

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Using the enhancements made to the FSFN Independent Living module, Case Managers will be able to determine a young adult's eligibility for Extended Foster Care. To be eligible, a young adult must meet the following requirements:

Participation Requirements

- Be living in a licensed placement on his or her 18th birthday.
- Continue to live in a supervised setting after his or her 18th birthday - which means a family foster home, group home, or supervised independent living location.
- Meet monthly with his or her case manager to discuss progress, issues, needs, etc. and to collaborate with them on Transition Plans, Case Plans, and Judicial Review Reports.
- Sign appropriate and necessary releases to allow the case manager to verify participation in the qualifying activities.

Qualifying Activities

- Be enrolled fulltime in secondary school / GED program **OR**
- Be enrolled in a postsecondary or vocational institution **OR**
- Participate in a program or activity designed to promote or eliminate barriers to employment (such as job skills training; internships; substance abuse programs; other therapeutic programs; etc) **OR**
- Be employed for at least 80 hours per month **OR**
- Have a documented condition that does not permit full-time engagement in these qualifying activities

Age Limitations

Young adults may remain in EFC until their 21st birthday **OR** until their 22nd birthday if they have a disability:

FS 39.6251 Continuing care for young adults -

(1) As used in this section, the term "child" means an individual who has not attained 21 years of age, and the term "young adult" means an individual who has attained 18 years of age but who has not attained 21 years of age."

(5) "Eligibility for a young adult to remain in extended foster care ends on the earliest of the dates that the young adult:

1. Reaches 21 years of age or, in the case of a young adult with a disability, reaches 22 years of age."

Young adults may remain in RTI until their 23rd birthday:

FS 409.1451(2)(5) reads that a young adult may remain in the Road-to-Independence program until he or she, "has reached 18 years of age but is not yet 23 years of age"