



L.A. OPPORTUNITY YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

Paid Job Training for Foster Youth with IEPs or 504 Plans
March 15, 2022 | 10 am - 11:30 am

Access the recording [here](#)

Access the presentation slides [here](#)

Brought to you by:

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We appreciate your feedback and ideas for future topics, please complete the [evaluation](#) for this presentation [here](#).

Questions and Answers

- How many k-12 foster students have IEPs in LA County?
We identified at least 1,000 DCFS youth between the ages of 16-21 in 290 zip codes
- How can this information be shared?
Share and promote the program among your networks of foster youth serving agencies/programs. We have been sharing with/presenting to social workers, attorneys, community based organizations, Foster Family Agencies, Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program providers, housing providers, K-12 school district partners, community college partners (NextUp/CAYFES/Guardian Scholars/EOPS), Independent Living Program staff, school based social workers and education liaisons. [Flyer](#)
- Are these services provided to Foster Youth in the Bay area counties?
Yes, DOR offers these services statewide, although they may not be as closely linked with their local child welfare agency and may have different processes



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- How is the youth referred to DOR? It is my understanding that DOR referral needs to be requested as it is not automatically made by the school district.
Referring yourself or someone else to DOR is easy!
 - Visit [DOR - How to Apply](#) for more information.
 - To apply for this program, on behalf of a Los Angeles County DCFS youth, complete the [Universal Referral Form](#) and email it to ilp.jobs@dcfs.lacounty.gov.
- When the youth is 18, do they hold their own Educational Rights since they can sign off on their IEP?
Yes, when a youth reaches 18 years of age, they typically hold their own educational rights (EC §§ 49061(a), 56041.5), unless the youth chooses not to make their own educational decisions or has been deemed by the court to be incompetent to do so.
- Do students need to have an open DCFS case to be referred?
For this program, yes. In general, for DOR services, no.
- What level of school do youth need to be enrolled in and can they be enrolled part-time?
They can be enrolled part-time and generally, a “level” or grade of school isn’t designated, it’s based on age, which is between 16 and up to the day before the 22nd birthday. This usually is high school age and sometimes college.
- Who can complete the Universal Referral Form to make this referral?
The youth, a caregiver, advocate, attorney, life skills case manager, AJCC case manager, housing case manager, social worker, school counselor, etc. We (DCFS) will confirm receipt, verify eligibility and let you know if we are able to process the referral.
 - Can a WIOA Title 1 Case Manager complete this form? Yes, if you know this is a DCFS youth. If you’re not sure, use the [DR 222 Application](#).
- If a youth is 18+ and had an IEP or 504 plan in High School, are they still eligible?
Yes, DOR can discuss post-secondary options with them and explore career pathways and paid work experience
- What if they don't have a case but have a 504 or IEP, but they go to a youth employment agency like Youth Source or AYE?
They may still be eligible for Vocational Rehabilitation Services through DOR. You can refer them yourself or send them to an AJCC who can refer them, both can [apply here](#).



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- Do you assist homeless youth?
Yes, being housed is not a requirement for participation
- Do students who are receiving Certificates of Completion qualify?
Yes, typically students who are working on a Certificate of Completion are doing so because they are in Special Education and may not meet requirements for traditional graduation even with an IEP in place. So, yes, they would be eligible for this program.
- Is this referral form only for Foster Youth with IEP's and 504 Plans ages 14-24 who are interested in the 120 paid internship?
No, the Universal Referral Form is used for all of the DCFS-sponsored/funded/promoted work experience programs, such as Bridge To Work, Youth@Work, Countywide Youth Bridges and the DCFS/DOR Jobs Pilot. You can designate your program of preference, but we also screen each application and route to the most appropriate program based on various criteria including youth characteristics, geography, available slots, special recruitments, etc.
 - Can they still request the support if they need further employment support?
Yes.
- Does the program require some sort of check-ins with the students on a weekly, monthly, biweekly basis?
Yes, the counselor checks in on the student a minimum of once a month.
- Is it true that youth who complete WIOA-funded job training and placement programs can't apply to any other WIOA-funded programs for 18 months?
No, there is no directive that states a youth cannot apply for another WIOA funded program in the same 18-month window.
 - Does this have implications for youth who are also interested in other WIOA funded programs? It should not impact a youth's ability to access other WIOA funded programs. Also, many of our youth, more often, access non-WIOA funded programs.
- Do minor students need a work permit for this program?
Yes, when it gets to the work experience part.
- Can the referral be made at any point time for DOR as long as in school?
Yes, at any point in the calendar year between the ages of 16 and no less than 6 months before they turn 22 so they have enough time



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- Should I refer my students in San Fernando Valley to you who don't have an open DCFS case, or should I locate the local SFV DOR?
If they don't have an open DCFS case, you should contact your local DOR office or use this [link](#).

Resources

- [Work Experience for Young People with 504/IEP Flyer](#)
- [Universal Referral Form](#)
- [Free Tax Filing for Foster Youth!](#)
 - DCFS has teamed up with the John Burton Advocates for Youth, Coalition for Responsible Community Development, The Community College Foundation and we have a tax prep and filing pilot - a VITA site just for foster youth! So, if you have foster youth ages 18-24 that need to file taxes - send them our way!
- Career Guides
 - Contact: Melanie Ferrer-Vaughn Melanie@laoyc.org
 - [Youth Guide](#)
 - [Caregiver Guide](#)
- [LA: RISE Youth Academy](#)
 - Contact: Karina Henriquez karina.henriquez@lacity.org
 - [Youth Academy Referral Form](#)
 - 18-24 years old who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of becoming homeless, working less than 20 hours per week, and not already enrolled in LA:RISE are invited to apply or be referred to the The LA:RISE Youth Academy. The LA:RISE Youth Academy is focused on improving housing, education and workforce outcomes for unhoused youth. The Youth Academy will provide young people with education, employment, and social well-being services while permanent housing is being established to move youth to a future of self-sufficiency and economic mobility.
- [Video Production & Editing - Venice Arts](#)
 - Contact: Julia julia@venice-arts.org
 - Students will gain knowledge and skill in videography to pursue creative careers in entertainment, advertising, and in-house production for music, sports, fashion, and more.
- [Classic Auto Refinishing/ Manufacturing - Lost Angels Children's Project](#)
 - Contact: Vendon Smith Smith_Vendon@LACOE.EDU
 - The program offers job training and transitional employment in an industrial manufacturing and automotive restoration social enterprise to transition-age youth (16-24 years) experiencing poverty and homelessness. This program is available for young people in Lancaster, CA.



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Upcoming Training and Events

- [Dismantling Hierarchies: Sharing Power and Authentically Engaging Young People](#) - Apr 14, 2022 at 10 am
- [Working With CSEC Youth: Resources to Prevent and Respond to Commercial Sexual Exploitation](#) - Apr 28, 2022 at 10 am
- [It's Okay to Not Be Okay: Accessing Youth Mental Health Services in Los Angeles County](#) - May 12, 2022 at 10 am