

Youth 14+

Youth 14-years and older

CPS Policy 3.14.2.1

You have a right to have a credit report done, as well as assistance to correct any errors on your credit report

You have a right to have two support people of your choice who are appropriate to help you with case planning

You have a right to access knowledge and skills on becoming a successful adult

You have a right to have access to programs and supports outside of Office of Children's Services to prepare for the future.

Youth 18+

Youth 18-years and older leaving Foster Care

CPS Policy 3.20.1.A RIGHTS

If you were receiving Medicaid when you aged out of foster care at age 18-years or older, you may be eligible for Former Foster Care Medicaid until age 26 through Department of Public Assistance.

If you were in foster care for at least 6 months, you have the right to receive the following documents when you exit care: birth certificate, social security card, health insurance documentation, medical record and identification card (or drivers license), BIA card, tribal card or tribal certificate.

I understand my rights. My rights have been explained to me.

If I have any questions I can contact my Regional Independent Living Specialist (RILS). My RILS name and phone number is:

The Office of Children's Services has the duty to protect your safety and at times, the rights you have may be limited due to safety concerns or directions from the court. If at any time you feel your rights are not being respected or you are not being heard, there are people you can contact. Your caseworker (Protective Services Specialist) or GAL/CASA may be able to help or you may contact your attorney. If that does not help, you have the right to contact the Ombudsman's office at:
1-800-478-2624



Bill Walker, Governor, State of Alaska
Valerie Davidson, Commissioner,
Department of Health & Social Services
Christy Lawton, Director, Office of Children's Services
P.O. Box 110630 • Juneau, AK 99811-0630
(907) 465-3191 • www.dhss.alaska.gov/ocs

ALASKA



Foster Children and Youth RIGHTS



RESPECT

You have a right to be safe, well cared for, and avoid exploitation (harm)

You have a right to be who you are and to express yourself — [CPS Policy 1.1](#)

You have a right to tell someone when your rights are not being met — [AK Statute 24.55.100](#)

You have a right to go to school and get an education that fits your age and individual needs — [CPS Policy 6.5.9](#)

You have a right to protection against being discriminated against or harassed on the basis of your sexual or gender identity, age, race, disability, religion, and family history — [CPS Policy 1.3](#)

You have a right to practice your cultural and religious beliefs, and to be encouraged and supported in doing so — [CPS Policy 1.7](#)

You have a right to adequate personal possessions including clothing, and personal space in your bedroom to store your clothes and belongings — [CPS Policy 6.2.2.8](#)

You have a right to privacy and for your confidential information to be protected — [CPS Policy 6.1.2](#)

You have a right to participate in extracurricular, social and community activities (i.e. scouting, organized activities, sleepovers with friends who are appropriate, safe and in your best interest, etc.) — [CPS Policy 6.5.8 & 6.5.10](#)

INFORMATION

You have the right to be informed and to be heard

You have a right to be notified of court hearings and meetings about you and your family (in an age appropriate manner) — [CPS Policy 6.6.3](#)

You have a right to bring a supporter(s) with you to meetings and court hearings — CINA Rule 3

You have a right to tell a judge what you want to have happen in your case — [CPS Policy 4.4.1](#)

You have a right to be educated and informed before changes are made to your case plan and placement — [CPS Policy 2.9.2](#)

You have a right to have access to your case plan and court record — [CPS Policy 6.1](#)

You have a right to talk to your attorney, CASA/ GAL and caseworker (Protective Services Specialist) in private — [CPS Policy 3.2.1](#)

You have a right to tell a judge how you feel about your family, foster family, CASA/GAL, attorney and caseworker (Protective Services Specialist) — [AK Statute 47.10.080\(8\)](#)

You have a right to have input on your permanency goals — [CPS Policy 2.9.5](#)

You have a right to know why you are in OCS custody and in foster care — [CPS Policy 2.9.1](#)

HEALTH

You have health rights

You have a right to see a doctor, dentist, eye doctor or specialist for medical care — [CPS Policy 6.3.1](#)

You have a right to talk to a counselor or mental health clinician — [AK Statute 47.10.084](#)

You have a right to be free of abuse and neglect — [CPS Policy 2.9.1](#)

You have a right to have a say about your medical and mental health care — [AK Statute 25.20.025](#)

FAMILY

You have family rights

You have a right to have lifelong family connections and a permanent family — [CPS Policy 2.5.3](#)

You have a right to regular family contact when appropriate — [CPS Policy 6.5.6](#)

You have a right to be kept with siblings whenever possible — [CPS Policy 2.3.6](#)

You have a right to have extensive family searches completed — [CPS Policy 2.5.3](#)

You have a right to have access to a phone to contact appropriate friends and family members — [CPS Policy 2.9](#)

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE, ALWAYS