

Revision Date: 3/8/21	Primary Author(s): Sophia Elliott
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POLICY 1207 – Transitional Housing Agreement

A. POLICY

Youth aging out of foster care and moving into communities need housing assistance and individualized supports.

B. PROCEDURES

1. Appropriate living arrangements include but are not limited to Transitional Living Programs (TLP), boarding houses, apartments, and shared housing arrangements.
2. Youth eligible for Independent Living (IL) services that exit foster care at age 18 are eligible for financial assistance for housing subject to available funding.
3. Youth who leave their out-of-home placement and are no longer in Division of Family Services (DFS) custody prior to their eighteenth (18th) birthday are not eligible for housing assistance.
4. The caseworker or IL provider, as appropriate will inform youth of the opportunity for transitional housing assistance. Eligible youth:
 - Are age eighteen (18) through twenty (20) (not reached age of 21)
 - Exited foster care on or after their eighteenth (18th) birthday
 - Were adopted or placed under guardianship agreement at age sixteen (16) or older
 - Demonstrate an ability to manage money
 - Are continually enrolled in and regularly attends school or vocation training
 - Sustain employment if enrolled in an educational program as a part-time student
 - Agree to the requirements of the transitional living service plan
 - Need help in transitioning to self-sufficiency
 - Can contribute to the cost of the transitional living arrangement through:
 1. Earned income from employment
 2. Unearned income from scholarships, stipends, grants, work-study arrangements, supplemental security income (SSI), or any combination of these services
5. Youth not meeting requirements due to a documented disability are eligible and must agree to a service plan.
6. Youth who are interested in a transitional living arrangement shall apply through the IL Program Manager or the IL service provider in the county where they would like to reside.

7. The DFS caseworker shall coordinate the application process for transitional living with the contracted IL provider. The caseworker shall provide the IL provider with documentation to support the youth's eligibility.
8. Youth failing to fully participate in the TLP arrangement are subject to termination after review of their service plan.
9. Housing services may be terminated if the participant demonstrates an unwillingness or inability to meet the requirements of the program, service plan or the written terms of a housing agreement.

C. FOCUS

Service Type Change Event
(Only for youth accepted into Transitional Housing Programs)

D. FORMS

None