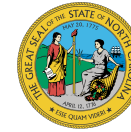
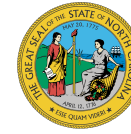


Permanency Options



FOSTER CARE When a child is in the legal custody of a child welfare agency		PERMANENT CARE When a child EXITS foster care through one of the following options with a parent, kinship caretaker or other permanent caretaker				EXTENDED FOSTER CARE For eligible young adults age 18-21 who enter into a Voluntary Placement Agreement with a county child welfare agency	
Unlicensed Kinship Foster Care	Licensed Foster Care (Kinship or Foster Home)	Reunification	Custody	Guardianship	Adoption	Foster Care 18-21	
Is financial assistance available from social services?	Unlicensed Kinship Care Payments may be available	Yes, monthly foster care payments.	No	<i>This can vary by child support orders. Kinship families may qualify for TANF child-only payments.</i>	Monthly guardianship assistance payments (KinGAP/GAP) are available for those who qualify - <i>discuss with DSS case worker</i>	Monthly Adoption Assistance payments are available for those who qualify - <i>discuss with DSS case worker</i>	Monthly Foster Care payments are available to those who qualify - <i>discuss with DSS case worker</i>
How long will financial assistance be available?	Unlicensed Kinship Care payments are available while all eligibility criteria are met	Until the child turns 18 or permanently leaves the home	n/a	n/a	Until the child is 18 or 21, depending on the youth's age when guardianship is achieved	Until the child is 18 or 21, depending on the youth's age when adoption is achieved	Until the young adult's Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA) is terminated. The VPA can be terminated if the young adult chooses to terminate, or if they no longer meet eligibility criteria. Young adults are eligible until they turn 21.
Who receives the financial assistance?	Unlicensed kinship caretaker	Licensed kinship caretaker or foster family	n/a	Legal custodian, if applicable	Legal guardian, if eligible for KinGAP or GAP	Adoptive parent, if eligible for Adoption Assistance	It varies from person to person, based on unique circumstances (i.e. payments could go to placement provider or the young adult themselves)
Visitation and Family Time							
Who supervises visitation/ family time between children and their parents or siblings who are not placed together?	This can vary based on case circumstances, safety plans, and court orders					n/a	
Education							
Who can make educational decisions for the child?	<i>Talk with your case worker - this can vary based on case circumstances and court orders</i>	Likely the legal custodian/parent, but can vary based on court orders			Adoptive parent	n/a	

Additional Supports



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

FOSTER CARE When a child is in the legal custody of a child welfare agency		PERMANENT CARE When a child EXITS foster care through one of the following options with a parent, kinship caretaker or other permanent caretaker				EXTENDED FOSTER CARE For eligible young adults age 18-21 who enter into a Voluntary Placement Agreement with a county child welfare agency
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Health Care/ Insurance Typically Medicaid - DSS determines		Insurance is based on legal parent, contact local Medicaid office to apply	Contact local Medicaid office to apply	Typically Medicaid - DSS determines		Young adults ages 18 to 26 who aged out of foster care may be eligible for Medicaid and can apply for Medicaid coverage at the county Department of Social Services where they reside.
Independent Living Resources (LINKS Program) Yes; youth ages 14 and older can receive LINKS services through their county DSS		Yes; youth ages 14 and older can receive LINKS services through their county DSS		Yes; youth ages 16 and older can receive LINKS services through their county DSS		Young adults age 18-21 can receive LINKS services through their county DSS
Post-Secondary Education financial aid (NC REACH and ETV)		No	Visit Independent Living Services webpage for more information			Visit Guardianship webpage for more information
Eligibility for Free School Meals		Yes	Yes	Discuss with your child's school	Need-based; apply through the child's school	n/a
Food and Nutrition Services (Food Stamps)		Need-based; apply through social services		Need-based; apply through social services		Need-based; apply through social services
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)		Need-based; apply through social services (ask about child only payments)		Need-based; apply through social services (ask about child only payments)		Need-based; apply through social services
Post Permanency Support Services		Yes, through Success Coach Services Program - visit Post Permanency Support webpage for more information				n/a
Child Care Subsidy		Yes	Yes	Need-based; apply through social services		n/a
Tax Credit		Contact an accountant			For more information about adoption tax credits, visit this link .	n/a
NC DHHS Kinship/ Relative Care Website		Visit Kinship/Relative Care webpage or email KinshipKconnectNC@dhhs.nc.gov for more information about resources and support.				n/a
Foster Family Alliance of NC		FFA is the NC Kinship, Foster, and Adoptive parent and caregiver association. Visit Foster Family Alliance webpage on Kinship Care for more information				n/a
NC 211		NC 211 is a free, confidential, and multilingual health and human services information and referral system, available 24 hours a day in all 100 NC counties. Find help by dialing 2-1-1 (or 888-892-1162) or by visiting nc211.org .				
NCCARE360		NCCARE360 is a statewide, coordinated care network that connects individuals to local services and resources like housing, transportation, food, etc. dial 211 or 888-892-1162 (available 24/7) for assistance.				