

CALIFORNIA CODES
WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE
SECTION 16522-16522.6

16522. (a) The State Department of Social Services shall adopt regulations to govern county transitional housing placement programs that provide supervised housing services to persons at least 16 years of age and not more than 18 years of age, except as provided in Section 11403, and who meet all of the following conditions:

(1) Meet the requirements of Section 11401.

(2) Are in out-of-home placement under the supervision of the county department of social services or the county probation department.

(3) Are participating in, or have successfully completed an independent living program.

(b) A transitional housing program may also serve any person under 21 years of age who is receiving aid under Section 11403.1.

(c) The department may structure statewide implementation of transitional housing placement programs on a phased-in basis.

(d) Transitional housing placement program services shall include any of the following:

(1) Programs in which one or more participants in the program live in an apartment, single-family dwelling, or condominium with an adult employee of the provider.

(2) Programs in which a participant lives independently in an apartment, single-family dwelling, or condominium rented or leased by the provider located in a building in which one or more adult employees of the provider reside and provide supervision.

(3) Programs in which a participant lives independently in an apartment, single-family dwelling, or condominium rented or leased by a provider under the supervision of the provider if the State Department of Social Services provides approval.

(e) The regulations shall be age-appropriate and recognize that youth who are about to emancipate from the foster care system should be subject to fewer restrictions than those who are younger. At a minimum, the regulations shall provide for both of the following:

(1) Require programs that serve youth who are both in and out of the foster care system to have separate rules and program design, as appropriate, for these two groups of youth.

(2) Allow youth who have emancipated from the foster care system to have the greatest amount of freedom possible in order to prepare them for self-sufficiency.

16522.1. In order to be licensed pursuant to Section 1559.110 of the Health and Safety Code, an applicant shall obtain certification from the county department of social services or the county probation department that the facility program provides all of the following:

(a) (1) Admission criteria for participants in the program, including, but not limited to, consideration of the applicant's age, previous placement history, delinquency history, history of drug or alcohol abuse, current strengths, level of education, mental health history, medical history, prospects for successful participation in the program, and work experience. Youth who are wards of the court

described in Section 602 and youth receiving psychotropic medications shall be eligible for consideration to participate in the program, and shall not be automatically excluded due to these factors.

(2) The department shall review the admission criteria to ensure that the criteria are sufficient to protect participants and that they do not discriminate on the basis of any characteristic listed or defined in Section 11135 of the Government **Code**.

(b) Strict employment criteria that include a consideration of the employee's age, drug or alcohol history, and experience in working with persons in this age group.

(c) A training program designed to educate employees who work directly with participants about the characteristics of persons in this age group placed in long-term care settings, and designed to ensure that these employees are able to adequately supervise and counsel participants and to provide them with training in independent living skills.

(d) A detailed plan for monitoring the placement of persons under the licensee's care.

(e) A contract between the participating person and the licensee that specifically sets out the requirements for each party, and in which the licensee and the participant agree to the requirements of this article.

(f) An allowance to be provided to each participant in the program. In the case of a participant living independently, this allowance shall be sufficient for the participant to purchase food and other necessities.

(g) A system for payment for utilities, telephone, and rent.

(h) Policies regarding all of the following:

(1) Education requirements.

(2) Work expectations.

(3) Savings requirements.

(4) Personal safety.

(5) Visitors, including, but not limited to, visitation by the placement auditor pursuant to subdivision (d).

(6) Emergencies.

(7) Medical problems.

(8) Disciplinary measures.

(9) Child care.

(10) Pregnancy.

(11) Curfew.

(12) Apartment cleanliness.

(13) Use of utilities and telephone.

(14) Budgeting.

(15) Care of furnishings.

(16) Decorating of apartments.

(17) Cars.

(18) Lending or borrowing money.

(19) Unauthorized purchases.

(20) Dating.

(21) Grounds for termination that may include, but shall not be limited to, illegal activities or harboring runaways.

(i) Apartment furnishings, and a policy on disposition of the furnishings when the participant completes the program.

(j) Evaluation of the participant's progress in the program and reporting to the independent living program and to the department regarding that progress.

(k) A linkage to the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29

U.S.C. Sec. 2801 et seq.) program administered in the local area to provide employment training to eligible participants.

16522.2. Persons may participate in the supervised transitional housing placement programs only with the permission of both the independent living program of the county in which the program is located and the county department of social services or the county probation department that has custody of the person.

16522.5. Prior to approval of supervised transitional housing placement programs in a county, the department shall approve a plan submitted by the county's independent living program that includes assurances that the independent living program shall participate actively in the screening of candidates for this program and shall assist the licensed agency in the supervision of clients participating in the program.

16522.6. The department shall make information available to the Legislature upon request regarding services rendered pursuant to this article.