

February 28, 2023

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-24

The All County Letter is being issued by the Department to provide guidance on the implementation of new requirements made to the Transitional Housing Program-Plus program as a result of the 2022-2023 State Budget.



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

February 28, 2023

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 23-24

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM MANAGERS
ALL INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM COORDINATORS
ALL FOSTER CARE MANAGERS
ALL TRANSITIONAL HOUSING COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: **TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS EXTENSION TO
AGE 25 AND FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS**

REFERENCE: [STATE BUDGET 2022-2023 \(ASSEMBLY BILL 178\)](#); [SENATE BILL 154](#); [HUMAN SERVICES OMNIBUS \(SENATE BILL 187\)](#); [ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-40-15](#); [SENATE BILL 1252 \(CHAPTER 774, STATUTES OF 2014\)](#); [SENATE BILL 1020 \(CHAPTER 40, STATUTES OF 2012\)](#); [WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 11403.2](#); [GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 30026.5\(f\)](#); [ALL COUNTY LETTER NO's. 12-44 & 11-53](#)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to provide guidance to counties regarding the programmatic changes made to the Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus), as a result of the passage of the 2022-2023 State Budget and the [Human Services Omnibus \(Senate Bill \(SB\) 187\)](#) trailer bill.

BACKGROUND

The THP-Plus is an optional, state-funded transitional housing program that serves former foster youth, including those formerly supervised by probation. To be eligible for this county-certified and provider-based program, young adults must have left foster care on or after their 18th birthday. The program's goal is to provide a safe living environment and supportive services based on the participant's Transitional Independent Living plan (TILP), a collaborative plan developed by the young adult, county personnel, other supportive persons, and in the case of an Indian child, that former foster youth's Tribe. When it was originally established, the THP-Plus participants were eligible to receive housing and supportive services for 24 cumulative months or until reaching age 24. With the passage of [SB 1252](#) in 2014, and as described in [All County Information Notice \(ACIN\) I-40-15](#), counties could extend the participation period to 36 cumulative months or until a participant reached age 25. That extension was conditioned upon the participants' ongoing progress toward completion of either secondary education or vocational education, or enrollment in an institution that provides postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM-PLUS

With the passage of the 2022-2023 State Budget, additional funding was made available for the THP-Plus programs. This increased funding supports provisions in [SB 187](#), that mandate the 36-month/age 25 duration and eliminate certain educational requirements. Thus, as of July 1, 2022, counties with THP-Plus programs must provide all eligible participants services for 36 cumulative months or until turning age 25. In addition, the budgetary legislation removed the education requirements outlined in [ACIN I-40-15](#) for participants in THP-Plus Programs, in which counties opted into the [SB 1252](#) extension. As a result, this ACL supersedes all previous guidance regarding THP-Plus Program duration requirements. It should be noted that while the education requirements associated with the guidelines found in [ACIN I-40-15](#) have been removed, all THP-Plus participants, regardless of whether they are in their first, second, or third year of THP-Plus participation, are still expected to be actively working on their TILP. There are no different or additional requirements for THP-Plus participants who are in their third year of THP-Plus participation.

FUNDING

Along with the policy changes made to the THP-Plus program, the 2022 State Budget, as enacted with the passage of [Assembly Bill 178](#) and [SB 154](#), also included \$25.3 million in additional funding for the Transitional Housing Program administered by Housing and Community Development (HCD). These funds bring the total HCD Transitional Housing Program budget to \$33.3 million, which allows for the maintenance and expansion of housing slots within local transitional housing programs. In addition to

the funding derived from the HCD Transitional Housing program, counties may continue to utilize their realigned Local Revenue Funds (LRF) and existing claiming instructions for THP-Plus to support the THP-Plus program. Additional information can be found in [County Fiscal Letter 11/12-18](#). Counties may utilize the budgetary increase, along with local THP-Plus funding including LRF, to assist with enacting the new THP-Plus requirements. For more information regarding HCD's Transitional Housing program and application process, please visit the [Transitional Housing Program webpage](#) or email THP@hcd.ca.gov. Questions pertaining to the CDSS realigned THP-Plus allocation may be directed to Fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov.

BEST PRACTICES

While the new legislative changes for the THP-Plus took effect on July 1, 2022, and apply to all existing and incoming THP-Plus participants, previous participants who are under the age of 25 and who exited their THP-Plus programs due to the initial program limits, or did not want to pursue the requirements previously attached to the [SB 1252](#) extension, may have the opportunity to partake in the program for an additional year. Best practices for counties with these programs would be to ensure that past participants who are eligible to take advantage of the expanded participation are made aware of the new opportunities.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, contact the Family Permanency and Support Services Branch, Youth and Caregiver Support Bureau at (916) 651-7465 or at TAYPolicy@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By

ANGIE SCHWARTZ
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division

cc: All Federally Recognized Tribes