Age Group	Education Benchmarks	Status
14	 Youth shall begin to participate in life skills classes and begin to acquire skills that are appropriate to his or her functioning level. Youth in every school system understand graduation requirements. Youth shall have basic literacy and numeracy skills (at least 5th grade proficient). If applicable, youth shall have an appropriate identification of special education. If applicable, an appropriate parent surrogate shall be identified for the youth. Youth shall begin to obtain the needed student service learning hours towards graduation. 	Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress
15 – 16	 Youth shall have a concrete plan detailing how he or she shall complete high school, earn a certificate of program completion, or obtain a GED, which includes specific steps to meet any gaps in required courses. Plans shall be signed by appropriate school personnel, parent, and youth and maintained in school records. Youth shall have an awareness of colleges, trade school, or technical training and what is needed to reach goals. Youth shall have an opportunity to participate in a driver's education program. Youth shall be assisted in obtaining a driver's license or Maryland identification card. Disconnected youth shall have an established re-engagement plan. Youth shall be at or near grade level for reading and writing or have an IEP that specifically addresses literacy gaps. ** 	Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes In-Progress Notes In-Progress
	• Youth shall obtain the necessary student service learning hours to graduate.	Complete In-Progress

	• Youth shall have a concrete plan for postsecondary education, employment and/or training.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), if applicable.	Complete In-Progress
17 - 18	• Transition planning includes specific educational goals and financial assistance programs.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand how to utilize the Maryland Tuition Waiver and/or ETV (Educational Training Voucher.)	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall enroll in college, or if not interested in college, shall take advantage of a vocation program that allows certifications to be earned.	Complete In-Progress
	 Graduating youth shall understand their services needs and shall receive information on how to access Disability Support Services. 	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall register to vote and understand the voting process.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have access to postsecondary supportive services (e.g., financial aid, counseling, tutoring.)	Complete In-Progress
19 - 21	• Youth with disabilities exiting school shall be aware and engage with community supports.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth with disabilities shall be referred to Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) or other services providers. **	Complete In-Progress
Age Group	Employment Benchmarks	
	• Youth shall obtain a work permit.	Complete In-Progress
14	• Youth shall begin to explore career interest.	Complete In-Progress

	•	Youth shall receive assistance in the exploration of employment or occupational interests and the skills and/or training required for possible fields of interest.	Complete In-Progress
15 - 16	•	Youth shall understand what minimum wage means.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall develop a realistic concept of the types of jobs available to the youth.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall explore options for summer employment.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall engage in some form of work experience, job shadowing or volunteer opportunity.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall be aware of appropriate attire for job interviews and work.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall understand how to access transportation to and from work.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall have a Maryland State ID or Lerner's Permit. **	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall enroll in Driver's Ed training and receive support and assistance in taking driver's test and obtaining a license.**	Complete In-Progress
17-18	•	Youth shall have the opportunity to participate in an internship, externship or volunteer opportunity relevant to a career field of their choice.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall understand the opportunities that shall allow him or her to increase employment skills.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall be assisted in developing a resume.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall have had a least two summer jobs by the age of 18.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth with special needs shall be educated about employment and the services/resources available.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall be engaged in planning for employment that shall increase his or her earnings and marketable potential.	Complete In-Progress
	•	Youth shall receive assistance in enrolling in any desired occupational skills training.	Complete In-Progress

19 - 21	 Youth shall continue to maintain progressive work experience within their chosen career path. Youth shall understand unfair job practices and how to seek guidance. 	Complete In-Progress Notes Complete In-Progress Notes
Age Group	Heath/Mental Health Benchmarks	Status
	• Youth shall participate in sessions on sexual relationships/sexual education.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the risks associated with drug and alcohol use.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the importance of preventive and routine health care.	Complete In-Progress
14	• Youth shall understand the importance of medications and proper administration.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall identify the providers he or she shall use.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand his or her diagnoses.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have the skills to maintain good emotional and physical health. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the importance of good hygiene. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall know how to care for minor illnesses. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall know and understand how to seek medical attention.**	Notes Complete In-Progress Notes
	• Youth shall be able to communicate his or her needs to his or her therapist/psychiatrist.	Complete In-Progress
15-16	• Youth shall be provided information and have an understanding of his or her medical conditions and family medical history.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have an understanding of nutrition, a healthy diet and exercise. Youth shall be able to prepare basic meals.	Complete In-Progress

	• Youth shall understand the importance of maintaining medical records.	Complete In-Progress
15 - 16	• Youth shall be able to identify medical supports.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand safe and healthy relationships in regard to dating.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the importance of following through with medical care and appointments.	Complete In-Progress
17 - 18	• Youth shall be able to ask the doctor questions and obtain the information needed to understand his or her existing medical conditions.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the importance of medical insurance and learn how to obtain services needed with their medical insurance.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand his or her rights.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be able to identify and utilize community supports (e.g., counseling, crisis support.)	Complete In-Progress
	• Disabled youth shall be referred to programs/services for additional assistance prior to exiting care.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand how to obtain medical services upon leaving care.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be aware of health care coverage options.	Complete In-Progress
19 - 21	• Youth shall understand how to manage his or her medical/health conditions.	Complete In-Progress
19 - 21	• Youth shall be able to identify the providers he or she shall use for health, dental, medical, etc.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have his or her updated medical records and psychological/psychiatric evaluations upon exiting care.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be assisted in applying for medical assistance, if necessary.	Complete In-Progress

Age	Housing Benchmarks	Status
	• Youth shall live in an approved, safe placement with a caring, competent adult.	Complete In-Progress
14	• Youth shall be living in the least restrictive environment consistent with their needs. **	Complete In-Progress
14	• Youth shall demonstrate the ability to purchase items and understand the purchasing process – including cost, sales, tax and tips.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall participate in life-skills classes and begin to acquire age-appropriate skills. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be able to go shopping for food, prepare simple meals, budget for household expenses.	Complete In-Progress
15 -16	• Youth shall be able to identify a "safe haven" for short stay housing.	Complete In-Progress Notes Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall begin to acquire the necessary household items.	Notes Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be aware of the requirements for semi-independent living (SILA.) **	Notes
	• Youth shall be able to identify possible housing options, including prospective roommates and subsidized housing.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have a "safety plan" if current housing fails and assistance with re-engaging family.	Complete In-Progress
17 -18	• Youth shall understand tenant rights and tenant/landlord relationships.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the importance of safety and who is allowed to enter his or her own personal space.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall possess the life skills needed to maintain an apartment and make some independent decisions.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall possess the skills required to maintain housing, with support.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be prepared for SILA or private vendors that provide independent living arrangements.	Complete In-Progress
19 – 21	• Youth shall have a plan developed that includes a budget and all services needed to maintain an apartment or home.	Complete In-Progress

	• Youth shall have a well-defined plan for their living	Complete In-Progress
	arrangement after they leave care.	Notes
	• Youth shall be familiar with financial assistance and location	Complete In-Progress
	resources. **	Notes
Age	Financial Literacy Benchmarks	Status
	• Youth shall have a bank account (checking and/or savings) and	Complete In-Progress
14	understand how to utilize services from the bank.	Notes
	• Youth shall demonstrate the ability to purchase items and	Complete In-Progress
14	understand the purchase process - including cost, sales tax and	Notes
14	tip.Youth shall be able to safely and effectively manage his or her	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be able to safely and effectively manage his or her money and establish alternatives to using check cashing	Notes
	services, payday lending, etc.	
	• Youth shall understand basic financial skills – checking/savings,	Complete In-Progress
15 – 16	loans/budgets, contracts and credit cards.	Notes
	• Youth shall establish savings goals.	Complete In-Progress
	• Touth shall establish savings goals.	Notes
	• Youth shall have a budgeted allowance.	Complete In-Progress
		Notes
	• Youth shall have a basic knowledge of entitlement programs, qualifications and how to apply/receive assistance with	Complete In-Progress
	application for Social Security Insurance (SSI), Medical	
	Assistance (MA), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Women, Infants	
	and Children (WIC), etc.	
18 10		
17 - 18	• Youth shall obtain a free credit report.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand how to avoid identify theft or correct it.	Complete In-Progress
		Notes Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall understand the benefits of remaining in care until the age of 21. He or she understands the policies, eligibility	Notes
	requirements, and supportive services of After Care Services	
	that he or she can receive if leaving care prior to age 21.	
	• Youth shall obtain his or her original birth certificate and social	Complete In-Progress
	security card.	Notes
	• Youth shall understand the importance of savings and financial	Complete In-Progress
19-21	investments.	Notes
17-41	• Youth shall establish and maintain a financial cushion and is	Complete In-Progress
	able to maintain a savings account.	Notes

19 - 21	 Youth shall understand the need for budgeting funds and shall demonstrate the ability to manage money. Youth shall understand budget management, priority spending and the income sources that can be used to supplement his or her expenses. Youth shall be able to maintain a savings account. 	Complete In-Progress Complete In-Progress Notes Complete In-Progress Notes
Age	Family & Friends Support Benchmarks	Status
	• Youth shall have an understanding of positive, safe relationships.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall develop a photo history.	Complete In-Progress Notes Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall be assisted in developing a genogram (family/kinship tree.)	Notes
14	• Youth has a healthy connection with at least one peer. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have a positive connection to at least one adult outside the child welfare system. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have the opportunity to create, maintain and strengthen supportive relationships with foster families, parents, siblings, and fictive kin. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have a healthy sense of ethnicity, cultural identify and personal identity. **	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall identify appropriate, committed adult supports.	Complete In-Progress
15-16	• Youth shall understand the importance of developing lifelong relationships with caring adults.	Complete In-Progress
	• Youth shall have a community resource guide.	Complete In-Progress
17 – 18		Notes
	• If applicable, youth shall obtain adequate child-care services.	Complete In-Progress
19 - 21	• A Ready by 21 Family Involvement Meeting (FIM) shall be held to identify appropriate supports. **	Notes Complete In-Progress Notes
	• If desired, youth shall learn how to positively develop relationships with his or her family of origin.	Complete In-Progress