

Youth Name _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

TAY Life Skills Study Guide

Housing and Transportation

This guide will help you learn about common and affordable housing options and transportation.

By completing this section you will learn about:

- a) The pros and cons of various housing options.
- b) The legal responsibilities and ramifications of renting or buying property.
- c) The pros and cons of various transportation options.
- d) Auto insurance coverage options.

Follow the directions and complete each of the following activities.

After you have completed each activity, have your foster parent or caregiver initial below.

Activities

Renting 101 Course

Time allotted: 2 Hours

Purpose: To help first-time renters select, lease, and live responsibly in rental housing.

1) Go to www.extension.umn.edu

- Hover over the "Learn About" tab to click "Home and financial management."
- Stroll to the middle of the page to "Housing Options" and click "Renting."
- Click on "Renter 101" to participate in the online course.
- Click on "Access the Course Now".
- Skip the "Demographics" section.
- Click the "Renter 101 Workbook" to download the PDF workbook to complete the lessons throughout the video.
- Complete the Renter 101 video.
- Discuss what you learned with a friend, foster parent or caregiver and refer back to the workbook and its activities as you make future housing plans.

Caregiver Initials:

Important Renting Considerations

Time allotted: 1 Hour

Purpose: To learn more about potential circumstances while renting and how to deal with them

1) Tips and Myths of Renting

- Visit <https://www.housing-rights.org>
- Click on the 3 parallel lines in the right corner, select "Forms and Other Resources", and from there click the link to the "Fact Sheets".
- Review the following fact sheets "Tips for Renters" and "The Myths of Renting in Texas".
- Write down 1 truth you learned:

2) Repairs and Evictions

- Review the following fact sheets from the above website: "Repair Rights" and "The Eviction Process".
- Discuss the information with your foster parent or caregiver.

Caregiver Initials:

Activities

Automobile Insurance

Time allotted: 30 min

Purpose: To understand requirements by law to carry insurance and the repercussions of not carrying insurance.

1 Go to www.extension.umn.edu

- Under the "Insurance" tab, click "Consumers."
- Scroll down until you get to the "Insurance information" section and click "Auto / Vehicle."
- Click the "Auto insurance guide" link under the Auto insurance guide section.
- Read the information regarding insurance requirements in Texas.
- Return to the "Auto / Vehicle" page using either the back arrow or the previous steps.
- Scroll to the bottom of the page to the "Auto insurance education tool" section and click the "PlayInsure.com" link to do a test drive of the insurance coverage you selected.
- Discuss what you've learned with your foster parent or caregiver.

Caregiver Initials:

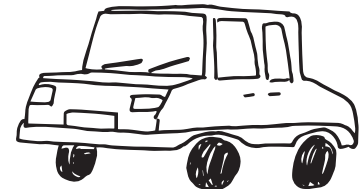
Buying a Car

Time allotted: 10 min

Purpose: To explore how to buy a car.

1 Visit <http://www.dmv.org>

- Click on "Buying & Selling" at the top of the page.
- Click on "Used Car Buyers Guide".
- Read the "Used Car Buyers Guide" publication.
- Discuss with your foster parent or caregiver.



Caregiver Initials:

Vehicle Maintenance

Time allotted: 10 min

Purpose: To know the basic maintenance items on a vehicle.

1 Visit www.carbibles.com

- Click on "Basic Car Maintenance Tips".
- Read the information on different types of vehicle maintenance tips.
- Discuss with your foster parent or caregiver.

Caregiver Initials:

Activities

Public Transportation

Time allotted: 30 min

Purpose: To learn about public transportation options.

- ① Research local means of transportation including taxis and buses.
- ② List the types, costs, and benefits of public transportation available in your area.

- ③ Discuss options with your foster parent or caregiver.

Caregiver Initials:

Getting Around by Bus

Time allotted: 30 min

Purpose: To learn how to read a bus schedule.

- ① Go to <https://www.metrotransit.org/>
 - In the search bar type "Reading a bus schedule".
 - Click the article labeled "Reading a bus schedule" article.
 - Read through the tips and tricks.
- ② List the types, costs, and benefits of public transportation available in your area.
 - Find your local bus service by Googling "local bus service in [your city's name]."
 - Determine the cost of your trip.
 - Plan a bus trip.

- ③ If no bus service is available near you, visit <https://www.capmetro.org> and plan a bus trip in Austin.

Caregiver Initials:

Activities

Additional Housing Options

Time allotted: 1 Hour, 30 min

Purpose: To understand other special housing options that may be available to you as you transition into adulthood.

① Visit <https://texasfosteryouth.org/legal-resources/>

- Select "For Youth", then "Aging Out", and review the information.
- Go back to the initial page, select "Housing" and review the sections "Housing Benefits to Youth
- Leaving Foster Care" through "Fair Housing". Feel free to review the additional information.
- Write down the eligibility requirements for the following benefits:

Transitional Living Allowance (TLA)

Aftercare Room and Board Assistance

② Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative

- Visit <http://www.dfps.state.tx.us>
- In the search bar, search "Foster Youth to Independence" and select "Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative - DFPS".
- Review the information and contact your PAL worker for more information about availability and the application process.
- Visit <https://www.hud.gov/fyi>
- Scroll down to "Read Stories of Foster Youth in FYI" and read a couple of stories.

③ Public Housing

- Visit <https://www.txtha.org>
- On the right side of the page under "Find Affordable Housing" select "Directory of PHAs".
- Search for public housing authorities (PHAs) in your local area from the list (in alphabetical order) and write down the name and contact information of your local PHA.

Activities

Additional Housing Options, continued

4) 8-1-1

- Visit <https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us>
- In the search bar, type "811" and select the web page titled "Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Program".
- Review the eligibility and target populations and determine your eligibility.

5) Family Unification Program (FUP)

- Visit <https://www.hud.gov/>
- In the search bar, type "Family Unification Program".
- Select the "Family Unification Vouchers" webpage and review the information.

6) Write down the names of any housing or placement options you learned about.

Caregiver Initials:

Activities

Homelessness Resources

Time allotted: 30 min

Purpose: To understand resources that may be especially useful to youth experiencing homeless or unaccompanied youth.

1) Visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

- In the search bar, search "How Support Services Impact Youth and Young Adults Experiencing Homelessness".
- Click and watch the video from the Texas Network of Youth Services (TNOYS).
- Reflect on your biggest takeaway after watching the video.

2) Visit <http://tnoys.org/provider-directory-2/>

- Review the list of programs descriptions on this webpage.
- What are 2 types of programs that would be most beneficial to you?

- Use the directories under "Program Type" or "Region" to search for one of those types of programs in your area.

3) Visit <http://tnoys.org/youth-homelessness-resources/>

- Scroll down to "Understanding Youth Rights", click on the title, and review pages 11-12.
- What is the maximation time limit for care in emergency situations without parental consent?

- When are youth able to consent of their own?

- What are shelters obligated to do regarding contacting the youth's parent or guardian about their location? Transitional living programs?

Caregiver Initials: