



Attend their school of origin or an appropriate school, and have access to transportation to and from school (and/or employment and extracurricular activities, if applicable).

Participate in or continue to participate in healthy and appropriate activities associated with school, culture, a religious organization, or within the community.

Have access to vital documents (birth certificate, social security card, state identification card) before aging out of foster care, as well as access to services and resources regarding the transition to adulthood.

Express opinions, thoughts, needs, and feelings in a respectful, constructive manner.

Actively participate in case planning and to be informed of changes in their case, including participation in placement decisions.

Be allowed to pack their belongings in luggage or other suitable containers.

Receive quality services that meet their specific needs in conjunction with a stable environment and the least amount of disruptions.

Be informed of their rights and to have an identified person or entity to contact when rights are violated, such as a Guardian ad Litem or Ombudsman.

Maintain healthy relationships with parents and siblings through frequent visitation and contact.

Have access to important adults including caseworkers and legal representatives.

Be informed of when their court hearings are and be able to attend those hearings.

Utah Foster Youth Bill of Rights

The Utah Foster Youth Bill of Rights was created in collaboration with foster youth to ensure that children and teens who come into state care both understand and are empowered to exercise the following rights:

Be treated with respect regardless of age, race, culture, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, religious beliefs, family relations, or family history.

Live in a safe and healthy environment with adequate clothing, appropriate hygienic items, and sufficient food of nutritional value.

Have access to adequate health care services including mental health, physical health, dental health, as well as the right to request medical appointments and consistent and quality medical attention.

Normalcy Law

As a child or youth in state care, it's important that you are able to continue to participate in activities without prior approval from DCFS. The Normalcy Law (Utah Code 62A-4a-211) recognizes the importance of DCFS making efforts to normalize the lives of children in its custody, and provides an opportunity for the Division to empower your caregiver to approve or disapprove participation in activities. These decisions should be based on the caregiver's own assessment using a reasonable and prudent parent standard.