 Department of Children & Family Services <i>Building a Stronger Louisiana</i>	Division/Section	Child Welfare
	Chapter No./Name	6 - Foster Care (FC)
	Part No./Name	5 - Placement in Certified Family Foster Homes and Other Programs
	Section No./Name	Placement in Certified Family Foster Homes and Other Programs
	Document No./Name	6-575 Placement in Job Corps or Youth Challenge Program (YCP)
	Effective Date	January 1, 2015

I. STATEMENT OF POLICY

* It is the policy of the Department of Children and Family Services to encourage youth needing more guidance in their development to enroll in a more structured environment to assist them in their transition to adulthood. Job Corps and Youth Challenge Program (YCP) are two such programs. **

II. PROCEDURES

* A. JOB CORPS

Job Corps is a residential educational and training program that helps youth learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find a good job. Career training is offered by the program in over 100 occupational areas. Job Corps' educational program consists of GED attainment, college preparatory courses, and English proficiency courses. The program also offers independent living skills, employment skills, and social skills to assist in their transition to adulthood.

Eligibility Criteria include:

- Youth must be at least 16 years of age;
- Youth must be a US citizen or legal resident; and
- Meet low income requirements.


If a youth is interested in Job Corps, the case manager initiates the enrollment process by calling 1-800-733-JOBS (1-800-733-5627). If a child is placed with Job Corps, the authorization code is 200 260.

B. YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM (YCP)

The Louisiana National Guard YCP is an alternative educational program which offers youth an opportunity to excel outside of a traditional school setting and learn self-discipline, leadership, and responsibility while working to obtain a high school equivalency diploma. The program teaches core academics and life skills, and encourages youth to become productive and accomplished in their chosen path.

YCP is a 17 month program which consists of two phases. During the five month Residential Phase, youth live onsite at one of three locations:

- Camp Minden near Shreveport;
- Camp Beauregard near Alexandria; or

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- The Gillis W. Long Center near Baton Rouge.

During this phase, youth attend school, receive individual counseling, and are supervised 24 hours a day. After graduation, youth return to the community and enter the 12 month Post Residential Phase. During this phase, YCP case managers and community mentors continue to assist youth in their educational plans, job training, finding employment, or enlist in the military.

Eligibility Requirements for YCP:

- Youth must be 16 or 17 years old;
- Youth must be a legal citizen and a Louisiana resident; and
- Youth should have a strong desire to complete the program.

If a youth is interested in the program, the case manager assists the youth in completing an application from the YCP website (www.langycp.com) and coordinating the youth's availability for an interview. A list of interview locations for each YCP class is also located on the website. If the youth is placed at YCP, the authorization code is 200 260. **

III. FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS

* There are no forms associated with this policy. **

IV. REFERENCES

* [Welcome to Job Corps](http://www.langycp.com)
<http://www.langycp.com>**