

Services Available Under TN DCS Independent Living: Tip Sheet

1. For Custodial Youth ages 14-19 (Placed in a community setting):

- Independent Living (IL) Wrap Services
- Life Skills Instruction
- Education and Training Voucher (ETV) and Bright Futures Scholarship for youth ages 16-19 attending postsecondary program

2. For Custodial Youth ages 14-19 (Placed in a secure facility):

- Life Skills Instruction
- Bright Futures Scholarship for youth ages 16-19 attending a post-secondary program

3. For Young Adults 18-21 who aged out of custody at age 18 or older and who are completing high school, HiSET, enrolled in a post-secondary or vocational education institution, employed, or enrolled in a program that leads to employment (not open to youth who exited custody in a secure facility at age 18 or older):

- Foster Care Placement Services for young adults who wish to stay in a foster home OR an Independent Living Allowance (ILA) for young adults who wish to live independently.
- Case Management Services and Court Review
- Life Skills Instruction
- Independent Living Wrap Services
- Education and Training Voucher: up to \$2,500 semester/ up to \$5,000 per year (only if enrolled in a postsecondary or vocational education institution)

4. For Young Adults 18-21 who aged out of custody at age 18 or older and are “Unable to Attend School or Work” due to Serious Health Issues

- Foster Care Placement Services OR an Independent Living Allowance for young adults who wish to live independently.
- Case Management Services and Court Review
- Life Skills Instruction
- Independent Living Wrap Services

5. Limited DCS Service Options (ETV & Bright Futures Scholarships):

Education and Training Voucher and limited IL Wrap only:

- Youth who exit state custody at age 16 or older to adoption or subsidized permanent guardianship **Education and Training Voucher (ETV) only:**
- Youth 21-23

Bright Futures Scholarship only: (up to \$2,500/semester or \$5,000/year, available up to age 24)

- Youth who exited custody to permanency at age 16 or older
- Youth who have exited state custody from a Youth Development Center (YDC) or detention after age 16
- Youth who are in a YDC or detention who are attending a post-secondary program
- Youth who lose eligibility for Education and Training Vouchers

6. Youth Villages LifeSet Program

- Available to eligible youth and young adults ages 16 up to 23
- Young adults who are actively enrolled in extension of foster care (EFC) services;
- Young adults who are emancipated to adulthood from state custody at or after their eighteenth (18th) birthday, who were in foster care or a congregate care placement at their eighteenth (18th) birthday;
- Young adults who have been adopted;
- Youth who are 16 or older currently or previously placed in a Youth Development Center (YDC);
- Young adults who are currently or were previously in state custody and in a foster care or congregate care placement at ages sixteen or older (16); or
- Young adults who meet one or more of the eligibility criteria above and have previously received YVLifeSet and/or EFC services.

7. Jim Casey Resource Centers (Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga)

- Youth in DCS custody ages 14-19, or
- Youth who exited DCS custody at or after 14 years of age, ages 14-26

**All Youth in DCS custody should have an IL Plan (14-16) or a Transition Plan (17+) regardless of permanency goals, placement or adjudication.
Questions about TN DCS Independent Living? Call 844-887-7277**

