

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE MANUAL	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services	Effective Date: August 1, 2015
	Section 2 : Eligibility for Older Youth Services (OYS)	Version: 3

POLICY [REVISED]

[REVISED] 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. **[REVISED]** Youth age **16 up to the day before the youth's 21st birthday who are in foster care¹** 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, [11.1 Older Youth Services](#));
2. Youth age **18 up to the day before the youth's 21st 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 21st 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.

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

Code References

[42 USC 677: John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program](#)

PROCEDURE

[REVISED] 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 21 in foster care and youth previously in foster care; and
3. Determine eligibility for youth age 16 to 21 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

[REVISED] Placement Type Determines Eligibility for Chafee Funding

Chafee funding provides OYS for CHINS and JD/JS youth in foster care, Collaborative Care, relative foster care, or other court approved placements. Chafee 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. **[REVISED]** [OYS Services Referral](#) – Available in KidTraks Referral Wizard
2. [OYS Service Standards](#)

RELATED INFORMATION

N/A