



Employment/Job Training/Apprenticeship Incentive Program

The Employment/Job Training/Apprenticeship Incentive Program (EJTAIP) is designed to provide financial and supplemental services to help youth gain marketable skills through on-the-job work experience, job training programs, or approved apprenticeships.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Youth for whom DCFS is legally responsible, between the ages of 17 and 21. Youth age 16 participating in a Job Corps program are also eligible.
- Have a high school diploma or a General Education Development (GED) certificate
- Complete Casey Life Skills Assessment
- Be involved in job training through a certified job skills training program (e.g., Job Corps, internship), be employed for at least one month prior to applying for the EJTAIP and working a minimum of 20 hours per week or 80 hours a month, or be participating in an apprenticeship training program approved or recognized by the Illinois Department of Employment Security or by the United States Department of Labor.

Youth enrolled in an approved apprenticeship are eligible if in care of the Department, aged out of care of the Department at age 18 or older, or achieved adoption or guardianship directly from the Department's care. Youth must be under the age of 26 before enrolling in a qualified apprenticeship program and must document active participation.

Benefits:

- Monthly payment of \$158.00 with documentation
- Start-up funding for work-related items (e.g., tools, work clothing, etc.). Funding is need-based and limited to a one-time disbursement of up to \$210.00 with required documentation. Requests for larger amounts may be approved by exception.

Referral Information Requirements:

- EJTAIP Application (Form CFS 449-2)
- Current Client Service Plan (Form CFS 497) (youth in care only)
- Service Agreement signed by youth and caseworker (if applicable)
- Verification of employment, job training program participation, or approved apprenticeship.

For more information, contact: 217-557-2689

