



Supporting Emancipated Youth Services Program

Supporting Emancipated Youth Services is a Department program that allows former foster youth who encounter significant hardship upon emancipation to reengage with the Department and Juvenile Court in order to secure essential supports and services that will enable them to learn to live independently as adults.

Who is eligible:

- Former wards over the age of 18 and under the age of 21 whose cases were closed due to emancipation; and who are not presently wards of the court or have a petition for adjudication of wardship pending on his or her behalf.
- **Youth whose cases are closed because they returned home, were adopted, or were appointed a private guardian do not meet the criteria for the program.**

How to Access the Program:

- Youth can request services by calling the DCFS Guardian's Youth Hotline at 866-459-6884.

Eligible Services:

- Intensive Case Management
- Transitional Living Services
- Health Education
- Transportation
- Education Services
- Domestic Violence Prevention and Counseling
- Affordable Housing Assistance
- Budgeting Training
- Parenting Skills Training
- Employment Services
- Medical and Mental Health Services

Youth Responsibility:

Youth participating in Supporting Emancipated Youth Services Program must cooperate with the assigned case manager in developing an agreement identifying the services to be provided and how the youth will increase skills to achieve self sufficiency. The youth must participate in an education or training program of his or her choice earning credits, certification, a license or degree and must participate in employment readiness activities of his or her choice to strengthen employability.

The anticipated time-frame for services in the Supporting Emancipated Youth Services program is until the youth:

- Becomes 21 years of age;
- No longer consents to participate; or
- Achieves the self-sufficiency as identified in the trial discharge agreement