

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services Section 07: Voluntary Older Youth Services	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 5

POLICY OVERVIEW

Voluntary Older Youth Services (OYS) will help youth get ready for adult life. These services include help with:

- Money and budgeting
- Finding a place to live
- Health care
- Counseling
- Assessment services
- Jobs and job training
- School and college
- Other supports listed in the [OYS Service Standards](#)

POLICY STATEMENT

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will make sure Voluntary OYS are available in every county in the state.

Voluntary OYS are available to youth who:

1. Are 18 years of age up to the day before their 23rd birthday;
2. Were in foster care before; and
3. Meet additional criteria outlined in policy [11.02](#).

If the Youth Moves to a New Area

If the youth moves to a different part of the state (not where they were a Child in Need of Services (CHINS), Juvenile Delinquent/Juvenile Status (JD/JS), or Collaborative Care (CC) youth and wants to keep getting Voluntary OYS:

- The youth or OYS provider must notify an OYS team member.
- The OYCM or Independent Living (IL) Specialist will create an appropriate Voluntary OYS service referral.

LEGAL REFERENCES

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