



DCFS Office of Education and Transition Services Life Skills Program

The Life Skills Program is designed to enhance youth independent living skills while promoting economic and social self-sufficiency. Caseworkers utilize the Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment Instruments to establish an individual base line for the life skills needs of each youth. Individualized transition plans, goals and timelines are developed to include youth, caregiver and caseworker involvement. Life skills training can consist of group and/or individual instructions, and may include hands-on training. Youth will receive a \$150 stipend for completing the entire life skills course.

- DCFS must have a legal relationship with the youth.
- Youth must be ages 14 through 20.
- Youth must reside in substitute care where placement includes, but is not limited to, situations such as Foster Home Private (FHP), Home of Relative (HMR), Foster Home Adoptive (FHA), Foster Home Boarding (FHB), or Youth In College (YIC), etc.
- Youth must be assigned to a DCFS or Purchase of Service (POS) caseworker.

Referral Process:

DCFS or POS permanency caseworkers send referral packets to the OETS transition manager. Recommendations for service delivery are accepted. Referral packets should include:

- A completed CFS 912 (Life Skills Referral) form.
- A current social history report (prepared within the past six months). An Integrated Assessment report is acceptable in lieu of a current social history report.
- A current service plan (CFS 497) face sheet, which includes the entire child summary and signature page.
- A completed and scored Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment and the Life Skills Individual Plan consisting of a maximum of ten goals assigned to a life skills provider.
- Consent for Release of Information (CFS 600-3) that allows OETS to share youth's information with the transition agency.

For more information, contact:

Cook Region

Transition Manager
100 W. Randolph, 6th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312-814-5959

Northern Region

Transition Manager
8 E. Galena Blvd., 3rd Fl.
Aurora, Illinois 60506
630-801-3446

Central & Southern Regions

Transition Manager
406 E. Monroe St., Station #22
Springfield, Illinois 62701
217-557-5710



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