

Mentoring and Guidance

The Ohio Workforce Connection provides mentoring, guidance, and counseling services at the One-Stops throughout Ohio.

<http://ohioworkforce411.gov/youth/onestopmap.stm>

Or call: 1-877-852-0010



The PCSA in your county also provides counseling services, in the areas of: daily living skills, drug and alcohol abuse prevention and treatment, family planning, financial counseling, self-esteem counseling, and more.

To find the ODJFS near you, visit:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>

Or call: 1-877-852-0010

Other Assistance

If you are responsible for a minor child (under age 18), or if you are 6 months pregnant or more, you can also qualify for other benefits. The Ohio Works First program (OWF) provides cash assistance for up to 36 months. There is a monthly work requirement with this benefit.



You could also qualify for the Prevention, Retention, Contingency Program (PRC) which provides a number of benefits, including: cash assistance for crisis events, transportation to work, and counseling.

To apply for either OWC or PRC, contact your county Department of Job and Family Services.

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>

Or call: 1-877-852-0010



Ohio State Legal Services

555 Buttles Avenue

Columbus, Ohio 43215

614-221-7201

800-589-5888

www.oslsa.org

To get the contact information for your local legal aid office, call

1-800-LAW-OHIO

or visit www.ohiolegalservices.org

Equal Justice Foundation

88 E. Broad St., Suite 1590

Columbus, Ohio 43215

614-221-9800

800-898-0545



Youth Empowerment Program

Coalition on Housing and Homelessness in Ohio

175 South 3rd Street

Suite 250

Columbus, Ohio 43215

614-280-1984

After Foster Care: What Next?



A Guide to Resources Available for Young Adults Who Have Aged Out of the Foster Care System

Housing



If you need financial assistance for:

- ✓ rent deposit
- ✓ utility deposit
- ✓ your rent or utility bills

AND you are between the ages of 18 and 21, you may be able to get help. Contact the Child Services Agency (PCSA) in the county where you live now or the county you lived in when you left the foster care system. To find the PCSA near you, visit the following website:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>

Or call: **1-877-852-0010**

Food



You may be eligible for food stamps if you meet these requirements:

- ✓ your income is less than \$1,037 per month
- ✓ you have less than \$2000 in financial resources

You may be able to receive up to \$152 per month for yourself in food stamps. If you are responsible for anyone other than yourself, the income and benefit limits are higher. [Note that these figures are for 2006, and change each year.] You can apply for food stamps by contacting your local County Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). To find the ODJFS near you, visit:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>

Or call: **1-877-852-0010**

Education & Employment

There are college scholarships available to students who have left the foster care system.



The National Scholarship Fund gives scholarships of \$1,500 - \$10,000 to parentless youth and present and former foster children under the age of 25.

You can find an application at: www.orphan.org/sch_app

The State of Ohio also gives college and vocational training scholarships to former foster children, up to \$5,000 per year. The money can be used for:

- ✓ tuition and fees
- ✓ books
- ✓ living expenses such as rent

You can apply online at:

<https://www.statevoucher.org>

The Ohio Workforce Connection (OWC) provides many services for former foster youth age 14-21, with no cost to you. The educational services they provide include:

- ✓ tutoring
- ✓ study skills training
- ✓ alternative high school
- ✓ leadership development

Find the One-Stop near you: <http://ohioworkforce411.gov/youth/onestopmap.stm>, or call: **1-877-852-0010**



The Ohio Workforce Connection (OWC) also provides many employment services, including:

- ✓ summer jobs and internships while you are in school
- ✓ help finding a long-term job when you are finished with school

All of these services are provided at county One-Stops throughout the state.

The Child Services Agency (PCSA) in your county also provides similar services, including help getting a high school diploma or GED, help applying for college or vocational training, and job placement/career exploration.

Find the One-Stop near you at:

<http://ohioworkforce411.gov/youth/onestopmap.stm>

Or call: **1-877-852-0010**

Dress for Success provides interview and business clothing to young women in need. There are Ohio locations in Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Warren-Youngstown.



Visit www.dressforsuccess.org

Check your local organizations for similar programs to men. For example, Columbus has the **New Life United Methodist Church**, 25 W. 5th Ave., 614-294-0134.

Health Care

If you are age 18 or younger, you can enroll yourself in the "Healthy Start" program to receive Medicaid, if your income is less than \$1634

each month. If you are age 19-21, you are a student, and you have less than \$1000 in financial resources (savings) you may enroll yourself in the student Medicaid program if your income is less than \$233 per month.

[Note that these figures are for 2006, and change each year.]

Medicaid covers doctor and hospital visits, prescription medicine, dental services, eye exams, and eyeglasses.

You can apply for both types of Medicaid by contacting your local ODJFS. To find the ODJFS near you, visit:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>

Or call: **1-877-852-0010**

