

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services	Effective Date: February 1, 2019
	Section 2 : Eligibility for Older Youth Services (OYS)	Version: 4

STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) has determined the following youth meet the eligibility requirements for Older Youth Services (formerly known as Chafee Independent Living or IL):

1. Youth age **16 up to the day before the youth's 23rd birthday who are in foster care**¹ as a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) or Juvenile Delinquent/Juvenile Status (JD/JS). Referral for Older Youth Services (OYS) is based on the type of placement of the youth (see separate policy, [11.01 Older Youth Services](#));
2. Youth age **18 up to the day before the youth's 23rd birthday who were formerly in foster care** for a minimum of six (6) months as a CHINS or JD/JS after age 16 under the supervision of DCS and were a ward or in the custody of another state if there is a verification of wardship and all eligibility criteria is met from the state of jurisdiction; or
3. Youth age **16 up to the day before the youth's 23rd birthday who were formerly in foster care** for a minimum of six (6) months and have obtained guardianship or adoption on or after the youth's 16th birthday.

Note: Youth who meet eligibility requirements number two (2) and three (3) above are eligible for Voluntary OYS. See separate policy, [11.07 Voluntary Older Youth Services](#).

Code References

[42 USC 677 John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood](#)

PROCEDURE

The Family Case Manager (FCM) or Collaborative Care Case Manager (3CM) will:

1. Determine whether eligible youth should be referred for OYS based on the type of placement;
2. Determine eligibility for all CHINS and JD/JS youth age 16 to 23 in foster care and youth previously in foster care; and
3. Determine eligibility for youth age 16 to 23 in foster care through an Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC) when requested.

¹ Foster care is defined as 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents/guardians/custodians and for whom the State agency has placement and care responsibility. Facilities that are outside the scope of foster care include, but are not limited to: detention facilities; psychiatric hospital acute care; forestry camps; or facilities that are primarily for the detention for children who are adjudicated delinquents.

PRACTICE GUIDANCE

Placement Type Determines Eligibility for John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (the Chafee Program) Funding

The Chafee Program funding provides OYS for CHINS and JD/JS youth in foster care, Collaborative Care, relative foster care, or other court approved placements. The Chafee Program funding also provides OYS for youth formerly in out-of-home care who are currently on a Trial Home Visit (THV) with his or her parent, guardian, or custodian and remain under the jurisdiction of the court and remain in an open CHINS or JD/JS case.

FORMS AND TOOLS

1. [OYS Services Referral](#) – Available in KidTraks Referral Wizard
2. [OYS Service Standards](#)

RELATED INFORMATION

N/A