

Weighing Your Housing Options:

Housing for Current & Former Foster Youth at Age 18 and Beyond



WHICH OPTION IS
BEST FOR YOU??

Option	Dependency Status?	Age Range?	Court Hearings Every 6 Months?	Monthly County Social Worker Visit?	Additional Supportive Services?	Living Arrangement?	Do I receive a monthly payment?	If I am a parent living with my child, can I receive a monthly Infant Supplement?	If I am a parent living with my child, can I receive \$200/month per child for a Shared Responsibility Plan?	If I have special needs & am eligible, can my placement receive a SCI on my behalf?
Foster Home	Participating in extended foster care	18-21	Yes	Yes	If home is certified with a FFA	With foster parent(s)	Yes, caregiver receives it (\$ varies)	Yes, caregiver receives it (\$411/month/child)	Yes – if living in county foster home; No – if living in FFA foster home	Yes – if living in county foster home; No – if living in FFA foster home
Group Home	Participating in extended foster care	18-19 - if completing HS; 18-21 - if medical condition	Yes	Yes	Yes	In home with other youth, supervised by staff	Yes, group home provider receives it (\$ varies)	Yes, group home provider receives it (\$890/month/child)	No	No
Relative or NREFM	Participating in extended foster care	18-21	Yes	Yes	No	With relative(s) or family friend(s)	Yes, caregiver receives it (\$ varies)	Yes, caregiver receives it (\$411/month/child)	Yes, caregiver will receive it	Yes
THP+FC	Participating in extended foster care	18-21	Yes	Yes	Yes	Alone, with roommate, or in a host home	Yes, THP+FC provider receives it (\$2,225-2,797/month)	Yes, THP+FC provider receives it (\$411/month/child)	No	No
SILP	Participating in extended foster care	18-21	Yes	Yes	No	Alone, with roommate(s), or with supportive adult	Yes, you or payee receives it (\$799/month)	Yes, you or payee receives it (\$411/month/child)	No	No
THP-Plus	Emancipated from foster care or juvenile probation	18-24	No	No	Yes	Alone, with roommate, or in a host home	Yes, THP-Plus provider receives it (\$ varies)	No	No	No

NREFM stands for **Non-Related Extended Family Member** (i.e. family friend) **FFA** stands for **Foster Family Agency** **SILP** stands for **Supervised Independent Living Placement**
THP+FC stands for **Transitional Housing Placement Plus Foster Care** **THP-Plus** stands for **Transitional Housing Placement Plus** **SCI** stands for **Specialized Care Increment**

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About monthly payments: If you live in a *Foster Home, Relative or NREFM's Home, THP+FC or THP-Plus*, your monthly payment will go to them to cover your room and board. However, in some cases they may provide you a portion of this payment each month to manage on your own. If you live in a *SILP*, you may receive your monthly foster care payment directly, or a designated payee may receive it on your behalf. A designated payee could be an adult in your life whom you trust, a landlord (to cover your rent), or your school (to cover tuition or student housing).
Note: the payment cannot be split. It must either go to you or the payee.



About Supportive Services: In *THP-Plus FC, THP-Plus, Group Homes* and in *FFA Foster Homes*, supportive services (in addition to a monthly social worker visit) are provided. Supportive services can include case management, counseling, job-readiness training, living skills training, academic support, mental health services, financial planning, etc.

If You Are a Parent: In foster care placements (all options listed on page 1 *except* THP-Plus), parenting youth whose child(ren) live with them are eligible for an additional payment per month per child (amount varies across placements). This is called an "Infant Supplement", (but it is available to parents of children of all ages, not just infants). The only placement where a parenting youth may possibly receive an Infant Supplement *directly* is a *SILP*. Parenting foster youth in *County Foster Homes, Relative or NREFM Homes* are also eligible for an additional \$200 per month per child if they agree to complete a Shared Responsibility Plan. This is sometimes also referred to as the "Whole Family Foster Home" rate.



If You Have Special Needs Such as a Disability or Medical Condition: If you live in a *Relative's Home, a NREFM's Home, or a County Foster Home* and you have special needs, such as a disability or medical condition your placement may be eligible for a Specialized Care Increment (SCI). This is an additional payment that goes towards your board and care. SCI amounts vary from county to county. It is also important to note that participating in extended foster care does not bar youth from eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI).



ALWAYS READ
THE FINE PRINT!



Clarifications about THP+FC & THP-Plus: In these programs, your living arrangement will depend on which housing model you are in –

- 1) "**Single Site**": one apartment building or house where all program participants live (participants sometimes share an apartment with a roommate)
- 2) "**Remote Site**" also called "**Scattered Site**": program participants live in apartments or houses scattered throughout the community (your neighbors will not be program participants)
- 3) "**Host Family**": Supportive adult(s) "host" the participant in their home and provide room and board (similar to a foster home)



Clarifications about SILPs: Youth interested in a *SILP* must identify their own housing and pass a readiness assessment through their county social worker. Many living settings can be considered *SILPs*. A *SILP* can be the home of a supportive adult (i.e. family friend, relative, former foster parent, etc.). (*Note: you cannot live with your biological parent as a SILP*). A *SILP* can also mean renting an apartment with a roommate, renting a room in a house, or living in a college dorm (if in college).

The type of *SILP* you live in depends on what you can afford with your \$799/month foster care payment and any other source(s) of income you may have. It's also important to remember that living in a *SILP* means you do not receive any supportive services other than a monthly visit with your county social worker.



Clarifications about Group Homes: If you currently live in a *Group Home*, you may stay there after you turn age 18 in order to finish out the school year or in order to graduate *before you turn 19*. After age 19, living in a *Group Home* is prohibited unless you have a medical condition.