

AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE?

An important new law gives foster youth the option to remain in foster care and receive services and supports until age 20!



Things to Know

- This new program begins January 1, 2012. If you turn 18 on or after January 1, you can stay in foster care up to age 20 as long as you meet eligibility requirements.*
- It is up to you. The program is voluntary; you decide if you want to stay in foster care.
- You can change your mind. Should you decide to leave foster care, you can return, provided you meet the requirements.
- You have responsibilities too. You will need to meet with your social worker or probation officer, go to court and continue to meet the eligibility requirements.

What You Need to Do

You are eligible for this program if you are doing at least one of the following:

- Completing high school or an equivalent program
- Enrolling at least half-time in college, community college or a vocational education program
- Employed at least 80 hours a month
- Participating in a program/activity designed to remove barriers to employment
- Unable to do any of the above because of a medical condition

Where You Can Live

You must live in one of the following places to be eligible for this program:

- Home of a relative, non-related extended family member or legal guardian
- Licensed or approved foster home, Foster Family Agency (FFA) certified home, Intensive Treatment Foster Care home (ITFC), or Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP)
- Transitional Housing Program Plus Foster Care (THP+FC)
- Supervised Independent Living Program (SILP)
- Group home (if needed to complete high school or if you have a medical condition)

What Your Responsibilities Are

To be part of this program, you will need to:

- Meet with your social worker or probation officer each month
- Attend a court hearing or administrative review every 6 months
- Sign an agreement
- Agree to work with your social worker or probation officer to meet the goals of your Transitional Independent Living Case Plan and receive case management services

How to Learn More

- Ask your social worker, probation officer or attorney for more detailed information
- Visit us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/CAFosteringConnections

*** If you turn 18 before January 1, 2012, contact your social worker, probation officer or attorney to learn about options for staying in foster care beyond age 18 in your county.**

Extension of services and supports to age 20 is made possible through the California Fostering Connections to Success Act (AB12)

