



Guidelines for Understanding **ASOH'S ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

A Sense of Home serves young people who have aged out of foster care.

Sometimes it is hard to determine what aged-out means. Here are some questions to help you determine if you have "aged out":

- If you were in foster care and were a ward or a dependent of the court until age 18 or 21.
- If you were, until the age of 18 or 21, under legal guardianship ordered by the court.
- If you were an emancipated minor by court order and remained one until the age of 18 or 21.
- If you were once in foster care and you do not have adoptive parents and were never returned to the care of your biological parents.
- If you were once in foster care, and you do not have adoptive parents and your biological parents attempted to care for you but could not.
- If both of your parents are deceased and you do not have adoptive parents.

Do the criteria apply to you?

Sometimes young people have entered foster care and have not remained a ward of the court but never found family. If this applies to you and none of the six above questions identify your journey, please make an application, and please upload your documentation.

Support in obtaining documentation:

- If you have a Ward of Court Verification Letter, or a “Dependency Letter” or “Minute Orders” this will prove eligibility. Please upload with your application.
 - If you do not have a Ward of Court Verification Letter:
 - Send an email to youthds@dcfs.lacounty.gov and/or masont@dcfs.lacounty.gov with your full name, DOB and your request for your Ward of the Court document.
- If you know the last office your case/social worker was from, you can go to www.ilponline.org/ContactILP and obtain the office email address and cell phone number for follow-up. They should be able to send you your Ward of the Court document, within 24 hours depending on the time of the email but definitely within 72 hours.
- You can also call (213) 763-6600 or (877) 694-5741
- If you are not able to obtain your Ward of the Court in a timely fashion, you can request a letter providing proof of dependency verification from any of the agencies listed here: asenseofhome.org/referring-agencies. The letter should provide the following information:
 - Date of Birth
 - Dependency/Wardship Start Date
 - Dependency/Wardship Termination End Date (Court Date)
- If you find that you do not qualify for a Ward of Court Verification letter call (877) 846-1602 to receive your Foster Care Verification.
 - When submitting your Foster Care Verification please also include the contact of your case worker or the contact at your referring agency.
 - Official country letters, showing Date of Birth, Dependency/Wardship Start Date, and Dependency/Wardship Termination End Date (Court Date) can be used in lieu of a Ward of the Court.

If none of the above steps help you in obtaining your documentation please ask any agency that has provided you with support services for a Letter of Verification of Dependency Letter.

These agencies include Guardian Scholars or any agency listed here:

asenseofhome.org/referring-agencies

