

EXTENDED FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

Child Dependency Courts



Extended Foster Care (EFC) is a voluntary program that offers dependent youth the option of remaining in care until age 21 to support a successful transition to independence.

The dependency action will continue if the eligible youth elects to participate in the program on their 18th birthday.

Eligible youth who do not elect to participate in the Extended Foster Care program on their 18th birthday will have until their 21st birthday to voluntarily request to participate in the Extended Foster Care program.

Eligible youth may enter and exit the program as needed between the ages of 18-21 years old.

Services may include

- Identifying a placement
- Referrals to medical, mental health and dental providers
- Transition planning support
- Case management
- Accessing community resources



Youth must meet the following criteria on their 18th birthday:

- Dependent; and
 - Enrolled in high school or a high school equivalency program;
 - Enrolled, applied for, or can show intent to timely enroll in a post-secondary academic or post-secondary vocational certification program;
 - Participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment, including part-time employment;
 - Employed 80 hours or more a month; or
 - Unable to engage in any of the above activities due to a documented medical condition.

HOUSING

Supervised Independent Living (SIL)

Youth have their own DCYF-approved apartment or living situation in the community where they are responsible for rent and other living costs. A monthly stipend may be used to pay for housing and other living costs.

Young Adult Housing Program (YAHP)

Youth are on their own lease in the community. Monthly rental assistance and other housing costs are covered (length of rental assistance varies). Youth are required to participate in case management.

Independent Youth Housing Program (IYHP)

Youth are on their own lease in the community. Monthly rental assistance and other housing costs are covered; length of rental assistance varies. Youth are required to participate in case management.

Fostering Youth to Independence (FYI) Voucher

Vouchers that supply qualifying youth with 36-months of rental assistance provided through the local public housing authority. Youth enrolled in Extended Foster Care (EFC) who receive a FYI voucher must exit EFC within 90 days of signing a lease.

Ordering a youth to remain in EFC while receiving a FYI voucher could result in disqualification from receiving federal public benefits in adulthood.

[Learn More](#)

Adoption Subsidies

Families adopting special needs children through the public child welfare system may qualify for monthly adoption support subsidies. Maximum reimbursable costs are \$1500.00 per child.

[Learn More](#)