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Adoption Q&A

Can I continue to receive a subsidy for my adopted child after 18 years of age?

Yes, if your child was adopted at 16 years of age or older AND if he/she meets Extended Foster Care (EFC) eligibility requirements.

My adopted child is 18 and still in school. Can she still receive Medicaid?

Yes, if your child was adopted at 16 years or older, meets EFC eligibility requirements and receives the extended adoption subsidy, your child can continue to be covered by Medicaid.

No, if your child was adopted before 16 years old. You should receive a letter from the Louisiana Department of Health stating that your child is no longer receiving Medicaid through DCFS. Your child may apply for Medicaid on his/her own.

My child will be graduating high school and is applying for college, what financial aid and grants does he/she qualify for?

When completing the FASFA application, please check off the box stating that your child was in foster care.

Send your questions to dcfs.adoptions@la.gov for future issues, or speak to a DCFS Adoption staff member for more immediate needs.

Navigating the Holidays ...the joys and challenges

At various times throughout the year, we are immersed as a culture in times of annual celebration that are strongly linked to traditions, memories, friends, and family. Which holidays are celebrated, and how they are celebrated, is also strongly tied to religious and cultural background. Families often repeat the same rituals, passed down through generation after generation of shared history.

So, what does all of this emphasis on tradition and family mean for those families that have been formed by adoption? In our experience, it can mean that there are some unique challenges that must be addressed and navigated in these seasons. But it also means that there are unique opportunities that we can take advantage of at these times.

Continue reading at:

<https://adoptioncouncil.org/publications/unwrapping-opportunities-for-adoptive-families-during-the-holidays/>

DCFS News Corner

LA 211, Louisiana's Statewide Network, connects callers to information about critical health and human services available in their community. Support is available 24/7, and it's FREE and confidential. Visit louisiana211.org or text your Zip Code to 898-211

State Offices will be closed: February 13 and March 29, 2024

Upcoming Trainings

Dynamic Youth Health Transition Essentials: What, Why, & How

Wednesday, January 24, 2024
10 - 11 am

Susan Shaffette - CLARO via Team

Patti Barovechio of the LDH Bureau of Family Health will discuss the youth health care transition to adulthood and offer some valuable tips and resources to make for a smoother process

Click [here](#) to register.
For more information, visit:
<https://clarola.org/>

Trust-Based Relational Intervention

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) is a care model designed to help meet relational and developmental needs of children and youth impacted by trauma.

TBRI considers the whole child — brain, biology, behavior, body, and beliefs — and provides parents and caregivers with practical tools and insight to help their child(ren) reach his or her highest potential.

For more information, visit:
<https://child.tcu.edu/about-us/tbri/#sthash.Rrd0dzvZ.U0qmoCJg.dpbs>

DCFS Adoption Highlights for Federal Fiscal Year 2022-23 (10-1-22 to 9-30-23)



**619 children were adopted by 465 families
4 adult adoptions**

Thibodaux - Region of the Year
Cody & Katie Monteleone - Adoptive Family of the Year
Ernest & Cecilia Carter - Adoptive Family of the Year
Paula C. Davis - Adoption Advocate of the Year
Lori Troyer - Adoption Worker of the Year
Foster the Love - Community Partner of the Year
James Samaritan - Community Partner of the Year



[Read more](#) about this year's honorees.

Resources for Adoptive Families

- [DCFS's Adoption Page](#)
- [Center for Adoption Support and Education](#)
- [Louisiana 211](#)
- [National Training and Development Curriculum \(NTDC\) for foster and adoptive parents](#)