



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Independent Living Services and the National Youth in Transition Database

*Putting people first, with the goal of helping all Michiganders lead healthier
and more productive lives, no matter their stage in life.*

Chafee Foster Care Independence Program

- Each state receives funding from the federal Chafee Foster Care Independence Program to identify and make available independent living services to youth ages 14 to 21 who are likely to remain in foster care until at least age 18.
- States are required to collect data to evaluate the services youth are provided and the outcomes of youth who have transitioned from foster care.
- All states report to the National Youth in Transition Database on services and outcome data that is collected.

Youth in Transition (YIT)

- Michigan has named our Chafee Foster Care Independence Program “Youth in Transition”, or YIT.
- Part of Michigan’s funding is forwarded to local county child welfare offices to be used for youth’s individual needs.
- Education and Youth Services also uses funds for state level contracts to provide services to youth.

What can YIT be used for?

Education-Pre College

- Books, supplies, computer
- Tuition, tutoring, internships
- ACT/SAT testing
- GED Preparation/Testing
- Extracurricular activities/Sports/Clubs
- Senior Pictures/Class Rings/Senior Dues/Yearbooks

Vocational/Employment

- Career exploration/Job Placement/Retention
- Transportation
- Uniforms/Fees/Tools

Independent Living Skills Training

Mentoring & Family Connection

Housing

- Lifetime Limit of \$1,500 for first month's rent/security deposit (For youth age 18 and older)

Start-Up Goods

- Lifetime limit of \$1,000 for start-up goods (For youth age 18 and older) with additional \$500 for baby related items

Medical & Health Needs

Parenting & Money Management

- Classes, trainings, etc.
- Childcare, not covered by FIP

Transportation

- For education and/or employment goals
- Driver's training
- Vehicle Purchase up to lifetime limit \$5,000
- Vehicle Repair up to lifetime limit \$900
- Vehicle Insurance up to lifetime limit 6 months
- Bus Cards

Laptop/Desktop/Tablet

- Lifetime limit \$1,500

Items not covered by YIT funds:

- Items not covered by YIT funds:
 - Entertainment appliances or expenses; televisions, video games, stereos, concert tickets.
 - Senior trips.
 - Special recognition gifts unless the “gift” is an allowable expenditure that helps the youth meet his or her goals.
 - Vacation travel.
 - Pageant and fashion shows.
 - Graduation parties or gifts.
 - Birthday party or wedding expenses.
 - Court costs, probation fines, parking/speeding tickets.
 - Matching funds for AmeriCorps members.
 - Services that can be funded through alternative sources such as school districts or placement agencies.

National Youth In Transition Database (NYTD)

- Michigan collects data twice a year to measure the state's success in preparing youth for the transition from foster care to independent living.
- Snap shots of the data are provided to assist the state in identifying areas of strength and gaps in services provided.
- Each year is either a baseline or follow up survey year. Seventeen year old youth who are in the baseline survey group are asked to complete the survey at 19 and 21 years of age.
- The survey group is asked to provide information about their experiences in areas of housing, education, financial support, employment, relationships and health.

NYTD Elements

Academic Support	Budget & Financial Management	Career Preparation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Counseling • Educational Resource Assistance • GED Preparation • Secondary Literacy Training • Secondary Study Skills Training • Tutoring/Help with Homework • Vital Documents Attainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balancing a Checkbook • Consumer Awareness/Smart Shopping Skills • Financial Asset Conversation • Living Within a Budget • Opening/Using a Checking/Savings Account • Tax Form Completion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Exploration/Planning • Interview Skills Development • Job Application Completion Assistance • Job Referrals • Job Retention • Job Seeking/Job Placement Support • Job Shadowing • Resume Writing • Vital Documents Attainment • Vocational/Career Assessment

Employment Programs & Vocational Training	Family Support & Healthy Relationship Education	Financial Assistance - Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprentice/Intern/Volunteer • Employment Program • Vocational Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic/Family Violence Prevention • Healthy Relationship Ed/Info • Interpersonal Skill Development • Parenting Skills and Education • Partner Communication • Personal/Emotional Support • Responsible Fatherhood Information • Self Advocacy Skill Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational Tests (GED/ACT/SAT) Payment • Textbooks/Other Supplies Purchased • Tuition Assistance/Scholarships • Tutoring Payment

Financial Assistance - Other	Financial Assistance- Room/Board	Health Education/Risk Prevention
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus Passes • Car Insurance • Car Maintenance/Repair • Clothing • Document/Test Fees • Groceries • Misc Expenses • Personal Effects • Phone Bill • Tools/Supplies for Employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent Deposit • Start-Up Expenses • Utilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counsel on health care designee • First Aid • Health Care Resources/Insurance • HIV/STI/AIDS Prevention • Hygiene • Maintaining Personal Medical Records • Medical/Dental Care Benefits • Nutrition/Fitness/Exercise • Pre/Postnatal Care • Sex Education • Substance Abuse Prevention/Intervention

NYTD Elements (Cont.)

Housing Education & Home Management Training	Mentoring	Post-Secondary Academic Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address Changes • Community Resource Connections • Food Preparation • Home Maintenance/Repairs-Basic • Housing Location/Maintenance • Landlord Complaint Assistance • Laundry/Housekeeping • Meal Planning/Grocery Shopping • Rental Application Completion • Security Deposits/Utilities • Tenants Rights/Responsibilities • Vital Documents Attainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT/SAT Test Preparation • College Tour • College Tutoring • ETV Application Support • Fin Aid & Scholarship App Support • Financial Aid/Scholarship Counseling • Post-Sec Application Support • Vital Documents Attainment

Supervised Independent Living	Youth Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervised Living Arrangement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employed • Engaged in Community Activities • Expecting/Parenting • Pursuing Education • Stable Housing

Data Highlights from 2014 NYTD Report

- The services reported as having been provided most to youth in 2014 were:
 - Independent Living Needs Assessment (78%)
 - Academic Support (63%)
 - Housing Education and Home Management (46%)
 - Health Education and Risk Prevention (40%)
 - Supervised Independent Living (27%)
 - Budget and Financial Management (26%)
- The number of services reported as being received by youth:
 - 31% received 1 or 2 services
 - 39% received 3 or 4 services
 - 30% received 5 or more services

We Need Your Help

- What services have you found helpful?
- What gaps are you aware of?
- What can we do so youth in the survey group understand the survey is important to the department evaluating services we provide?
- What can we do to increase survey participation?