



DCFS Youth Development Services

Independent Living Program



Mission Statement:

- To provide comprehensive services and resources to assist transition age youth (TAY) successfully transition from dependency to self sufficiency.



ILP

- The Independent Living Program (ILP) provides financial assistance and services to current and former foster/probation youth, 16-20 years of age, who have been determined to be ILP eligible by an ILP Transition Coordinator. Youth may receive the help they need as a student in high school, college, or a vocational program. Youth may also qualify for services if they are working or in need of support services or referrals. ILP may be able to assist youth in areas such as housing, employment and education.

Chafee Outcome Measures

- 1) Receiving High School Diploma; 2) Educational attainment; 3) Employment; 4) Avoidance of dependency; 5) Avoiding Homelessness; 6) Avoiding Non-marital childbirth; 7) Avoiding Incarceration; and 8) Avoiding High-risk behaviors.

Eligibility: Youth are eligible for ILP services from age 16 to the day before their 21st birthday, provided one of the following criteria is met:

- The youth was/is in foster care placement at any time from their 16th to their 19th birthday.
- The youth was placed in out-of-home care by a tribe or tribal organization between their 16th and 19th birthdays.
- The youth is a former dependent who entered into a kinship guardianship at any age and is receiving/received Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payments (Kin-GAP) between the ages of 16 and 18.
- The youth is a former dependent who entered into a Non-Related Legal Guardianship (NRLG) after attaining age 8 and is receiving/received permanent placement services.

Services are based on need and availability of funding.

Who is NOT ILP eligible???

Youth placed in detention facilities, locked facilities, forestry camps, training schools, facilities that are primarily for the detention of youth who are adjudicated, delinquent, medical and psychiatric facilities, voluntary placements, wraparound program participants, youth placed pursuant to an individualized education program and guardianship placements in which the youth is not a dependent or ward of the court.

Graduation Events

- Graduation Events
 - Celebration I
 - Celebration I is held in June of every year for college bound high school seniors with a minimum 2.8 cumulative gpa.
 - Celebration II
 - Celebration II is held in the summer and honors those who were unable to graduate with a 2.8 gpa
 - Success Is Our Future
 - Probation youth only

Services

- Individualized Transition Skills Program (ITSP)
CSWs refer youth to ITSP by providing the TC with a current TILP and the DCFS 5557.
- Youth on the Move
- Life Skills program for youth. Contractors:
 - SPA 1-4 TCCF
 - SPA 5-8 CII
- Annual Metro TAP card. Must be 18 to apply

Educational Expenses and Programs

- Tuition (college/vocational)
- Books & Supplies
- Fees
- High School Senior Expenses
- Diploma/GED incentive
- Tools/dues
- Laptops
- Exam fees
- Transportation (i.e. airline tickets for youth attending school out of state)
- College Tours
- Financial Aid Workshops

Work-Related Expenses

- Interview Clothing
- Uniforms/job-related clothing
- Tools
- Dues
- Transportation

Miscellaneous Expenses

- Driving lessons. Must be at least 18 years of age
- Auto insurance: Must be 18 years of age
- Youth Conferences & Special Events
- Unallocated Medical and Mental Health Expenses
- Food Assistance
- Immigration Expenses

Housing/Rental Assistance

- Youth must be at least 18 years of age and no longer under the jurisdiction of the court/receiving services (funding for KinGAP/AAP/etc.)
- Examples of housing-related funding:
 - Emergency Housing expense
 - Rental Assistance (market units)
 - Rental Assistance (dorms)
 - Apartment/dorm start-up items
 - Move-in/security deposit

YDS Employment/Special Projects

Bridge to Work – Job readiness and subsidized employment program.

Phillip L. Browning Youth Worker Program – 18 month paid part-time internship for current and former foster youth ages 16-21, 18 interns

Career Development Intern Program – 24 month full time paid internship for current and former foster youth, 25 interns

Academic Interns – unpaid internship for junior, senior, or graduate level students who are interning for academic credit at a partnering college/university

YDS Employment/Special Projects

- **Youth on the Move** – annual transit access pass program
- **Veteran Intern Program**– 24 month full time paid internship for military veterans, 25 interns
- **Credit Checks** – program to check and remediate credit records of youth ages 14-17; financial literacy workshops
- **Job Eligibility Verifications** – single point of contact for all America's Job Centers of California within LA County

YDS Employment/Special Projects

- **DCFS Volunteer Program**–allows members of the community the opportunity to provide assistance and services to DCFS' workforce and more importantly, to the families we serve
- **Military Veteran Program**–DCFS employees with military experience share the benefits of the military and provide information to foster youth who may be considering joining

YDS Housing Section

- **THPP: Transitional Housing Placement Program.** Youth ages 16-17 and on track to graduate high school or have already completed high school
- **THPP-NMD: Transitional Housing Placement Plus-Foster Care.** This is a placement program for youth ages 18-20 who chose to participate in Extended Foster Care under AB 12.
- **THP-Plus: Transitional Housing Program Plus.** Youth ages 18-24 who have exited foster care on or after the 18th birthday and are homeless or housing insecure. Must be ILP eligible.

YDS Housing Section

- **Los Angeles Services Homeless Authority (LAHSA) Transitional Housing Program (THP).** Youth ages 18- 21 who have exited foster care and are homeless or housing insecure. Must be ILP eligible.
- **Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Mental Health Transitional Housing Program (THP).** Youth ages 18- 21 who have exited foster care and are homeless or housing insecure. Must be ILP eligible.

Teen Club

- Youth between the ages of 14 to 21 and have (or had) a case with the Los Angeles County Departments of Children and Family Services or Probation can participate in Teen Club.
- Youth will learn invaluable lessons that will help them succeed in life as well as make lifelong connections while having lot's of fun!
- Youth will learn about services and resources, meet new friends and be motivated and inspired to pursue their dreams.
- Teen Clubs are held throughout Los Angeles County on a monthly basis.

Review

- Youth must be determined to be ILP eligible by a Transition Coordinator in order to receive funding and services.
- Financial assistance is based on verified unmet need and availability of funding.
- Funding and services will be provided in accordance with Federal/State eligibility criteria & guidelines and are to assist the youth in meeting his/her transition goals as described in the Transition Independent Living Plan (TILP).

Review continued

- All ILP Requests for Services must include a written request from the youth, a current TILP, and supporting documents.
- Housing-related funding may only be disbursed to youth who are at least 18 years of age and no longer under the jurisdiction of the court.
- Youth must be 18 years of age to request assistance with driving lessons and auto insurance.

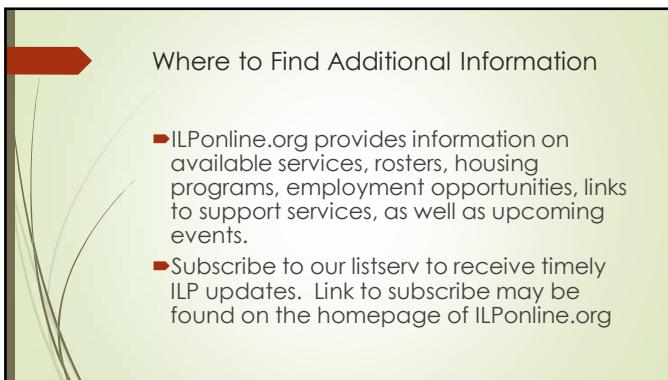
REMEMBER!!!!

- Check with your ILP Transition Coordinator for an overview of available services and funding. ILP is a voluntary program and services are provided based on availability of funds!



Where to Find Us
Rosters can be found on our website:
<http://www.ilponline.org/ContactILP/>

- Transition Coordinators, ILP CSWs, and Community Workers are stationed in DCFS regional offices.
- Probation ILP Coordinators are stationed in area offices



Where to Find Additional Information

- ILPonline.org provides information on available services, rosters, housing programs, employment opportunities, links to support services, as well as upcoming events.
- Subscribe to our listserv to receive timely ILP updates. Link to subscribe may be found on the homepage of ILPonline.org
