

Aftercare Services

Two Types of Aftercare Services:

Short-Term Independent Living Aftercare Services (Up to 6 Months*):

Eligibility

For youth that left foster care after their 18th birthday and have not reached the age of 21 or; youth that have exited foster care via adoption or guardianship after their 16th birthday

Types of Services:

- Financial Assistance;
- Life Skills Classes;
- Temporary Assistance with utilities, room, and board;
- Counseling;
- Educational Services;
- Employment Assistance;
- Medical Assistance;
- Other appropriate services to assist with self-sufficiency.

Enhanced Aftercare Services:

Eligibility

Only for Maryland foster youth that left foster care after their 18th birthday and have not reached the age of 20 and 6 months

Types of Services:

- Enter into a Voluntary Placement Service Agreement
- Placement Services
- Case Management
- Monthly Visitation with Case Management
- Service Planning

**May be extended based on case-by-case circumstances.*



Maryland Youth
Launching Initiatives
For Empowerment!

Use the Web Links:

www.MDConnectMYLIFE.org

for updates, news, and information on everything (including):

- To get the link to your **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
www.fafsa.gov
- To Learn **MORE** about these services and Advocacy Events
- Find your local **Department of Social Services**
- Stay in touch with us and your local **Independent Living Coordinator(s)**
- Information regarding **Summer Youth Employment Programs** and **Workforce Development Opportunities** in your area
- Use: www.MDgo4it.org for additional information and to apply for the **Maryland Tuition Waiver**.
- Use: www.fc2sprograms.org for additional information and to apply to receive the **Education Training Voucher (ETV)**.



Maryland Department of Human Resources
Social Services Administration (SSA)

311 W. Saratoga Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

www.dhr.maryland.gov

DHR/SSA 2096

Annual Notice of Benefits

*Here's what you
Need to Know:*



**Benefits for Youth
Ages 13 to 21
Leaving Foster Care**

I'm Leaving Foster Care, What Benefits May I Be Eligible To Receive?

There are several ways that you can exit foster care. You can exit foster care through reunification, guardianship, adoption or becoming independent. This brochure highlights some benefits and resources that you may be eligible to receive when you leave foster care at various stages. Take a look at what we've identified:

Financial Benefits for Higher Education

- **Maryland Tuition Waiver (MTW)*** - The tuition waiver provides exemptions from paying any tuition and mandatory fees at a Maryland public college or university.
- **Education Tuition Voucher (ETV)** - The ETV provides up to \$5,000.00 per year for college and vocational training for full-time students, and up to \$2,500.00 for part-time students.

**Youth placed out-of-state by the Maryland Department of Human Resources are eligible for the Maryland Tuition Waiver as long as they are attending a Maryland public college or university.*

Youth: Ages 13-15

- A foster youth may be eligible for the **Maryland Tuition Waiver*** if after age 13 was in foster care in the state of Maryland for at least one year and was returned home to parents; was adopted; or was placed into guardianship.

**Some services may require additional steps or documentation.*

Youth: Ages 16-17

- A foster youth may be eligible for the **Maryland Tuition Waiver*** if after age 13 was in foster care in the state of Maryland for at least one year and was returned home to parents; was adopted; or was placed into guardianship.
- **The Education Training Voucher (ETV)*** provides financial assistance to youth for their educational/vocational expenses. This service is for youth who were adopted or in guardianship but can only be accessed after age 16.
- And if you **EXIT** to Adoption or Guardianship, then you may be eligible for **Short-Term Independent Living Aftercare Services** but only after age 18.

Youth: Ages 18-21

- A foster youth may be eligible for the **Maryland Tuition Waiver*** if the youth was in foster care at the age of 18 for at least one year after age 13 was returned home to parents; was adopted; or was placed into guardianship. The waiver only applies to public universities and colleges within the state of Maryland.
- **Education Training Voucher (ETV)** provides financial assistance to youth for their educational/vocational expenses, and applies to youth that have exited foster care after 18 but have not reached the age 21;
- **Medical Insurance Coverage** until 26 years old;
- Eligible for **Independent Living Aftercare Services** or **Enhanced Aftercare Voluntary Placement Service Agreement**.

Housing Services

AIRS/Empire Homes: Transitional Housing Program for young adults 18-24.

Website: <http://www.airshome.org>

Homeless Hotline: 1-888-731-0999

Free Credit Report

Get Free access to your credit report:

- Youth ages 14-17 should receive a copy of their credit report from their Local Department of Social Services
- Youth ages 18-21 can receive a copy of their credit report by going to: www.annualcreditreport.com

Hotlines:

Maryland Youth Crisis Line: 1-800-422-0009

Maryland Non-Emergency Line: 3-1-1

To Find MD Resources: 2-1-1 or 1-800-332-6347

Suicide Hotline: 301-864-7130

Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-332-6347

Youth Helpline: 1-800-555-1345

National Runaway Switchboard: 1-800-RUNAWAY

LGBTQ Services & Support Hotline: 1-800-850-8078

Foster Youth Ombudsman: 1-800-332-6347

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FOR HELP, QUESTIONS, OR TO APPLY FOR SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CASE WORKER OR YOUR INDEPENDENT LIVING COORDINATOR.

**Some services may be extended based on certain circumstances.*