

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH
EXTENDED CARE

18-22

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
1 Purpose/ Goals	This program provides support for eligible Youth in completing secondary education and in making a smooth transition to independent living by continuing the case plan and services that were in place when the Youth turned age 18.	Programs established under this subsection, including the current “Partners for Adult Living Program,” are designed to assist Youth in gaining skills and resources for self-sufficiency by supporting youth in safe and stable residences with appropriate adults.	<p>Housing supports programs are designed to provide Youth with financial assistance to establish and maintain an independent, safe and affordable living situation while gaining skills and resources for self-sufficiency, including education. To avoid homelessness and support successful transition to independent adulthood, funding for supported independent living programming may be considered. All Youth participating in this program are required to contribute to their support based on a sliding fee scale.</p> <p>Incidental expense grants provide small monetary awards to pay for minor, one-time or initial expenses incurred by youth during the transition to adulthood.</p>
2 Eligibility	<p>Youth 18-22 Turn 18 while still in DCF Custody</p> <p>Attend an educational or vocational program</p> <p>All placement settings</p> <p>voluntarily consent to participate in the program and sign a Voluntary Services Agreement</p>	<p>Youth 18-22 turned 18 while in custody/or in custody ≥ 5 years between 10-18</p> <p>Seeking to live within a home-like environment with a supportive adult Entry--Any time between 18-21.5 agree to live in a home-like environment with a supportive, appropriate and approved adult partner;</p> <p>actively pursue the completion of a secondary education and/or actively pursue vocational, employment or post-secondary educational goals;</p>	<p>Youth 18-22 Turned 18 while in custody/ or in custody ≥ 5 years between 10-18</p> <p>actively pursue secondary, vocational, or post-secondary educational or employment goals; and,</p> <p>voluntarily consent to participate in the program and, if the youth will receive housing supports, sign a Voluntary Services Agreement.</p>

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
Eligibility continued		and voluntarily consent to participate in the program and sign a Voluntary Services Agreement. Full and part-time students and/or Working or actively seeking work	
3 To remain eligible	Continue to attend an educational or vocational program by maintaining school attendance and passing grades that will allow for graduation as set forth in the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement; or If the educational vocational program has been completed, the Youth may be involved in a transition plan consistent with <i>productive time</i> requirements in section 7001.2 for a period not to exceed 6 months.	To remain eligible the Youth shall participate in 40 hours per week of productive time, including one or more of the following activities, based on the individual Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement:	To remain eligible the Youth shall participate in 40 hours per week of productive time, including one or more of the following activities, based on the individual Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement
4 Productive time requirements	If the Youth has completed the educational or vocational program and continues in the transition phase of the program, the Youth shall participate in 40 hours per week of productive time, including one or more of the following activities, based on the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-secondary education 2. Employment 3. Community involvement 4. Job search 5. Therapeutic activities or; 6. Other activities articulated in the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secondary education (including homework and extra-curricular activities); 2. Post-secondary education; 3. Employment; 4. Community involvement; 5. Job search; 6. Therapeutic activities; or 7. Other activities articulated in the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement. <p>A Youth who does not have a high school diploma or GED will be strongly encouraged to enroll and productively participate, through regular attendance and maintaining passing grades, in an educational program leading to high school diploma or GED.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secondary education (including homework and extra-curricular activities); 2. Vocational education; 3. Post-secondary education; 4. Employment; 5. Community involvement; 6. Job search; 7. Therapeutic activities 8. Other activities articulated in the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement. <p>A Youth who does not have a high school diploma or GED will be strongly encouraged to enroll and productively participate, through regular attendance and maintaining passing grades, in an educational program leading to</p>

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
			high school diploma or GED.
5. Support for Living Arrangements	DCF shall provide financial and case management support for approved placement in licensed foster care, approved independent living, or licensed residential care, as outlined in the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement	DCF shall approve the adult living partner as described in 7002.5 and 7002.6 of the rules and provide financial support for the placement through direct payment to the adult partner.	Work is required based on the youth's plan and budget contained in the voluntary services agreement
6. Reimbursement for Living Arrangements	DCF shall provide substitute care payments for the Youth in approved living arrangements at the same rate paid before the Youth reached age 18.	<p>DCF shall reimburse the approved adult partner for room and board at the current base foster care established per diem. In instances where a foster parent served the youth before the 18th birthday, DCF may negotiate a higher rate up to the amount paid prior to the 18th birthday, based upon the circumstances of the youth and the foster parent. These rates shall be adjusted annually based on the index used to adjust other reimbursement rates paid to DCF Family Services foster parents.</p> <p>If the Youth is temporarily absent from the home, through no fault of the adult partner, reimbursement may continue at the discretion of the Commissioner or designee for up to 10 days after the Youth has left the home, pending the Youth's return.</p>	N/A
7 Payment	Current rate	See #6	Decreasing subsidy over time
8 Individual Contribution	If a Youth receiving services under this section is employed, the Youth shall be required to contribute to the cost of such services based on a sliding fee scale,	If a Youth receiving services under this section is employed, the Youth shall be required to contribute to the cost of such services based on a	Based on youth's budget in the Voluntary Services Agreement

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
	unless the youth meets the criteria for an exception based on a disability or other good cause.	sliding scale unless the youth meets the criteria for an exception based on a disability or other good cause.	
9 Case Management Services Case Status	DCF open and assigned—Family Services case (*open on SSMIS-counts on workload)	Open and assigned to YDP. <u>Case must be closed on SSMIS</u> . Assigned Youth Development Coordinator shall manage the case and with the youth and adult partner development and sign the voluntary services agreement.	Open and assigned YDP <u>DCF case closed</u> DCF shall refer the youth for an assigned Youth Development Coordinator through the Youth Development Program. Youth 18 and older may also self refer to the Youth Development Program for case management and housing supports. The Youth, in conjunction with the Youth Development Coordinator, shall develop and enter into a Voluntary Services Agreement that includes budgeting of the Youth’s current and future financial resources. The Youth Development Coordinator shall also assist the youth in accessing other community resources as needed, including housing, education and training supports, life skills education, employment, and mental health, physical health, and substance abuse services.
10 Who fosters the lifelong relationship	Existing placements-DCF social worker	Family Services works with the youth, adult partner and YDC using the permanency pact tool to prepare the relationship.	Youth
11 Family Services Responsibilities	-Responsible for coordinating case planning and services -Calls youth at least monthly -Reviews plan at least every six months -Continues to support caregiver in coordination with youth development	-Approval of adult partner living arrangement -Refers young adult for services & prepares for transition - Transfers relevant information to Youth Development Coordinator - Processes payment	-Refers young adult for services & prepares for transition -Transfers relevant information to Youth Development Coordinator -Approve and process payments

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18 th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
	coordinator -Processes reimbursement		
12 Youth Development Coordinator	Works with Youth's DCF social worker, supportive adults to create and monitor plan for life skills and self-sufficiency	Works with youth and supportive adults to create and monitor plan for life skills and self-sufficiency	Prepare youth with housing assistance in addition to providing the array of youth development program services.
13 Residential Facility or Community – Based Residential Programming (cont.)	<p>An individual who turns 18 while in DCF custody may continue in a residential care setting or a supported community based program but only if the placement occurred prior to the individual reaching age 18.</p> <p>The individual may remain in the residential care or community based residential setting beyond his or her 18th birthday for only such time as is needed for the individual complete a plan of treatment sufficient to make a smooth transition to community living for a period not to exceed six months.</p> <p>No residential facility of community-based residential programming established after the individual turns 18 is eligible for reimbursement under this section.</p>	NA	NA

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
15 Discharge or Changed Circumstances	<p>The Youth may elect to withdraw from a secondary education program at any time.</p> <p>When the Youth <i>is not</i> meeting the terms of the Voluntary Services Agreement, the DCF social worker shall promptly convene a meeting of all signers of the Voluntary Services Agreement to determine if the agreement can 1)continue as written, 2) needs modification or, 3) should be terminated</p>	<p>The Youth may elect to withdraw from an adult living program at any time.</p> <p>When there are changes in circumstances rendering the youth or adult partner ineligible, or when the youth or adult partner is not meeting the terms of the Voluntary Services Agreement, the Youth Development Coordinator shall promptly convene a meeting of all signers of the Voluntary Services Agreement to determine if the agreement can, 1) continue as written, 2) needs modification, or 3) should be terminated.</p> <p>If termination is necessary based on the actions or decisions of the youth or adult partner, DCF shall provide verbal and written notice to the youth and adult partner, specifying when support ends, why the agreement is terminated, what other support options may be available to the youth, including any appeal rights that may be available to the Youth as set forth in this rule at section 7005.</p>	<p>The Youth may elect to withdraw from an independent housing program at any time.</p> <p>When there are changes in circumstances rendering the Youth ineligible, or when the youth is not meeting the terms of the voluntary services agreement, the Youth Development Coordinator shall promptly convene a meeting of all signers of the Voluntary Services Agreement to determine if the agreement can 1) continue as written, 2) needs modification, or 3) should be terminated.</p>
16 Re-Entry into Program	<p>Youth who withdraw or are terminated from a program established under this section may apply for re-entry. Re-entry is subject to the eligibility criteria of 7001.1; however, some or all of these criteria may be waived at the discretion of the Commissioner or designee. A Youth who withdraws or is terminated from this program may be eligible for other services to transition-age Youth, as outlined in these regulations.</p>	<p>Youth who withdraw or are terminated from an adult living program established under this section may apply for re-entry. Re-entry is subject to the eligibility criteria of 7002.2; however, some or all of these criteria may be waived at the discretion of the Commissioner or designee. A Youth who withdraws or is terminated from this program may be eligible for other services to transition-age Youth, as outlined in these regulations.</p>	<p>Youth who withdraw or are terminated from a housing support program established under this section may apply for re-entry. Re-entry is subject to the eligibility criteria of 7003.2; however, some or all of these criteria may be waived at the discretion of the Commissioner or designee. A Youth who withdraws or is terminated from this program may be eligible for other services to transition-age Youth, as outlined in these regulations</p>

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
17 Approval of Living Situation	Licensing rules for that category of placement (e.g. residential, foster home)	<p>A) To be approved as an adult partner, the proposed individual must be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 25 years old, 2. Committed to supporting the Youth, 3. Either be a licensed foster parent in Vermont or meet the background screening requirements of this subsection, and 4. Must sign the Youth's Voluntary Services Agreement and agree to be bound by its terms. <p>B) If the proposed adult partner is not a licensed foster parent, the adult partner must provide written authorization for the Department to conduct background screenings, including <u>authorization</u> to search the following:</p> <p><u>the Vermont Child Abuse and Neglect Registry;</u></p> <p><u>the Vermont Adult Abuse Registry;</u></p> <p><u>the Vermont Crime Information Center's registry;</u> and.</p> <p><u>the National Criminal Information Center's registry.</u></p> <p>C) Individuals who have the following are ineligible for approval as an adult living partner:</p> <p>Any criminal conviction for child abuse or neglect, domestic abuse, a crime against children (including child pornography), or a crime involving</p>	NA

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18 th Birthday While in DCF custody:	(B) Adult Living Program:	(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:
Approval of Living Situation continued		<p>violence;</p> <p>Any felony criminal conviction for a drug-related offense within the past 5 years;</p> <p>An entry in any child abuse and neglect registry or the Vermont adult abuse registry; or</p> <p>A judicial finding of abuse or neglect has been made against him or her.</p> <p>The Department may refuse to support other living arrangements that appear to be exploitative, or otherwise inappropriate for the Youth at AHS discretion.</p> <p>Exceptions: The Commissioner or his designee, in an individual case and in his or her sole discretion, may grant an exception to any of the adult partner approval criteria in subsection 7002.5(A). Such exceptions may be granted in unique and exceptional circumstances where the literal application of the criteria would cause unnecessary hardship and the intent of the criteria can otherwise be achieved through alternate means.</p>	
18 Appeal Rights Appeal Rights	Decisions appealable under this rule are: initial eligibility determinations; reduction of services or programming; exceptions; and terminations.	(Apply to this category as well)	Apply to this category as well

SERVICES TO TRANSITION-AGED YOUTH

EXTENDED CARE

	<p align="center">(A) Completion of Secondary Education for Youth who reach their 18th Birthday While in DCF custody:</p>	<p align="center">(B) Adult Living Program:</p>	<p align="center">(C) Housing Support Program and Incidental Living Grants:</p>
<p>continued</p>	<p>Every attempt should be made to initially resolve disputes with the program manager for the Youth Development Program. To the extent such decisions remain unresolved, appeals shall be made orally or in writing to the Deputy Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families Family Services division or designee. The Deputy Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families Family Services division or designee shall resolve disputes as soon as possible in exigent circumstances, but in no instance shall the review period exceed three weeks. After this appeal process has been exhausted, a Youth or his or her representative may appeal to the Human Services Board pursuant to 3 V.S.A. Sec. 3091 and any rules promulgated there under.</p>		