



## Foster Youth Transition Checklist

The following questions should be considered before a youth's foster care case is closed in the Dependency Court. Please make sure that each item is addressed so that the youth's transition out of the foster care system is as successful as possible. **Please contact Derric Johnson or Vincent D'Averso at (213) 368-6010 with any questions.**

### Contacts

1. Does the youth have the contact information for their CSW and Minor's Attorney?
2. Does the youth have the contact information for agencies that may be able to provide future assistance?

### Independent Living Program

3. Has the Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) been completed and reviewed with the client to make sure it reflects their interests and goals?
4. Has the client received the contact information for their Transition Coordinator (formerly known as ILP Coordinator)?  
\*Especially important for KinGap youth who may not have a CSW to provide ILP information.
5. Is the client aware of the services the Independent Living Program can provide?
6. Has the client completed the ILP classes?

### Health

7. Does the youth have any current medical or mental health needs? If there is a Medi-Cal or mental health issue, has the youth begun the application process to receive SSI benefits once the case is closed?



8. Does the youth need a referral to a health professional?
9. Is the youth aware that their Medi-Cal can be extended until they are 21?
10. Has the annual Medi-Cal re-determination process been explained to the youth?
11. Does the youth understand the process to appeal Medi-Cal denials?
12. Have you received a Medi-Cal card prior to closing the Dependency case?
13. Does the youth know who to call if he/she has Medi-Cal issues?

#### Education

14. Will the youth receive a high school diploma or the equivalent before or after the case is closed?
15. If the youth has not received a high school diploma or the equivalent is there a plan for them to finish (i.e. adult school or community college)?
16. If the youth is planning to attend a community college, have they been given the contact information of the Foster Youth Liaison and the Academic Counselor at the school they plan to attend?
17. Does the youth know about the financial aid available for post-secondary education (i.e. FAFSA, Board of Governor's Grant, Cal Grant, scholarships, etc.)?
18. Has the youth been issued a letter confirming their dependency/wardship?
  - a. Section 31-236(i)(4)(F) of the Manual of Policies and Procedures requires that a youth be provided "a proof of county dependency status".
  - b. A letter of verification stating that the youth was a ward of the court until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday may be required by educational programs in order to consider the youth an independent under federal and/or state law. It may also be used to verify eligibility for programs and services for former foster youth.



- c. The verification letter should include the following information:
- i. Youth Name
  - ii. Date of Birth
  - iii. Current Mailing Address and ILP Contact Number
  - iv. County Identification Number (aid payment number used to identify a youth in out-of-home care) or Probation Identification Number
  - v. Dependency/Wardship Start Date
  - vi. Dependency/Wardship Termination End Date (Court Date)

#### Housing

19. Does the youth have housing set up for after they exit care?
20. Does the youth have resources for temporary housing?
21. Has the youth been referred to a housing program (THP, THP+, ILP rent assistance, apartment start up funds, etc.)?

#### Credit/Finances

22. Has the youth received a credit report? Has the credit report been reviewed with the youth to identify inappropriate activity?  
\*Assembly Bill 2985 (Maze) requires that a youth's credit report be reviewed annually beginning at the age of 16.
23. If identity theft is suspected, has the youth been referred to credit counseling and investigative services?
24. Does the youth have any bills that are in collection?





### Legal Issues

25. Does the youth have any tickets or warrants?
26. Is the youth interested in having their juvenile records sealed (Dependency or Delinquency)?
  - a. Has your client committed any criminal offenses prior to his/her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday? If so, have you discussed sealing records?
27. Does the youth have a green card (in hand)? If not, the minor's case should not be closed until SIJS has been applied for and the citizenship process has begun for the youth.

### Sibling Visitation

28. Does your client have any siblings and is he/she interested in establishing their visitation rights?
29. Does your client need a sibling visitation order to maintain contact with siblings?



## Resources for Transitioning Youth

- **The Alliance for Children's Rights**
  - 3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 550 Los Angeles, CA 90010
  - (213) 368-6010
  - [www.kids-alliance.org](http://www.kids-alliance.org)
- **Public Counsel**
  - 610 South Ardmore Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90005
  - (213) 385-2977
- **Foster Youth Information Line**
  - (800) 400-9925
- **Transition Resource Centers**
  - Metroplex Center at 3530 Wilshire Blvd. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90010, telephone number is (213)321-0100
  - Mt. San Antonio College Transition Center at 1100 N. Grand, Walnut, CA 91789, telephone numbers are (909) 594-5273/595-4683
  - Pasadena Alumni Support Center (operated by Casey Family Programs) at 1110 East Green Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Pasadena, CA 91106, telephone number is (626) 296-2641
  - Transition Resource Center at 10750 Laurel Ave., Whittier, CA 90605, telephone number is (562) 941-1219
  - Antelope Valley Transition Resource Center at 1420 W. Avenue I, Lancaster, CA 93534, telephone number is (661) 726-4128
  - Santa Clarita Transition Resource Center at 24269 San Fernando Rd., New Hall, CA 91321, telephone number is (661) 254-0070
- **Independent Living Program**
  - Emancipation Program Staff (213) 351-0100/0101
  - [www.ilponline.org](http://www.ilponline.org)
- **Department of Public Social Services (Medical Re-Determination)**
  - (213)351-7725
- **Housing**
  - Robert Goldberg, Housing Resource Specialist, (213) 351-0184
  - DCFS Transitional Housing Program (213) 351-0190/0100
- **Free Credit Report**
  - 1 (877) 322-8228
  - [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)

