

May I receive money directly to pay my rent and personal expenses?

If you reside in a foster care placement, the caregiver will receive the money to pay for your foster care. If you are in a SIL setting, you will receive the money directly to help pay for your living expenses.

If I choose not to remain in care can I change my mind later?

Yes! You are able to enter and exit the program as needed until you are 21 years old.

How do I re-enter?

Call 1-866-363-4276 and let us know that you want to be part of the program.

Resources

www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/foster-youth

www.washingtonconnection.org



To be a part of this program,
talk to your case worker
or call **1-866-363-4276**

Frequently asked questions

Q Can I live with my birth parents and receive extended foster care services?

A Yes.

Q Can I live in a different county or state and still get these services?

A Yes. You may be able to move out of the state or county and still receive services. Talk with your assigned case worker to create a plan.

Q Can I receive EFC services if I am pregnant or have a child?

A Yes. If you are eligible for EFC you may participate. Your child may also receive additional supports.

Q Do I need to stay in EFC to continue working with my Independent Living Skills (ILS) case manager?

A No. Your ILS eligibility is not affected by your participation in the EFC program. Please continue to work with your case manager or seek out the services of your local ILS office. They are a **great** resource and will assist you in planning for your future.

Q Will I still have medical insurance?

A Yes. Your Apple Health insurance will continue through your 26th birthday. For more information, contact the Foster Care Medical Team (FCMT) at the Health Care Authority by calling 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15480 or by emailing FCMT@hca.wa.gov.

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Interested in Extended Foster Care?



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

What is Extended Foster Care?

Extended Foster Care (EFC) is a voluntary program that offers dependent youth the option of remaining in care until age 21 to support a successful transition to independence.

You may be eligible!



What will Extended Foster Care do for me?

EFC provides continued support with placement options and services while you continue to develop the skills needed to be independent. You will be able to finish high school, go to college, learn a trade, find a job, and work on your transition goals. Services may include assistance with:

- Transition planning support
- Identifying a placement
- Accessing community resources such as food stamps
- Referrals to medical and mental health providers

You are eligible if you were:

- Dependent on your 18th birthday, and
- Agree to participate in the program.

What are the participation requirements?

DCYF will encourage you to participate in at least one of these categories, but you will not be discharged from EFC for not participating in one of the items below:

- Enrolled in high school or GED program;
- Applied for or enrolled in college or a vocational program;
- Participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment;
- Working 80 hours or more a month; or
- Unable to engage in any of the above activities due to a documented medical condition.



What are my responsibilities?

- Meet with your case worker at least once a month
- Work with your case worker toward achieving the plans developed in your transition plan
- Work toward independence and self-sufficiency

What are my placement options?

Placement options are case by case, based on your transition plan and may include:

- licensed foster home;
- group home;
- Behavior Rehabilitation Services setting;
- Supervised Independent Living (SIL) setting that includes but is not limited to:
 - Apartments
 - Room-and-board arrangements
 - College or university residence hall/dormitories
 - AmeriCorps or Job Corps
 - Shared roommate settings
 - Renting a room
 - Parents/Guardians
 - Relative/Other Adults
 - A licensed foster home with a room-and-board arrangement

Continue to work on your goals with the support of those around you.