities.

(cc) "Relative" means a person related by blood, marriage or adoption.

(dd) "Runaway" means a child who is willfully and voluntarily absent from the child's home without the consent of the child's parent or other custodian.

(ee) "Secretary" means the secretary for children and families or the secretary's designee.

(ff) "Secure facility" means a facility, other than a staff secure facility or juvenile detention facility, that is operated or structured so as to ensure that all entrances and exits from the facility are under the exclusive control of the staff of the facility, whether or not the person being detained has freedom of movement within the perimeters of the facility, or that relies on locked rooms and buildings, fences or physical restraint in order to control behavior of its residents. No secure facility shall be in a city or county jail.

(gg) "Sexual abuse" means any contact or interaction with a child in which the child is being used for the sexual stimulation of the perpetrator, the child or another person. Sexual abuse shall include, but is not limited to, allowing, permitting or encouraging a child to:

(1) Be photographed, filmed or depicted in pornographic material; or

(2) be subjected to aggravated human trafficking, as defined in K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-5426](#)(b), and amendments thereto, if committed in whole or in part for the purpose of the sexual gratification of the offender or another, or be subjected to an act that would constitute conduct proscribed by article 55 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated or K.S.A. 2020 Supp. [21-6419](#) or [21-6422](#), and amendments thereto.

(hh) "Shelter facility" means any public or private facility or home, other than a juvenile detention facility or staff secure facility, that may be used in accordance with this code for the purpose of providing either temporary placement for children in need of care prior to the issuance of a dispositional order or longer term care under a dispositional order.

(ii) "Staff secure facility" means a facility described in K.S.A. [65-535](#), and amendments thereto: (1) That does not include construction features designed to physically restrict the movements and activities of juvenile residents who are placed therein; (2) that may establish reasonable rules restricting entrance to and egress from the facility;

and (3) in which the movements and activities of individual juvenile residents may, for treatment purposes, be restricted or subject to control through the use of intensive staff supervision. No staff secure facility shall be in a city or county jail.

(jj) "Transition plan" means, when used in relation to a youth in the custody of the secretary, an individualized strategy for the provision of medical, mental health, education, employment and housing supports as needed for the adult and, if applicable, for any minor child of the adult, to live independently and specifically provides for the supports and any services for which an adult with a disability is eligible including, but not limited to, funding for home and community based services waivers.

(kk) "Youth residential facility" means any home, foster home or structure that provides 24-hour-a-day care for children and that is licensed pursuant to article 5 of chapter 65 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto.

**History:** L. 2006, ch. 200, § 2; L. 2008, ch. 169, § 1; L. 2009, ch. 99, § 1; L. 2010, ch. 75, § 5; L. 2011, ch. 30, § 155; L. 2012, ch. 162, § 60; L. 2013, ch. 120, § 31; L. 2015, ch. 94, § 12; L. 2016, ch. 102, § 9; L. 2018, ch. 107, § 8; L. 2019, ch. 43, § 3; May 2.

**Source or Prior Law:**

[38-1502](#).

**Revisor's Note:**

Section was amended twice in the 2016 session, see also L. 2016, ch. 46, § 23, but that version was repealed by L. 2018, ch. 107, § 18, effective July 1, 2019.

Section was also amended by L. 2018, ch. 107, § 9, but that version was repealed by L. 2019, ch. 43, § 6.