

LA County Foster Youth Bill of Rights and Services Master Matrix February 2018

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This document was prepared at the direction of the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors and is intended to be an educational resource for foster youth, caregivers and others. This restatement of rights does not create any legal rights that do not already exist under federal, State or local laws, policies, and guidelines.

PLACEMENT & PERSONAL RIGHTS

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
1.	I have the right to live in a safe, healthy, and comfortable home where I am treated with respect.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
2.	My social worker or probation officer must visit me in person at least once a month and meet with me in private, away from my caregiver.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16516.5 & 16516.6	X
3.	I have the right to request that my visit with my social worker or probation officer take place outside my placement.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16516.5 & 16516.6	X
4.	If I am 10 years or older, I have the right to be told about a plan to place me outside of Los Angeles County. I have the right to object (not approve) to being placed out of Los Angeles County.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 361.2(h)	X
5.	I have the right to have my personal rights explained to me in a way that I understand by my social worker or probation officer when I enter foster care, at least every six months, and at every placement change. They must get my signature each time. I have the right to receive a paper copy of my rights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-82 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1 (g) (4) 	X
6.	I can choose to go or not go to religious services and activities of my choice.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)	X
7.	I can have contact with people who are not in the foster care system (like friends, mentors, teachers, church members and others) as they are appropriate.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
8.	I have the right to be free from physical, sexual, emotional, or any other abuse.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
9.	No one has the right to use physical (corporal) punishment as discipline.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
10.	I have the right to have healthy food and enough clothes that fit and are in good condition.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
11.	I have the right to receive an allowance if I am in a group home/Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X

PLACEMENT & PERSONAL RIGHTS

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
12.	*I have the right to contact my parents and family members, including brothers and sisters (unless a judge says I cannot).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 362.1 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)(6,7) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16002 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 726.5 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 727.2(a) ▪ California Code of Regulations Title 22. §§ 83072(c)(1, 15) (small family homes), 84072(c)(5, 20) (group homes), 89372(a)(3)(A), (a)(5)(c)(foster family homes); ▪ In re James R., 153 Cal. App. 4th 413 at 428 (stating that a juvenile placed out of home under the state delinquency laws has a fundamental constitutional due process right to visitation with parents). 	X
13.	I have the right to be given the names and contact information for my social worker or probation officer and attorney.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(6)	X
14.	I have the right to contact my social worker, my lawyer, foster youth advocates, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), probation officers, foster youth advocates, or anyone else involved with my case.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9 (a)	

PLACEMENT & PERSONAL RIGHTS

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
15.	I have the right to call the Foster Care Ombudsperson Office, Community Care Licensing, or the State Department of Social Services if I feel my rights are being violated. I can speak to them confidentially (in private) and I cannot be threatened or punished for contacting them.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
16.	I have the right to make and receive private phone calls (unless a judge says I cannot).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a) ▪ CDSS All-County Information Notice No. I-80-05 	X
17.	I have the right to send and receive unopened mail (unless a judge says someone else can open my mail).	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
18.	No one has the right to lock me in a room or building (unless I am in a community treatment facility, such as Star View Adolescent Center or Vista del Mar).	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
19.	I have the right to go to school every day, get help when I need it, have access to school supplies, and any other resources needed to succeed in school.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
20.	I can participate in after school activities that are appropriate for my age, including cultural and personal enrichment activities, and that do not affect my school attendance or grades.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
21.	I have a right to work and learn job skills that are legal and appropriate for my age.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
22.	I have a right to attend Independent Living Program classes and activities if I meet age requirements.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9 (a)	X
23.	I have the right to have a private storage space for my personal belongings.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §§16001.9 (a)	X
24.	I have the right to keep my personal belongings private; my personal belongings can be searched only if there is a valid reason to do so.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9 (a)	X
25.	I have the right to have access to the same services as everyone else. I should not be treated unfairly because of my race, ethnicity, ancestry, what country I was born in, the color of my skin, my religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical disability, or if I have HIV.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9 (a)	X
26.	I have the right to maintain a bank account and manage my own income, unless prohibited by my case plan. I am allowed to save and manage money I earn or inherit.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X
27.	I should be able to keep my personal property, unless keeping it is unsafe for me or others.	DCFS Child Welfare Policy Manual, 0100-510.17 (Placing a Child in Out-of-Home Care)	

PLACEMENT & PERSONAL RIGHTS

Right	Citation	1 Page Document
<p>28. If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov ▪ <u>Community Care Licensing</u> 1-844-538-8766 letusno@dss.ca.gov 		

VISITATION & FAMILY CONNECTIONS

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
29.	If possible and appropriate, I should be placed close to my parents and school of origin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Family Code § 7950 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501 (d) 	
30.	If possible and appropriate, I should be placed with my siblings.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 306.5	
31.	I have the right to have visits with my siblings who are in foster care, but not placed with me, unless the judge says I can't.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16002 (2)(b)	
32.	If possible and appropriate, I have the right to visit my grandparents.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16507	
33.	I have the right to ask the court to set up a visitation schedule with my siblings who are not in foster care.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 388(b), 778(b) (1-4).	X
34.	I have the right to have issues regarding my siblings discussed at every court hearing.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 366	

35.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ My social worker or probation officer▪ My lawyer▪ My judge▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquries@dcfs.lacounty.gov▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov	
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CHILD & FAMILY TEAM

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
36.	<p>I have the right to have a Child and Family Team, which is a group of people who come together to help make the best plans for my safety, well-being, and future.</p> <p>I have the right to request specific people who are important in my life be included on my Child and Family Team, , such as my family members, caregivers, social worker or probation officer, advocates, service providers, teachers, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501 (a) (4) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-84 	
37.	<p>My family and I have the right to request a Child and Family Team meeting, and to say who we think should or shouldn't be included.</p> <p>Child and Family Team meetings should be held when I go into foster care, when my case plan is updated, when I am moving to a new placement, when I am having problems, or, when I am preparing to leave the foster care system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501 (a) (4) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-84 	
38.	<p>I have the right to say what I am feeling and what I want, and help make decisions about my life during Child and Family Team meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501 (a) (4) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-84 	
39.	<p>The Child and Family Team meeting should not replace monthly visits with my social worker or probation officer. I have the right to meet with my social worker or probation officer in person and in private at least once a month.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501 (a) (4) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16516.6 	

40.	<p>If these rights are violated in this area, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ My social worker or probation officer▪ My lawyer▪ My judge▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov	
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CASE PLANS

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
41.	I have the right to help create my case plan and plan for my foster care placement and any permanent placement. Permanent placement can include legal guardianship or adoption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(19) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1(g)(13) 	X
42.	If I am 12 years or older, I have the right to read my case plan, sign the case plan, receive a copy of the case plan and plan for permanent placement, and be told about any changes to the plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(20) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1(g)(1) 	X

43.	<p>If my these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ My social worker or probation officer▪ My lawyer▪ My judge▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov	
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HEALTH

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
44.	If I am in foster care on my 18 th birthday I have the right to receive Medi-Cal services until I am 26 years old, regardless of how much money I make.	US Affordable Care Act	
45.	I have the right to receive regular medical and dental health check-ups until I am 21 years old.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures 31, 206.36 ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 124040(6)(D) ▪ DCFS Child Welfare Policy Manual, 0600-506.10, Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program 	X
46.	I have the right to get medical, dental, vision, and mental health care services.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)(4)	
47.	If I am 18 years old or older I have the right to consent to my own medical care, unless a judge says that I can't.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DCFS Child Welfare Policy Manual, 0600-501.09, Consent for Mental Health and/or Developmental Assessments and Services ▪ Probate Code § 813, 4609, 3200 et. al., & 1828.5 (d) 	
48.	Before I have major medical, dental or psychiatric treatment I have the right to get a second opinion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Health & Safety Code § 1383.15 ▪ California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Manual of Policies and Procedure § 80072(a)(9) 	
49.	I have the right to refuse to take medications (drugs), vitamins, herbal remedies, or other chemical substances unless a doctor and a judge says that I must.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)	X

HEALTH RECORDS & CONFIDENTIALITY (PRIVACY)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
50.	I have the right to be contacted in a private way by my health care providers and to choose the way I am contacted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Los Angeles County Health Agency Notice of Privacy Practices ▪ Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ▪ 45 Code of Federal Regulations 164.522 (b) ▪ 45 Code of Federal Regulations 164.55(b) 	
51.	I have the right to ask for and get a list of people who have seen my health information in the last six years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LA County Health Agency Notice of Privacy Practices ▪ Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ▪ <u>45 Code of Federal Regulations 164.528</u> 	
52.	I have the right to choose someone to make medical decisions for me.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LA County Health Agency Notice of Privacy Practices ▪ <u>Probate Code § 4711-4717</u> 	

SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

53.	<p>If I am 12 years or older, I have the right to get information, in a way I can understand, about reproductive health, avoiding unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. This must include medical facts and not anyone's opinions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369 (h) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-82 ▪ ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §16501.1 	
54.	<p>I can get or refuse birth control at any age without permission. I have the right to get, have, and use the birth control or protection of my choice including: (1) Condoms, including the female condom; (2) Diaphragm; (3) Birth control patch, pill, shot, or long acting reversible contraception (LARC) (such as IUD or Nexplanon).</p>	<p>California Family Code § 6925</p>	
55.	<p>If I am 12 years or older, I can agree to or refuse testing, medical care, or prevention related to sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Family Code § 6926 (b) ▪ California Family Code § 6926 ▪ California Health & Safety Code § 121020 	
56.	<p>I have the right to decide what to do if I become pregnant, including having an abortion (end the pregnancy), without having to get permission from my parent, guardian, social worker or probation officer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Family Code § 6925 ▪ American Academy of Pediatrics v. Lungren (1997) 16 Cal.4th 307 ▪ California Health & Safety Code § 123110(a) ▪ California Health & Safety Code § 123115(a) 	

SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
57.	I have the right to agree to or refuse medical care related to a sexual assault or rape. I also have the right to agree to or refuse to allow them to take medical evidence related to the assault or rape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Family Code §§ 6928 & 6927 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-82 ▪ Cobbs v. Grant, 8 Cal.3d 229(1972) 	
58.	I have the right to get timely transportation to reproductive and sexual health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)(4) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 22 §§ 8075(a) & 89374(c)(1) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-82 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 16-88 	X

59.	<p>If my health rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ My social worker or probation officer▪ My lawyer▪ My judge▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquries@dcfs.lacounty.gov▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov▪ <u>US Department of Health and Human Services</u> www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/	
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MENTAL HEALTH

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
60.	I have the right to receive mental health services and supports that I need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9 (a)(4) ▪ Olmsted v L.C. (1999)527 U.S. 581 DMH policy based on California Health and Safety Code § 1267.13 	X
61.	I have the right to get information about mental health services that are available in a language I understand. This includes a copy of the <i>Local Mental Health Plan Guide to Medi-Cal Mental Health Services</i> and a provider list that explains the services and where I can go to get them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations Title 42, § 438.10 ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11, § 1810.360(d) ▪ Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, § 438.10(f)(6)(i), & 438.206(a) 	
62.	If I am 12 or older, I have the right to look for and get my own mental health services in a clinic or residential shelter services, including medication (drugs), if a doctor or judge says it's necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Family Code §6924; ▪ California Health & Safety Code § 124260 	
63.	If I am 12 or older, I have the right to find help with my drug or alcohol related concerns on my own and keep it confidential.	California Family Code §6929(b)	
64.	I have the right to be treated with respect and dignity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.100(b)(2)(ii) 	

MENTAL HEALTH

	Rights	Citation	1 Page Document
65.	I have the right to get services in the language I understand at no extra charge. I have the right to receive services from a provider who is respectful and understanding of my culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, § 438.206(c)(2) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11, Sections 1810.110(a) and 1810.410; ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Section 3320(a)(2) 	
66.	I have the right to make complaints about the mental health services I receive without consequences.	<p>DMH Policy based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11, § 1850.206(a)(b) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11 § 1850.207 ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11 § 1850.208(a)(b) ▪ Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, § 438.402 Subpart F 	
67.	I have the right to be informed and learn about my mental health and treatment in a way that I can understand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ American Medical Association Code of Medical Ethics, Opinion 8.12 ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.100(b)(2)(iii) 	

MENTAL HEALTH

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
68.	I have the right to be a part of decision-making about my mental health services and treatment choices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMH Policy Based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.102(a)(iv) ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.100(b)(2)(iii) 	
69.	I have the right to refuse mental health services, including medication (drugs), unless a judge orders otherwise. No one can give me consequences for refusing mental health services or medication (drugs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMH Policy Based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.102(a)(iv) ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.100(b)(2)(iii) 	
70.	I have the right to receive mental health services and treatments quickly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DMH Policy based on California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Division 1, Chapter 11, Subchapter 5, Article 2, § 1850.210€ 	X

MENTAL HEALTH

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
71.	I have the right to get a second opinion about my mental health condition and treatment options by another licensed mental health professional.	DMH Policy based on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, § 438.206(b)(3) ▪ Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, § 438.400(b) ▪ Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, § 438.404(c)(2); ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 11, Sections 1810.405, 1830.205(a), (b)(1), (2), (3), 1850.210(a)-(j), 1850.212 	
72.	I have the right to contact my mental health provider (therapist, psychiatrist, counselor, etc.) when I need to.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(9)	X
73.	I have the right to continue receiving mental health services if I move, no matter where I move.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 42 U.S. Code § 1396(a)(8) ▪ 42 Code of Federal Regulations § 435.930 	

PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION (DRUGS)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
74.	I have the right to be told about and to understand the side effects, benefits, and other information about any medication (drugs) received from any doctor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369(a) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369(b) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369.5(a)(2)(B)(i)-(iii), (a)(2)(c) ▪ California Rules of the Court 5.640(b),(c)(2)(A) ▪ California Rules of the Court 5.640(c)(6) ▪ California Rules of the Court 5.640(g)(1-7) ▪ California Rules of the Court 5.640(i)(1-2)California Rules of the Court 5.640(b), (c) (6) (G). ▪ American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, A guide for Public Serving Agencies on Psychotropic Medications for Children and Adolescents 8-9 ▪ Judicial Council Forms (JV-220,220(A) 	X

75.	I have the right to tell the doctor if I disagree with any psychiatric drugs they want me to take. I also have the right to tell the judge that I disagree with psychiatric drugs being prescribed for me.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9(a)(17) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369.5(a)(2)(B)(i)-(iii) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369.5(a)(2)(c) ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.640(c)(3)(8)-(9) ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.640(g)(1-7) ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.640 (i)(1-2) ▪ Judicial Council Forms (JV-218, 220, 220(A), and 224) 	X
76.	I have the right to work with my doctor to safely stop taking psychiatric drugs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (2011, September) ▪ Off-Label Use of Atypical Antipsychotics: An Update. (AHRQ Publication No. 11-EHC087-EF). <p>Cobbs v. Grant (1972) 8 Cal.3d 229.</p>	X

MENTAL HEALTH CONFIDENTIALITY (PRIVACY)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
77.	If I am 12 years or older, I have the right to speak to my mental health provider (therapist, psychiatrist, counselor, etc.) privately.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 123110(a) & 123115(a)(1) ▪ California Civil Code § 56.10(b)97) & 56.11(c) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369(h) ▪ 45 Code of Federal Regulations 164.501 ▪ Code of Federal Regulations 164.502(a)(1)(ii) ▪ Code of Federal Regulations 164.506 ▪ Code of Federal Regulations 164.508(a)(2) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 5328(a) 	

MENTAL HEALTH CONFIDENTIALITY (PRIVACY)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
78.	<p>I must give permission before my mental health provider is able to share my private information with others. The provider must tell me what information will or will not be kept confidential and who they are allowed to share it with. There may be some exceptions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Health and Safety Code §§ 123110(a) & 123115(a)(1) ▪ California Civil Code §§ 56.10(b)97) 56.11(c); ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 369(h) ▪ 45 Code of Federal Regulations 164.501 ▪ Code of Federal Regulations 164.502(a)(1)(ii) ▪ Code of Federal Regulations 164.506 ▪ Code of Federal Regulations 164.508(a)(2) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 5328(a) 	
79.	<p>If I am 12 years or older, I have the right to get a copy of my medical records and ask to add to it or correct it. A mental health provider cannot deny my request to see my records based on it being harmful to me to see them. There may be some exceptions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Health and Safety Code §§ 123110(a)(b) & 124260 ▪ DMH Policy based on Code of Federal Regulations Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter C, § 438.100(b)(2)(vi) 	

80.	<p>If my mental health rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ My social worker or probation officer▪ My lawyer▪ My judge▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquries@dcfs.lacounty.gov▪ <u>Children’s Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov▪ <u>Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Patient’s Rights Office (PRO)</u> (213) 738-4888 or (800) 700-9996	
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LGBTQ+

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
81.	I have the right to be placed according to my gender identity no matter what my court or child welfare records say.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a)(24) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16006 ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1502.8 ▪ See also Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) 	
82.	I have the right to caregivers, social workers, probation officers, and attorneys, who have been trained to provide care and support that is inclusive of my LGBTQ+ identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 903.7 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(23)(25) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16003 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16013 ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1522 ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1522.41(c)(1)(H)(I)(K) ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1522.41(c)(2)(G)(I) ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1522.41(d)(3)(5) ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1529.2(b)(5)-(6);(c)(2) ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1563(c)(5);(d)(6)(13) 	

83.	I have the right to be free of harassment and discrimination based on my actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression while I am in foster care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9(a)(23)(24)(25) ▪ California Government Code 11135 ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1529.2(b)(5), (6) ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 1522.41(c)(1)(I) and (K) and (c)(2)(I) and (K) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 22 83072 (d); 84072(d); 88022(a)(5)(D) 	X
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84.	I have the right to teachers and other school staff who have been trained to provide care and support that is inclusive of my LGBTQ+ identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001(a)(13)(15)(23)(26) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16013 ▪ ▪ Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C § 1681 et. seq); ▪ 28 Code of Federal Regulations 54 et. Seq ▪ 34 Code of Federal Regulations 106 et. Seq ▪ Resolution Agreement, <i>In re Downey Unified Sch. Dist., CA</i>, OCR Case No. 09-12-1095, (Oct. 8, 2014) ▪ Consent Decree, <i>Doe v. Anoka-Hennepin Sch. Dist. No. 11, MN</i> (D. Minn. Mar. 1, 2012) ▪ Resolution Agreement, <i>In re Tehachapi Unified Sch. Dist., CA</i>, OCR Case No. 09-11-1031 (June 30, 2011) ▪ Resolution Agreement, <i>In re Cent. Piedmont Cmty. Coll., NC</i>, OCR Case No. 11-14-2265 (Aug. 13, 2015) 	
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LGBTQ+

Reference		Citation	1 Page Document
85.	No one has the right to try to change my sexual orientation or gender identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Business and Professional Code § 865 ▪ California Business and Professional Code § § 865.1; 865.2 ▪ California Family Code §§ 6920; 6921; 6924 ▪ 	X
86.	I cannot be forced to hide my sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression to get support, receive services, be placed, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 16001.9(a)(22)- (25) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16013 	
87.	I cannot be forced to “out” myself to anyone to receive LGBTQ+ support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(22) - (25) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16013 	
88.	My sexual orientation and gender identity are private. It can't be shared without my permission, except in limited circumstances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lawrence v. Texas, 539 U.S. 558 ▪ Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. Seq) 	

LGBTQ+

	Reference	Citation	1 Page Document
89.	I have the right to use the bathroom that aligns with my gender identity. No one can force me to use a different bathroom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Civil Code 51(b) ▪ Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. Seq) ▪ <i>Lusardi v. Dep't of the Army</i>, Appeal No. 0120133395 at 9 (U.S. Equal Emp't Opportunity Comm'n Apr. 1, 2015) ▪ <i>Cruzan v. Special Sch. Dist. No. 1</i>, 294 F.3d 981, 984 (8th Cir. 2002) ▪ <i>Glenn v. Brumby</i>, 663 F.3d 1312, 1321 (11th Cir. 2011) ▪ <i>In re Township High Sch. Dist. 211, IL</i>, OCR Case No. 05-14-1055 (Dec. 2, 2015) 	
90.	I have the right to be referred to by the name and/or gender pronoun(s) I choose to use, regardless of what is said in my paperwork.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Senate Bill 731 (2015-2016 Session) ▪ <i>In re Cent. Piedmont Cmty. Coll., NC</i>, OCR Case No. 11-14-2265 (Aug. 13, 2015) ▪ <i>Lusardi v. Dep't of the Army</i>, Appeal No. 0120133395 at 15 (U.S. Equal Emp't Opportunity Common Apr. 1, 2015) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(23)-(25) 	

91.	<p>I have the right to express my gender identity through clothes, hair, etc. This includes hygiene products, clothes, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Senate Bill 731 (2015-2016 Session) ▪ Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et. Seq) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(23)-(25) 	
92.	<p>If my rights regarding my sexuality and gender identity or expression are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT (ICWA)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
93.	I have the right to receive services and support that will allow me to be connected with my tribal community, culture, and values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 Codified At 25 U.S.C. Section 1901 et seq. ▪ CDSS All County Information Notice I-3-04 ▪ California Rules of Court, Rules 5.480-5.487, 5.664, and 7.1015; ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 300 et seq., 602 et seq.; ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 601 ▪ Family Code § 3041 ▪ Probate Code § 1459.5 	
94.	I have the right to have my family be involved in decisions affecting services for me, including foster care placement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 Codified At 25 U.S.C. Section 1901 et seq. ▪ CDSS All County Information Notice I-3-04 ▪ California Rules of Court, Rules 5.480-5.487, 5.664, & 7.1015 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code 300 et seq.; 602 et seq.; ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 601, ▪ Family Code § 3041 ▪ Probate Code § 1459.5 	

95.	If I am 18 or older, I have the right to decide whether I want the provisions of the ICWA to apply to my dependency case.	The Federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 Codified At 25 U.S.C. Section 1901 et seq.	
96.	I have the right to have my wishes considered in decisions about permanency plans related to Tribal Customary Adoption. [link to additional information on Tribal Customary Adoption]	California Welfare and Institutions Code Section § 366.24	
97.	When I am 18, I have the right to (and must be given) information about my dependency case and my tribal heritage.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 391	
98.	<p>If my ICWA rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>Children’s Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		

COURT			
	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
99.	I have the right to be treated with respect at all times.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(1)	X
100.	I have the right to be addressed in court by my preferred name and gender pronoun.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health & Safety Code § 1502.8 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 16001.9, 16006 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(23)-(25) 	X
101.	I have the right to have information regarding court explained to me in a way that I can understand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(17) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1(g)(1), (g)(4), (g)(13),(g)(15)(a),(g)(18)(A),(g)18 (B) ▪ Los Angeles Superior Court Juvenile Division Rules, Rule 7.1 	X
DCFS COURT (ALSO CALLED DEPENDENCY COURT)			
102.	I have the right to be shackle-free when being driven around or in court, unless the judge believes it is necessary for my safety or the safety of others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tiffany A. v Superior Court (2017) 50 Cal.App.4th 1344 59 cal.rptr.3d 363 ▪ 	
103.	I have the right to talk to the judge about anything important to me at every court hearing.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 (a) 17	X
104.	I have the right to have a lawyer represent me. My lawyer must express my wishes, and advocate for my safety and well-being.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 317(c)(1) & (c)(2) & (e)(2)	
105.	I have the right to have a competent lawyer who knows the laws and how the court works.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 317.5 & 317.6	

106.	I have the right to have my lawyer tell the court what I want.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 317(e)(2)	
107.	I have the right to speak to my lawyer in private and expect everything I tell him/her to stay between the two of us. <i>My lawyer could tell other people what I say in private if he/she believes that revealing (telling) my information is necessary to prevent death or serious harm to me or others, or if it is necessary to prevent a crime.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 317(e)(7)(f) ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures, 31-236(a)(e) 	
108.	I have the right to have my lawyer investigate and tell the court about other legal needs that are not about the court hearing.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 317(e)(3)	
109.	I have the right to have my lawyer present evidence and cross examine (question) witnesses, if necessary.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 317(e)(1)	
110.	I have the right to have my lawyer represent me until the end of the case or until the judge says that they no longer need to represent me.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 317(d)	
111.	I have the right to tell the court if I am unhappy with my lawyer, and to ask the judge to appoint a new lawyer to represent me.	People v. Marsden (1970), 2 Cal.3d 118	

DCFS COURT (ALSO CALLED DEPENDENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
112.	If I am over age 12, I should receive a copy of my court report before my court hearing.	DCFS Policy: Noticing Process for Juvenile Court Proceedings 0300-306.05 Revision Date: 12/09/15	
113.	If I am 10 years or older, I have a right to be told of upcoming court hearings.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 290.1 290.2, 291, 292, 293, 294, & 295	
114.	I have the right to attend all court hearings.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(17) & 349(a)	
115.	If I am four (4) years old or older, I have the right to be taken to court so that I may attend my hearing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 349 ▪ Los Angeles Superior Court, Local Juvenile Division Rules, Rule 7.12 	X
116.	I have the right to have issues regarding my siblings, visitation, and placement discussed at every court hearing.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 366	X
117.	I have the right to have school issues discussed at every court hearing.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 366	
118.	I have the right to object (disagree with) to having people who are not a part of my case in the courtroom during my hearing. The judge can still let them stay in if he or she thinks there is a good reason for them to be there.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 346 ▪ Los Angeles Superior Court, Local Juvenile Division Rules, Rule 7.3 	

DCFS COURT (ALSO CALLED DEPENDENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
119.	I have the right to keep my court file private unless the judge has a good reason to let someone else see it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 831, 832 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 827 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(22) 	
120.	I have the right to have private telephone calls, and send and receive unopened mail, including to my lawyer, unless the judge says that I cannot.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(9)	
121.	I have the right to have help in creating a plan for my future before my case closes and to have important documents including my: (1) social security card, (2) birth certificate, (3) California driver's license or identification card, (4) health and education summary, (5) Foster Care Verification letter (it used to be called the Ward of the Court letter), and (6) final minute order (Probation only). SEE ILP SECTION.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 391(e) 2(A)-(K) ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures, 31-236 (a)-(g) 	X
122.	I have the right to see and get a copy of my court file.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 827 (a)(1)(c), (a)(3)(b)(5)	X

123.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		X
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LAW ENFORCEMENT (Police)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
124.	If I am in law enforcement (police) custody, I have the right to remain silent and not say anything.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cal. Const., Art 1 § 15. California Welfare and Institutions Code 625.6 ▪ U.S. Constitution Amendment V 	X
125.	If I am in law enforcement (police) custody, I have the right to have a lawyer with me before I answer any questions.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 625	X
126.	If I am 15 or younger, I must talk to an attorney before answering questions asked by law enforcement. I can speak with my attorney by telephone or video if necessary.	Welfare and Institutions Code § 625.6(a)	X
127.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov ▪ 		X

PROBATION COURT (ALSO CALLED DELINQUENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
128.	I am not allowed to be put in solitary confinement in any juvenile facilities, including juvenile hall.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 208.3	X
129.	I have the right to have a court hearing as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours after being taken into law enforcement custody.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 631 (a) & 632	
130.	I have the right to be shackle-free in court, unless the judge believes it is necessary for my safety or the safety of others.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 210.6 (b)	
131.	I have the right to talk to the judge about anything important to me at every court hearing. <i>I should talk to my lawyer first so I do not say something against my own interests that could cause problems for me.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 349 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 399 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(17) 	X
132.	I have the right to talk to the judge about what I want to happen in my case during delinquency hearings or anything else I think the judge should know. <i>I should talk to my lawyer first so I do not say something against my own interests that could cause problems for me.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(17) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 349 	X

PROBATION COURT (ALSO CALLED DELINQUENCY COURT)

Reference		Citation	1 Page Document
133.	I have the right to have a lawyer represent me. My lawyer must advocate for what I want.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 317, 634 & 634.3 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.534(c-d), 5.660 ▪ California Rules of Court, Rule 5.663 	
134.	I have the right to have my lawyer tell the court what I want.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.778 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 634.3 	

PROBATION COURT (ALSO CALLED DELINQUENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
135.	I have the right to have a competent lawyer who knows my case, the laws, and how the court works.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Rules of Court, Rules 5.664 and 6.12.2 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 634.3 	
136.	I have the right to speak to my lawyer in private and expect everything I tell him/her to stay between the two of us. <i>My lawyer could tell other people what I say in private if he/she believes that revealing my information is necessary to prevent a criminal act that may cause death or serious harm to me or others.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 634.3 ▪ California Evidence Code § 954 & 956.5 ▪ California Rules of Professional Conduct, Rules 5.752, 5.778, & 5.785 	
137.	I have the right to have my lawyer investigate and tell the court of other problems or needs I may have that are not about court.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 634.3	
138.	I have the right to have my lawyer present evidence and cross examine (question) witnesses, if necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 635, 702.5, & 706 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.752, 5.778, & 5.785 	
139.	I have the right to have my lawyer represent me until the end of the case or until the judge says that they no longer need to represent me.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 634.6	
140.	I have the right to tell the court if I am unhappy with my lawyer, and to ask the judge to appoint a new lawyer to represent me.	People v. Marsden, 2 Cal.3d 118 (1970)	
141.	If I am 10 years or older, I have a right to be told of upcoming court hearings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 290.1 295 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 349 	

142.	I have the right to attend all court hearings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 224.71(o)▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 349▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 679▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(17)▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.530(b)(1)	
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PROBATION COURT (ALSO CALLED DELINQUENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
143.	I have the right to be taken to court so that I may attend my court hearing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 349 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 224.71(o) 	X
144.	I have the right to have issues regarding my siblings, visitation, and placement discussed at every court hearing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 778(a) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 388 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.708 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.810(a) 	X
145.	I have the right to have school issues discussed at every court hearing.	California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.810 (a) 3	
146.	I have the right to object (disagree with) to having certain people in the courtroom who are not involved in my case, except for cases involving certain serious crimes. <i>The judge can still let them in if there is no harm to me.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 675, 676, & 676.5 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.530 	
147.	I have the right to keep my court file private unless the judge has a good reason to let someone else see it. There may be some exceptions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 827, 831, & 832 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 10850 & 16001.9(a)(9) ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rules 5.552 & 5.830 	
148.	I have the right to help create my case plan and plan for permanent placement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 706.6(o)(p) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1 	

PROBATION COURT (ALSO CALLED DELINQUENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
149.	If I am 12 years or older, I have the right to read my case plan and plan for permanent placement, and be told about any changes to the plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ , ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 16001.9(a)(17) & 706.6 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.785 	
150.	I have the right to have someone help me in creating a plan for my future before my case closes and to have important documents including my: (1) social security card, (2) birth certificate, (3) California driver's license or identification card, (4) health and education summary, (5) Foster Care Verification letter (it used to be called the Ward of the Court letter), and (6) final minute order (Probation only). SEE ILP SECTION.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 391, 450, 451, 452, & 727.3	
151.	I have the right to see and get a copy of my court file.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.552(b)(1)(C) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 827 	

PROBATION COURT (ALSO CALLED DELINQUENCY COURT)

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
152.	<p>I have the right to receive transition services that will help me become a successful adult after I have completed my probation requirements. To be eligible, I must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be in foster care placement; • have met my probation goals; • be between the ages of 17.5 and 21 • have family reunification services that have been terminated; and, • be willing to participate in the Transition Jurisdiction program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 450 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §16501.1 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.812 through 5.814 	
153.	The court must assign me a lawyer when I am considered to be a nonminority dependent.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 317 & 451	
154.	I have the right to request that the records of my delinquency case be sealed (made private).	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 786	
155.	I have the right to make and receive private phone calls to and from my lawyer, ombudspersons, and legal service organizations helping me with my case.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §16001.9(a) (10)	
156.	I have the right to send and receive unopened mail to and from my lawyer, ombudspersons, and legal service organizations helping me with my case.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 ▪ California Code of Regulations Title 22t §§ 83072(c)(18)(small family homes), 84072(c)(23)(group homes), 89372(a) (foster family homes) 	
158.	I can be adopted or have someone become my legal guardian through Delinquency court and be informed of the benefits of both.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 727.3 - 727.4, 366.26	
159.	If I am a nonminor dependent, I have the right to call into court on my scheduled court date if I am unable to be there in person.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 388(3 & 452	

CROSS-OVER YOUTH

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
160.	If I have a case in both dependency court (DCFS) and delinquency court (Probation Department), I have the right to be assessed by DCFS and the Probation Department together before the judge decides which system is best for me. The assessment will look at my strengths and needs; if I am a risk or danger to the community; my previous history; and any services that I received in the past.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 241.1	
161.	If I have completed probation and I do not have a safe home to return to, DCFS and the Probation Department will write a report together recommending the best plan for me.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 727	
162.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		

PROBATION

Right		Citation	1 Page Document
163.	I have the right to be placed in a safe facility, where I have enough clothes to wear and healthy food to eat.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 224.71(i) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 224.71(c) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 15, §§ 1372, 1461 & 1462, 14080 through 1488 	
164.	I cannot be locked in a room, building, or facility, unless placed in a community treatment facility, such as Starview or detention facility. There may be exceptions.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9	
165.	No one can search me just to harass, embarrass, or punish me because of my probation status. I can only be searched when there is "probable cause" (a valid reason), unless my judge makes it a part of my probation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Constitution Article 1 § 13 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9 	
166.	I have the right to be told about any changes to my case plan or to where I will be placed.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a)(19)(20)	
167.			
168.	I have a right to see and get a copy of my juvenile case file.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 827(a)(1)(C)	
169.	I have a right to seal (make private) my case records when I turn 18 years old, with help from the Probation Department, unless I was found to have committed certain serious offenses (crimes).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 389 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 781 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 5.830. 	

PROBATION

	Reference	Citation	1 Page Document
170.	I have the right to make and receive private phone calls to and from my lawyer, ombudspersons, and public officials, legal service organizations helping me with my case, and people from the court.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a) (10)	
171.	I have the right to send and receive unopened mail to and from my lawyer, ombudspersons, public officials, legal service organizations helping me with my case, and people from the court.	California Code of Regulations Title 22, §§ 83072(c)(18)(small family homes), 84072(c)(23)(group homes), 89372(a) (foster family homes)	
172.	I have the right to have private visits with my lawyer, ombudspersons, public officials, legal service organizations helping me with my case, and people from the court.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a) (10)	
173.	If I am eligible, I have the right to participate in the Independent Living Program (ILP), where I can get information, services, and financial help to complete my education, learn job skills and be ready to live on my own as an adult. SEE ILP SECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures § 31-236(g), (g) (2) & (g) (6). ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 727.3 	
174.	If I have been living in a group home/Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program for more than a year, I have the right to ask my probation officer to determine whether this placement is still appropriate for me or whether I should be moved to a more family-like placement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 706.5 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 706.6(o) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 727 & 727.3 	
175.	I have the right to have my foster youth rights explained to me in a way that is easy for me to understand. My probation officer must explain these rights to me at least every six months, during my regularly scheduled visits with them.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1(g)(4)	

PROBATION

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
176.	<p>I have the right to contact lawyers, ombudspersons, and state and local agencies regarding problems with my placement or where I am housed, or if my rights have been violated. I cannot be punished for making complaints about my situation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(a) (23) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 22, §§ 83072(c)(11) (small family homes), 84072(c)(16)(group homes), 89372(a) (foster family homes) ▪ California Code of Regulations, Title 22, §§ 83072(c) (23) (small family homes), 84072(c) (28) (group homes), 89372(a) (foster family homes) ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures 31-236(a) 	
177.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		

IMMIGRATION

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
178.	I have the right to ask my lawyer if I qualify for help with my immigration status. My attorney must provide me with help regarding my immigration status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 10609.97(b) ▪ 8 US Code §1101 (a) (27) (J) ▪ California Rules of Professional Conduct 3 through 110 	
179.	If I am undocumented, I should be referred to the DCFS Special Immigration Status (SIS) Unit for assessment or to an immigration nonprofit organization in the community who can process my application. I have the right to be referred for legal representation in my immigration case.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DCFS Policy 1200-500.86, Immigration Options for Undocumented Children and Families ▪ 8 U.S.C. § 1011(a)(27)(J) ▪ California Rules of Professional Conduct 3 through 110 	
180.	<p>I have the right to ask the judge to give me Special Immigrant Juvenile Status if: (1) I am a dependent of the Juvenile Court; (2) I cannot reunify with one or both of my parents; or (3) it is not in my best interest to return to the country where I was born.</p> <p>Link to additional information on Special Immigrant Juvenile Status</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 8 US Code § 1101(a)(27)(J) ▪ Re. Leslie H. v. Superior Court (2014) 224 Cl. App. 4th 340 	
181.	<p>If I am eligible, I have the right to receive extended foster care benefits, even if I am undocumented.</p> <p>SEE NON MINOR DEPENDENT SECTION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social Security Act §§ 472(a)(4), 473(a)(2)(B), 42 ▪ US Code. § 672(a)(4) ▪ 42 US Code §673(a)(2)(B) ▪ The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PL 104-193), 110 Stat. 2105 et seq. 	
182.	If I got legal status when I had an open DCFS case, but my case is now closed, I should be able to receive some immigration related services, including (1) replacement of lost or stolen permanent resident card (green card), (2) U.S. Naturalization, and, (3) post adoption immigration related services, such as changing my name on the green card or applying for a Certificate of U.S. Citizenship for me if at least one of my adoptive parents is a U.S. citizen.	DCFS Policy 1200-500.86, Immigration Options for Undocumented Children and Families	

183.	<p>If my immigration-related rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ My social worker or probation officer▪ My lawyer▪ My judge▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov		
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K-12 EDUCATION

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
184.	<p>I have the right to have an “education rights holder” (ERH). An ERH is an adult who understands my educational needs and makes decisions about my education. This can be either my parent, or another person approved by the judge, like a relative, foster parent, or CASA.</p> <p>[link to additional ERH information]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code §§ 48853.5 and 56055 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 319(g) 	
185.	<p>If I move to a new placement, I have the right to stay in my “school of origin” (the school I attended before the placement change, or another school I have a connection to within the past 15 months), if my ERH decides it is in my best interest. I also have the right to get transportation to my school of origin if approved.</p>	<p>California Education Code §§48204, 48853, & 48853.5</p>	
186.	<p>I have the right to immediately enroll in school and begin attending classes, even if I do not have the paperwork I would normally need for enrollment (birth certificate, transcripts, IEP, immunization records, etc.), uniform, or I owe money, books, or other items to my last school, or I did not check-out from my old school. I cannot be turned away.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 48204 ▪ California Education Code § 48853 ▪ California Education Code § 48853.5 ▪ California Health and Safety Code § 120341 	X
187.	<p>I have the right to participate in any activities available at my new school, such as playing sports, getting tutoring, or going to after-school clubs, even if I miss a tryout or sign-up deadline.</p>	<p>California Education Code § 48850,(a)(1)-(2)</p>	
188.	<p>If I change schools during the school year, I have a right to receive partial (some) credits in all classes that I am passing when I leave my old school, even if I do not finish the entire class.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 48853.5 ▪ California Education Code § 49069.5 ▪ California Education Code § 51225.2 ▪ California Education Code § 48645.5 	X
189.	<p>I have the right to stay in high school for a fifth year to complete my school’s graduation requirements, even if I am over age 18.</p>	<p>California Education Code § Cal. Educ. Code § 51225.1 & 51225.3</p>	

K-12 EDUCATION

DRAFT		Right	Citation	1 Page Document
190.	<p>If I changed schools after the 10th grade, and I am not able to complete my new school's graduation requirements, I may be able to graduate with the state minimum requirements (130 credits in certain classes). My ERH will decide if this option is best for me. My school cannot force me to graduate this way.</p> <p>[link to additional information]</p>	<p>California Education Code § 51225.1 & 51225.3</p>	X	
191.	<p>If I am suspended for more than 5 days, the school should give notice to my attorney and social worker or probation officer at least 10 calendar days before the meeting or hearing, and allow them to attend all meetings or hearings.</p>	<p>California Education Code § 48918.1</p>	X	
192.	<p>My school cannot suspend me for more than 5 school days in a row unless the school has told me that they have recommended me for expulsion (kicking me out of the school district).</p>	<p>California Education Code § 48911(a)</p>	X	
193.	<p>I have the right to have my social worker or probation officer make efforts to avoid, delay, or postpone a placement change that would result in my changing schools during the school year. This can include providing extra services to prevent the placement change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 48850(a) California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1 	X	
194.	<p>I have the right to be connected with a foster youth counselor (sometimes called an “AB 490 liaison”) at my school or district, who will help make sure I am enrolled in school, and in the right classes, help me find and enroll in a new school if I need to, and make sure I get partial (some) credits from my old school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 48853.5(c) ▪ California Education Code § 42921(a) ▪ California Education Code § 60851(f) 		
195.	<p>I have the right to get help with school if I need it. This help can include tutoring, mentoring, counseling, and a referral for special education services. My social worker, probation officer, caregiver, AB 490 liaison, or school counselor can help me get these services</p>	<p>California Education Code § 48853.5(b)</p>		
196.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge 			

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u>
(213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741
pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov▪ <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234
http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/
afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u>
(877) 822-3222
Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u>
(877)-846-1602
www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov | | |
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COLLEGE

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
197.	I have the right to get a Foster Youth Verification letter (it used to be called the Ward of the Court letter) from my ILP/Transition Coordinator, social worker or probation officer. This letter is written verification of the length of time that I was in foster care. I can get a new letter if I lost the original. I have the right to get the Foster Youth Verification letter within five days after asking for it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welfare and Institutions Code § 391(E)(2)(e) and 826.8 ▪ CDSS All County Information Notice I-27-16 	
198.	If I am 16 or older, my social worker or probation officer has to give me information on how to apply to college and for financial aid, the classes that I need for college, and other options that I may have, such as career education and job training..	Welfare and Institutions Code § 16001.9(26)	
199.	If I am 16 years or older, or in Extended Foster Care, an adult must be chosen to be responsible for assisting me with applications for college, including career and technical education programs, such as cosmetology, registered nursing, and construction programs, and financial aid, unless I do not want to attend. More than one adult can be chosen and the name of the person must be written in my case plan.	California Welfare and Institutions Code §16501.1(g)(22)	
200.	<p>If I was in foster care after my 16th birthday and I am under the age of 26, I have the right to priority registration (register for classes early) at California community colleges and CSU schools. In some cases, I may be able to register early even after age 26.</p> <p>If I want to register early at a community college, I must first complete an orientation, assessment, and an educational plan.</p> <p>I may be able to register early at a UC school, but eligibility is different for each school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 66025.9 ▪ California Education Code § 66025.91 	
201.	If I am under the age of 19, I have the right to attend school as a California resident, even if I was placed in foster care in another state, but was still a dependent of California’s child welfare system.	California Education Code § 68085	
202.	I have the right to apply for financial aid to help pay college costs, including tuition, books, supplies, and my living expenses. I must apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available at https://fafsa.ed.gov/ . If I am an eligible undocumented immigrant, I must complete the CA Dream Act Application (CADAA) at www.dream.csac.ca.gov .	Education Code § 68130.5	

COLLEGE

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
203.	<p>If I was in foster care, or was a dependent or ward of the court at any time after age 13, I may qualify for “Independent Status” on the FAFSA. I may also qualify for “Independent Status” if someone other than my parent or stepparent has legal guardianship of me.</p> <p>“Independent Status” means that I do not have to provide any information, including income information, about biological, adoptive or foster parents (including relative or non-relative caregivers), or legal guardians in the FAFSA or CADAA. “Independent Status” may help me qualify for different types of financial aid.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Application and Verification Guide 25 of the 2017-18 ▪ Higher Education Act of 1965, § 480(e)(5) and 480(a)(1)(A) 	
204.	<p>If I am completing the FAFSA or CADAA, I do not have to report any extended foster care payments as income earned from working, or in the “Additional Financial Information” or “Untaxed Income” section.</p> <p>If I am living in a Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP), foster care payments are often called SILP payments. Even if my SILP payment is sent directly to me, I do not need to report this as income.</p> <p>If I am in another type of placement such as THP+FC or a foster home, the monthly stipend I receive from the program or my foster parent(s) does not need to be reported either.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ US Department of Education GEN-13-18 (2013) (Higher Education Act of 1965 480(e)(5)) ▪ Welfare and Institutions Code § 11402.7 	
205.	<p>If I am applying to a CSU or UC school, I will probably qualify for a waiver for the \$55 CSU application fee and the \$70 UC application fee for up to four campuses. I can get more fee waivers from my ILP/Transition Coordinator. With a fee waiver, I will not have to pay the application fee.</p> <p>[link to ILP Online]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education Code § 76300(g)(1)(iv) ▪ Education Code § 66025.9 	
206.	<p>If I am applying to a CA community college, I may qualify to have the enrollment fees waived through the California College Promise Grant (formerly called the BOG Fee Waiver).</p> <p>Foster youth can get and keep this waiver regardless of their academic performance (grades).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education Code § 66025.9(B) ▪ Education Code § 76396.3 	
207.	<p>If I was a dependent or ward of the court, living in foster care, between the ages of 16 through 18, I have the right to apply for the Chafee Grant to receive up to \$5,000 per year to use at qualified public or private colleges, universities, or qualified career and technical schools that are eligible in CA or out of state.</p> <p>I can learn more about the eligibility criteria and application process at www.chafee.csac.ca.gov.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 69519 	

COLLEGE

Right	Citation	1 Page Document
<p>If I attend a community college, CSU, or UC school, I have the right to get academic and financial aid-related help. This help may be provided as part of programs like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI)</u> - Every California community college has at least one foster youth liaison who can help foster youth with getting financial aid, including scholarships, and other student services and resources. ▪ <u>NextUp Program (it used to be called the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support (CAFYES) Program)</u> – Students under age 26, who were in foster care on or after their 16th birthday and enrolled in at least 9 units at a community college with this program, qualify for special assistance and help with financial resources. More information can be found at: http://nextup.cccco.edu/ ▪ <u>Educational Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)</u> - Offered at every California community college to help students who are low-income and/or have educational challenges achieve their educational goals. Offers academic counseling, book grants and more. <i>Space is limited.</i> ▪ <u>Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)</u> - Offered at CSU and UC campuses to help certain students who have faced challenges to achieve their educational goals. Offers admission and academic assistance, and in many cases, offers financial assistance to eligible students. EOP accepts students who do not meet regular admission criteria, as well as those who do qualify for regular admission. <i>Space is limited and students must apply when completing their undergraduate application.</i> ▪ <u>Disabled Student Programs and Services(DSPS)</u>– Offered at colleges to help students with physical, mental and/or learning disabilities achieve their educational goals. Services and supports are determined on a case-by-case basis. Students who had IEPs in high school usually qualify for services. <p>Campus support programs for foster youth - Many community colleges, CSU’s and UC’s have support programs specifically for foster youth. Services can include assistance with admissions, financial aid, housing, orientation, advisement, counseling, and tutoring. These programs are often called “Guardian Scholars”, but their name and program can be different at each campus. More information can be found at: www. cacollegepathways.org/find-campus-support-programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 66025.9 ▪ California Education Code § 67003.5 ▪ California Education Code § 69561 ▪ California Education Code § 78212 ▪ California Education Code § 79220 ▪ California Education Code § 79222 	

208.	<p>If I attend a CSU or UC school, I have the right to priority (first) access to on-campus housing. I may also be able to receive priority access to on-campus housing at some community colleges, if housing is available. CSU schools that have student housing open during school breaks are required to give first priority to current and former foster youth.</p> <p>If I am attending a CSU or UC school, I can stay in my on-campus housing that is available during academic breaks at no extra charge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Education Code § 76010 ▪ California Education Code § 90001.5 ▪ California Education Code § 66019.3 ▪ California Education Code § 92660 	

COLLEGE

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
209.	<p>If I am in the THP+ program and in school, I can stay in THP+ housing for an additional 12 months (a total of 36 months) and up to my 25th birthday. See Transitional Housing Section for more information on the THP+ program.</p>	Welfare and Institutions Code § 11403.2	
210.	<p>If I am a college student, I have the right to apply for CalFresh benefits, which provide financial support to help me get food. My eligibility for CalFresh benefits has to be determined. I can apply for CalFresh benefits by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applying at any DCFS regional office ▪ Applying online at http://www.benefitscal.org/ ▪ Downloading an application at http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/forms/English/CF285.pdf, and turning it in to my local county Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) office. <p>[link to additional information]</p>	CDSS All County Information Notice 1-27-16	
211.	<p>If the rights in this section are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		

EXTENDED FOSTER CARE – AB 12

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
212.	<p>I have the right to participate in the Extended Foster Care program (sometimes called “AB 12”) until age 21 if I was placed in foster care (or suitable placement) on or before my 18th birthday, and meet the participation requirements (see below). The Extended Foster Care program allows me to stay in foster care and get benefits and services until I am age 21.</p> <p>If I am unsure about my eligibility, I can call the DCFS Child Protection Hotline at 800-540-4000 or contact the California Foster Care Ombudsperson (877)-846-1602.</p> <p>I must meet at least one of these requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am enrolled in high school and working towards my diploma or GED. • I am enrolled at least half-time (6 units per semester) in a college or a vocational school. • I am participating in a program or activity designed to help me get a job. • I have a job and I am working at least 80 hours a month. • I have doctor’s report of a medical condition that won’t allow me to do any of the activities listed above. <p>I will also need to meet with my social worker or probation officer once a month, live in an approved placement, and attend a court hearing every 6 months.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 388.1(a)11400(v)(1), 11403(b)1 through 5 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 11-61 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 11-69 ▪ Assembly Bill 12 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 12-12 	
213.	<p>I have the right to participate in my court hearing by telephone if I am not able to be there in person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS All County Letter 12-12 at 5(2012) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 388(e)3 ▪ California Rules of the Court, Rule 3.670 	

EXTENDED FOSTER CARE – AB 12

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
214.	I have the right to decide whether to stay in foster care after I turn 18. The Extended Foster Care program is voluntary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 11400(v)(1) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 388(e) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 366.31(c) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 11-69 at 7 (2011) 	
215.	<p>I have the right to change my mind about participating in the Extended Foster Care program.</p> <p>If I decide to leave foster care, or the judge closes my case, I can still return as long as I meet the participation requirements, and I am under age 21.</p> <p>I can re-enter by calling the DCFS Child Protection Hotline at (800) 540-4000, or by filling out an application at a DCFS office or at the Edelman Courthouse in Monterey Park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 11400(v)(1) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 388(e) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 366.31(c)(a) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 12-12 	
216.	I have the right to be in Extended Foster Care, if eligible, even if I am undocumented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social Security Act §§ 472(a)(4), 473(a)(2)(B) ▪ 42 US Code § 672(a)(4) ▪ 42 US Code § 673(a)(2)(B), (PL 104- 193), 110 Stat. 2105 et seq. 	
217.	<p>I have the right to create a Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) that is updated every six months. The TILP lists the steps that I will take, and the steps that my social worker or probation officer, and other adults will take to help me to prepare to live independently.</p> <p>I also have the right to a special “90-day transition plan,” that I and my social worker or probation officer will create 3 months before I turn 21 (or decide to leave foster care). The “90-day transition plan” will help to make sure I will have housing and a way to support myself when I leave the foster care system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS All County Letter 11-69 at 11 (2011) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 391(e)(2)(J) 11400(y) ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16501.1(g)(16)(A)(ii) 	

EXTENDED FOSTER CARE – AB 12

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
218.	<p>I have the right to apply for CalFresh benefits, which provide financial support to help me get food. Participating in the Extended Foster Care program or the THP+ program does not make me ineligible for CalFresh benefits. My eligibility for CalFresh benefits has to be determined.</p> <p>I can apply for CalFresh benefits by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applying at any DCFS regional office ▪ Applying online at http://www.benefitscal.org/ ▪ Downloading an application at http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/forms/English/CF285.pdf, and turning it in to my local Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS All County Information Notice I-68-17 (October 2, 2017) ▪ CDSS All County Letter 17-05 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 17-08 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 17-09 	
219.	<p>I have the right to get a Foster Youth Verification letter (it used to be called the Ward of the Court letter) from my ILP/Transition Coordinator, social worker or probation officer. This letter is written verification of the length of time that I was in foster care. I can get a new letter if I lost the original. I have the right to get the Foster Youth Verification letter within five days after asking for it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS All County Information Notice I-27-16 ▪ Welfare and Institutions Code § 391(e)(2)(6) 	
220.	<p>If the rights in this area are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov <u>Children's Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov		
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INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (ILP)/SELF SUFFICIENCY

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
221.	<p>If I am between the ages of 16- 20, I may be eligible for Independent Living Program (ILP) services if I:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was in foster care anytime between ages 16 and 18; • Was in a legal guardianship with a relative between ages 16 and 18. This still applies even if my case was closed, but my relatives received funding (called KinGAP benefits); • Was in foster care, and the judge placed me in a legal guardianship with a non-relative and closed my case, on or after my 8th birthday. <p>Certain exceptions may apply.</p> <p>If I am unsure about my eligibility, I can call the DCFS Child Protection Hotline at 800-540-4000 or contact the California Foster Care Ombudsperson (877)-846-1602.</p>	CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures Division 31-525.3	X
222.	<p>ILP services cannot be used as a punishment or reward. For example, my caregiver cannot prevent me from participating in ILP activities because I did not complete my chores.</p>	CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures Division 31-525 .62, 31-525.73	
223.	<p>If I am eligible for ILP, I can get information, services, and financial help to complete my education, learn job skills, and be ready to live on my own as an adult. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Help with high school graduation expenses; ▪ Exploring careers I am interested in, job training, job search assistance, and help with work expenses such as uniforms; ▪ Classes and mentoring on skills I will need as an adult, like how to manage money, rent an apartment, shop for and prepare food, take care of my health, etc; ▪ Help with applying for financial aid for college and vocational programs; ▪ Transitional housing programs and information about other housing options. <p>I can attend “teen club” meetings to learn some of the skills listed above. I can also ask to participate in the Individualized Transition Skills Program (ITSP) program and get a one-on-one mentor, called an Individual Transition Services Coordinator.</p> <p>If I have an open DCFS or Probation case, my social worker or probation officer can give me the name and contact information for my ILP/Transition Coordinator. If my case is closed, I can find my ILP/Transition Coordinator on the ILP Online website, www.ilponline.org.</p>	CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures Division 31-525	

INDEPENDENT LIVING/SELF SUFFICIENCY

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
224.	I have the right to be provided transportation to ILP services and activities. Transportation can include a ride from my caregiver or DCFS staff, or being given bus pass/tokens.	CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures Division 31-236(g)(5)	
225.	<p>I have the right to create a Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) that is updated every six months. The TILP lists the steps that I will take, and the steps that my social worker and other adults will take to help me, to prepare to live independently.</p> <p>I also have the right to a special “90-day transition plan,” that I and my social worker will create 3 months before I am planning to exit the foster care system. The “90-day transition plan” will help to make sure I will have housing and a way to support myself when I leave the foster care system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures Division 31-206.37 ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures, Division 31-236 & 31-525.73 	
226.	<p>If these rights are violated, I have the right to contact those listed below for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My social worker or probation officer ▪ My lawyer ▪ My judge ▪ <u>DCFS Youth Ombudsperson</u> (213) 351-5720 or (877)694-5741 pinquiries@dcfs.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>Children’s Group Home Ombudsman</u> (888)-445-1234 http://grouphomeombudsman.lacounty.gov/ afriend@auditor.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>LA County Probation Department Ombudsperson</u> (877) 822-3222 Ombudsman@probation.lacounty.gov ▪ <u>State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson</u> (877)-846-1602 www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov 		

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Right	Citation	1 Page Document
<p>227. If I have an open case, including being in the Extended Foster Care Program, I have the right to be offered somewhere to live through one of the following types of placement or transitional housing programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Home of an approved relative or non-related extended family member; ▪ Home of a non-related legal guardian; ▪ Foster home; ▪ Licensed group home/Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program until I graduate from high school or turn 19 (unless I have a medical condition, including mental health needs); ▪ <u>Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP)</u> – A SILP is Nonminor Dependent housing that I find. This could be a room I rent from a parent, other relative or friend, an apartment, a college dorm, etc. I decide who I live with and where I live. Before I move into a SILP, my social worker or probation officer and I will conduct a “readiness assessment” to decide if I am ready to live more independently. To be ready to live in a SILP, I should be able to pay my own bills, manage my own money, find a safe place to live, and be ready to be independent; ▪ <u>Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP)</u> – For current foster youth, who are (1.) 16 or 17 years old, (2.) ILP eligible, (3.) on track to complete high school or have already completed high school, and (4.) responsible enough to live in an apartment/house alone or with another foster youth. Youth can be placed in THPP housing for 1 or 2 years, up to age 18. Your social worker must refer you to the THPP. ▪ <u>Transitional Housing Placement Plus Foster Care (THP+FC)</u> – For DCFS or Probation Nonminor Dependents (NMD) between the ages of 18 and 21. Youth can stay in THP+FC for up to 3 years and up to their 21st birthday. A social worker or probation officer must refer youth to the THP+FC program. <p>If I have an open case, and I am participating in a transitional housing program, I am responsible for maintaining the eligibility requirements for the Extended Foster Care program – AB 12. See Extended Foster Care - AB 12 section for more information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code §§ 11402 & 11403.2 ▪ CDSS All County Letter 11-77 ▪ 	

If my **case is closed**, I may be eligible for one of the following transitional housing programs:

- **Transitional Housing Program Plus (THP+)** – For DCFS and Probation youth who exited foster care at or after age 18, and are (1.) between the ages of 18 and 24, (2.) able to work full-time, attend school full-time or work and attend school on a part-time basis, and (3.) homeless or at risk of being homeless. Youth can stay in this program for a total of 24 months or up to their 24th birthday, whichever comes first. Youth can self-refer or be referred to the program by the DCFS or Probation Department Housing Coordinator.

Youth in school can stay in the THP+ program for an additional 12 months (up to 36 months) and up to their 25th birthday.

- **Los Angeles Homeless Housing Authority (LAHSA) Independent Living Program (ILP) Housing**
For DCFS and Probation youth who have exited the system, and are (1.) between the ages of 18 and 21, (2.) ILP eligible, (3.) able to work or attend school/training, and (4.) are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Youth can stay in this program for up to 36 months if they started the program when they were 18. Youth can apply for this program through the Youth Coordinated Entry System, which is available by contacting DCFS, the Probation Department, Department of Mental Health, youth drop-in shelters, or schools.

If my **case is closed and I have a mental health diagnosis**, I may also be eligible for the LAHSA Mental Health Transitional Housing Program:

- **LAHSA Mental Health Transitional Housing Program** – For DCFS and Probation youth who have exited the system and are (1.) between the ages of 18 and 21, (2.) have a mental health diagnosis, (3.) ILP eligible, (4.) able to work or attend school/training, and (5.) homeless or at risk of being homeless. Youth can stay in this program for up to 36 months if they started the program when they were 18. Youth can apply for this program through the Youth Coordinated Entry System, which is available by contacting DCFS, the Probation Department, Department of Mental Health, youth drop-in shelters, or schools.

[\[link to ILP online\]](#)

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
228.	<p>If I am referred to a transitional housing program, I must complete the application process and be accepted before I can move into transitional housing.</p> <p>If I am accepted into a transitional housing program, I have the right to review the program’s written policies and procedures; have them explained to me in a way that I understand; and sign acknowledgement that I received these written policies and procedures.</p>		
229.	<p>If I am living in an apartment or house as part of one of these transitional housing programs, I have the right to:</p>		
230.	<p>Privacy - My apartment should have a front door (and back door if I have one) that locks. The building owner/manager and transitional housing program staff must give me advance notice in writing if they need to enter my apartment. If I have not received written notice, they cannot come into my apartment without my consent, unless there is an emergency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CDSS Manual of Policies and Procedures, 30-920.1(n). ▪ California Civil Code § 1941.3\ ▪ California Civil Code § 1954 	
231.	<p>Safe and healthy living conditions - Building owners/managers and the transitional housing program manager must ensure that the building is maintained, free from mold, pests, and other health hazards, and the plumbing, electrical, heating/cooling and other systems are in good repair (working well).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Green v. Superior Court, 10 Cal.3d 616, 637-638 (1974) ▪ California Civil Code § 1941 ▪ California Civil Code § 1941.1 ▪ California Civil Code § 1941.1(6) ▪ California Civil Code § 1941.1(2)(5) 	
232.	<p>Written notice before I am discharged (removed) from transitional housing, except in certain emergency situations.</p> <p>Emergency situations may include, but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am arrested and removed by a law enforcement officer. • My health and safety, or the health and safety of others is endangered by me being there. • I am removed for emergency medical or psychiatric (mental health) care. <p>If I receive notice that I will be discharged (removed) and have questions or concerns, I should</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Code of Regulations § Title 22, Division 6, Chap 7 ▪ California Code of Regulations § 86168.4(b) ▪ California Code of Regulations § 86168.4(d)-(e) ▪ California Code of Regulations § 86168.4(c) ▪ California Code of Regulations § 86168.4(f) 	

immediately contact:

- My social worker
- My attorney
- Public Counsel
(213) 385-2977 x500
- The Housing Rights Center of Los Angeles
(800) 477-5977
- State of California Foster Care Ombudsperson
(877)-846-1602
www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov
- Community Care Licensing
1-844-538-8766
letusno@dss.ca.gov

TEEN PARENTS

	Right	Citation	1 Page Document
233.	I have the right to be placed with my child, whenever possible, unless placing us together is a risk to my child. My social worker or probation officer must find a placement with caregivers who will be supportive.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16002.5 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16004.5 	
224.	My child s automatically be considered to be at risk of abuse or neglect just because of my placement history, past behavior, or health or mental health diagnoses (problems) from before my pregnancy, but this information will be included when they assess the possible risk of abuse and neglect of my child.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 361.8(a)	
225.	If I have custody of my child, and my child is not in foster care, the court must order visitation with my child’s non-custodial (other) parent and appropriate family members, unless the Court determined that there is clear evidence (proof) that visitation would be bad for me or my child.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 362.1(4)	
226.	I have the right to receive services that will help me to bond with my child and provide a safe home. Services can include parenting classes, child care, help completing high school in a school that offers child care, having a Pregnant and Parenting Teen Conference and/or developing a Shared Responsibility Plan. [link to additional information] .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 16002.5 	
227.	If I have an open case, before agreeing to open a Voluntary Family Maintenance (VFM) or Voluntary Family Reunification (VFR) DCFS case with my child, I must talk with my court appointed lawyer.	California Welfare and Institutions Code § 301(c)	
228.	If my child was the result of a rape, I have the right to go to court to prevent my child’s father, who was convicted of the rape, from having custody or making decisions about my child.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Family Code (FC) 7825 ▪ California Welfare and Institutions Code § 361.5(b) 	