

Can I Re-Enter Foster Care after I Emancipate?

Yes. If eligible, you can request any time before your 21st birthday to have the Juvenile Court re-open your case so that you can re-enter foster care as an NMD.

If you want to re-enter foster care:

1. Call (714) 704-8000 and request to speak with your social worker.
2. A social worker will help you prepare the paperwork for Court.

Court will have a hearing to decide if you are doing what is required to return to foster care. If Court does not allow you to return to foster care, you may make another request once you meet one of the requirements.

Employment Housing
Connection Education
Support Independence
Housing

Support Connection Education

Employment Independence
Youth Advisement
of

Employment Housing Support
Non-Minor Independence
Dependency

Housing Support
Employment Connection Education
Independence
(Extended Foster Care)



What is **Emancipation**?

Emancipation means having your case closed with Court and the Social Services Agency. You no longer have a social worker or Court hearings when you emancipate.

When Can I Emancipate?

When you turn 18 years old you can request to emancipate.

What is a **Non-Minor Dependent (NMD)**?

A foster youth who chooses to stay in foster care or return to foster care after age 18. To be an NMD you must:

- Turn 18 years old while in foster care placement and be less than 21 years of age (If you have or will turn 18 in 2011, talk to your social worker about whether you will be eligible for Extended Foster Care.)
- Stay in foster care or return to foster care under an agreement with Children and Family Services (CFS)
- Participate in a Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP)

How do I **Qualify** for **Extended Foster Care (EFC)** as an NMD?

You must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Work towards completing high school (e.g., Diploma, GED, High School Proficiency Certificate, etc.)
- Be enrolled in college classes or a vocational school (to learn a job skill)
- Be in a program that helps you get a job
- Work at least 80 hours per month
- Be unable to participate in any of the activities above because of a medical condition

What are my **Rights** and **Responsibilities** as an NMD?

NMDs have the same rights as a dependent child. In addition, you have the rights and responsibilities of an adult to make decisions for yourself.

What are the **Benefits** to EFC?

- Continued support towards education/employment
- When applicable, support to develop permanent connections with caring adults
- Ongoing Independent Living Program (ILP) services and case management, including monthly social worker contact
- Continued funding for housing (rate will vary based on where you reside)

Where Can I **Live**?

You will be placed in a supervised setting that will help you prepare for independent living. This may mean staying in your current placement or being placed with a:

- Relative/Non-Relative Extended Family Member (NREFM)
- Foster Home
- Supervised Independent Living Setting (e.g., dorm room, apartment)
- Transitional Housing Program (i.e., housing that provides support services for independent living)
- Group Home (for youth under age 19, if already living there and planning to stay in order to finish high school)