

Contact Us

CENTRAL OFFICE

DIRECTOR

Molly O'Neil: molly.oneil@mass.gov

MANAGER

Stephanie Cassano:
stephanie.cassano@mass.gov

ETV Supervisor

Seth Riker: seth.riker@mass.gov

Housing Support

youth.housing@mass.gov

Employment Support

youth.employment@mass.gov

Educational or Other Support

youth.support@mass.gov

or

Contact your DCF area office Adolescent
Outreach worker for additional information.



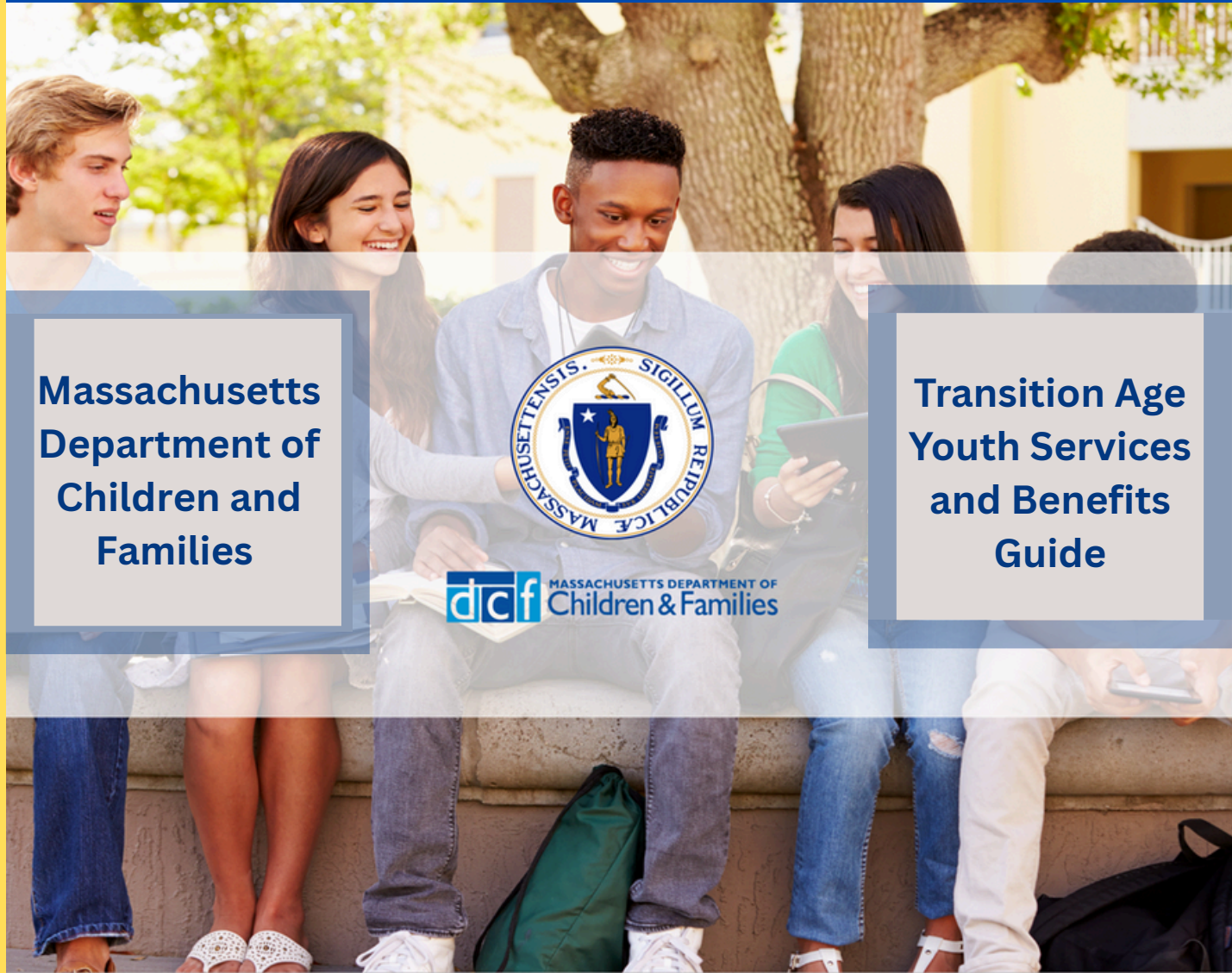
Scan for more information on [Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov)

Adolescent & Young Adult Services
General Inbox:
youth.support@mass.gov

Massachusetts Department of Children and Families



Transition Age Youth Services and Benefits Guide



Adolescent & Young Adult Services

Adolescent Outreach Program

The Adolescent Outreach Program is here to support youth or young adults to build the future they envision by offering individualized services and practical resources during their transition to independent life .

Services for youth ages 16-18 in foster care settings and from 18-23 in voluntary extended foster care:

- Obtaining employment and internships
- Developing housing plan
- Financial assistance with a variety of needs
- Youth Readiness Assessment Tool
- Independent living skills development
- Vocational training or college applications
- Budgeting and building credit
- Connecting with Mass Health support
- Building positive lifelong connections with responsible adults

Support for young adults who have aged out of foster care at 18:

- Assisting with FAFSA and ETV applications, completing college financial assistance and vocational training applications
- Help with accessing services and resources/aftercare

Young Adult Support Payments (YASP):

- Provided to young adults who are in compliance with their VPA and require monthly visits from their social worker.
- Living in a supervised independent living setting (i.e., college dorm, apartment, former foster home, or renting a space)

Life Skills Support Program

Provides funds for youth ages 14-23 in placement to support positive youth development and achieve their self-sufficiency goals. Youth can utilize funds for educational technology, drivers' education, senior expenses, interview attire, gym membership, etc.

Discharge Support Program

Provides financial and aftercare support to youth discharging from DCF placement at or after age 18, including funding toward first and last month's rent, security deposit, as well as support with budgeting, home management, and employment.

Hybrid Life Skills Training

(formerly PAYA – Preparing Adolescents for Young Adulthood)

Life skills curriculum is now available online through Life Skills Reimagined to assist youth in care ages 14-22 with interactive learning about money management, personal care, job seeking, healthy relationships, housing, and other essential needs. Youth complete modules online, a worksheet with adult supporter, and received a \$75 stipend per module and an additional \$150 once all modules are completed.



College and Vocational Training Support

The Department provides financial assistance for youth in college or vocational schools that includes Tuition and Fee Waivers, Foster Child Grant, Education Training Vouchers, and the William Warren Scholarship Program.

For eligibility requirements and information, scan this QR code:



Employment Support

- DCF internship program – Gain practical skills to build your careers and resumes. Compensation \$20/hr. for maximum of 80 hours. For internship forms, email youth.employment@mass.gov
- Funding for non FAFSA eligible licensure and certification programs
- Connect with MassAbility. Must be eligible for SSI or SSDI. Services include assistive technology, career services, and independent living resources

Building Lifelong Connections

- MassNFCA: A resource for community and connection for current and former foster youth www.massnfca.org
- Youth Advisory Boards: Regionally based and supported by a network of adults who believe in the power of youth-led advocacy, social connection, and networking.

Housing Support

DCF's Housing Coordinator supports youth in their transition to independent living and obtaining stable permanent housing. We provide housing consults, referrals to community housing providers/TAY FYI and YTTSP housing vouchers.