

POLICY VIII-B: EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

081/20134

Even after reaching the legal age of majority (i.e., 18 years of age), all youth need additional support and access to an array of resources as they continue their transition into adulthood. As such, youth ages 18 through 21 may choose to remain in foster care past the age of 18 for education, treatment, work, or other programs and services as determined appropriate by their Transitional Team in order to help them achieve a successful transition into adulthood. Board payments for IV-E eligible youth will be made through title IV-E funds. Board payments for youth who are not IV-E eligible will be paid using State General Revenue funds.

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In order to be eligible for extended foster care, youth must meet one of the following criteria:

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A. The youth is completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential; or,

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B. The youth is enrolled in an institution which provides post-secondary or vocational education; or,

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C. The youth is participating in a program or activity designed to promote, or remove barriers to, employment; or,

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D. The youth is employed for at least 80 hours per month; or,

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E. The youth is incapable of doing any of the above described activities due to a medical condition.

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If a youth was in foster care on or after his 16th birthday and was adopted or a guardianship was put into place on behalf of the youth before his or her 18th birthday, he or she will be eligible for Transitional Youth Services until his or her 21st birthday.

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A. Youth must have been in foster care at or before age 17, OR

B. Youth must have entered care at age 17 or after due to dependency neglect, OR

C. Youth must have entered foster care at age 17 or after with a prior dependency neglect status.

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Board payments for IV-E eligible youth will be made through title IV-E funds. Board payments for youth who are not IV-E eligible will be paid using State General Revenue funds.

A copy of the youth's entire record will be made available to him or her at no cost at the final Transitional Team meeting which will occur within 90 days of youth's planned exit from care.