



FOB 2011-007; Policy Aid

Effective 08/01/2011

FOSTER CARE



Youth In Transition (YIT)

- Federal Funding called “Chafee.”
- Allocated to States who then allocate to local county child welfare offices.
- Local offices manage their own allocation.

YIT: Eligibility – Open Case

Youth had an open foster care case after his/her 14th birthday

Or

Youth has an open delinquency case after his/her 14th birthday and is placed in a DHS supervised foster care placement.

And

Youth is currently between the ages of 14 – 20 (ineligible at the 21st birthday)

And

Youth is likely to remain in care until the age of 18.

YIT: Eligibility – Closed Case

Youth had an open foster care case after his/her 14th birthday

And

Youth is currently between the ages of 18 – 20 (ineligible at the 21st birthday)

Or

Youth is currently between the ages of 16 – 17 but utilized YIT funding prior to case closure.

YIT: Funding for...

- Education
- Vocational/Employment
- Independent Living Training
- Mentoring & Family Connection
- Housing – there is a lifetime limit of \$1,000 for first month rent & security deposit
- Start Up Goods – there is a lifetime limit of \$1,000 for start up goods
- Medical & Health Needs
- Parenting
- Money Management
- Memberships
- Transportation

YIT Paperwork

- DHS-4713 – Youth Service Profile Report
- DHS-722-O – YIT Eligibility Checklist for Open Case
- DHS-722-C – YIT Eligibility Checklist for Closed Case
- DHS-720 – YIT Exception Request
 - Amount Exception
 - Policy Exception



How to Apply for YIT Funding

- If open case, case worker should apply for funding for youth.
- Youth are awarded by the county where the case is located.

Or

- If closed case , youth should go to local DHS office and ask to speak to a foster care supervisor about YIT.
- Youth are awarded by their county of residence.



Youth In Transition Updates

- DHS-4713 and YIT Eligibility checklists are now completed in SWSS.
- Go to: YIT/IL tab in SWSS – On first page of Child Information module.
- Desk aids are posted on the DHS-Net.

Vehicle Purchases with YIT

- YIT can assist with purchasing a vehicle if:
 - The county YIT allocation allows it and the purchase does not prevent other youth from being served.
 - The vehicle is the primary means of transportation to support the youth's employment, education, or independent living goals.
 - The youth has a valid driver's license.
 - The youth demonstrates the ability to maintain payments associated with owning a vehicle.
 - The vehicle has been inspected by a licensed mechanic.
 - The purchase is not over \$3000.



Vehicle Repairs

- YIT can assist with vehicle repairs if:
 - The vehicle is registered in the youth's name.
 - The vehicle is the primary transportation used by the youth for work, school, or independent living activities.
 - The cost is not over \$900.
 - A certified mechanic provides an estimate that is then approved by DHS prior to the repairs.



YIT and Bulk Purchases

- Bulk purchases, such as gas cards for youth, may be done by local DHS offices.
- When doing bulk purchases:
 - The item must assist the youth in meeting the goal of self-sufficiency.
 - The purchase must be made based on the prior year's expenditures of similar items.
 - The local DHS must compare like products.
 - Any time one of the items is distributed, a DHS-4713 for that individual youth must be completed.

Gifts and Gift Card

- Gifts should only be purchased for youth if the item is a YIT approved expense and it can directly be linked to a specific independent living goal for that youth.
- Gift cards can be purchased, but a DHS-4713 is required for each card given out.
- Gift cards should not exceed \$25 each.



For more information review
FOM 950, The Youth In
Transition (YIT) Program

Office of Record:
Bureau of Child Welfare
Foster Care Policy
August 2011.