

## Questions and Responses for Transitional Placing RFP (10303)

1. Does OJJ desire to have a female specific program for young ladies eligible for transitional placement? If so what is approximate number eligible for the program?

OJJ is willing to accept proposals for an all-female transitional program. Our female population is significantly less than our male population.

2. Are you able to share definition of Level 1 and Level 2 Youth?

**Level I youth** – Youth placed in OJJ custody that do not meet the criteria on the Residential Level Determination Form to be eligible for Level II residential care.

**Level II youth** - Youth placed in OJJ custody and determined to be eligible for Level II residential care based on scoring utilizing the Residential Level Determination Form. Some of the criteria used in the determination of the youth's level includes but is not limited to: being requested for removal due to behavior, had 3 or more placements disrupted in the last 60 days due to behavior, sexual assaulted or molested another person, physical aggression towards authority figures and adults, requires 6-16 hours a day of direct, focused and enhanced supervision and behavior management in order to maintain the youth in a community based living situation, has attempted suicide in the past 90 days, has a history of suicidal threats, in the past 90 days engaged in risky behaviors that pose a threat to the safety of self and others, in the past 90 days, the youth is regularly physically aggressive towards peers or intimidates them and in the past 90 days, the youth regularly breaks laws or rules that do not involve physical damage or injury to people or property.

3. Will YS provide updated training for Transitional Program staff on SAVRY usage and interpretation?

If requested, YS will be able to provide training.

4. Is there a maximum per diem and/or a maximum funding amount for this program?

Your per diem should be directly correlated to your estimated budget and how much you estimate it will cost to run the program. A maximum funding amount for this program has not been set at this time.

5. What are the per diem rates for the current providers of this service?

We currently have one provider at \$ 161.00 and another provider at \$ 145.00.

6. The RFP states that these programs should be available across the state to allow for youth to be placed close to their home community. Does OJJ have data regarding which geographic areas have the highest need for this type of program? YS has a need for the service statewide. We currently have programs in Baton Rouge and Lake Charles. Therefore, we would like to have a program in North Louisiana but will accept proposals from any area of the state.

7. Is there a maximum number of youth for each transitional home?

DCFS licensing regulations indicate that no more than three youth can be placed in an apartment. If your program is a group home style, that would also be dependent upon licensing regulations for the square footage of your program. Licensing regulations can be found here:

[http://www.dcfslouisiana.gov/assets/docs/searchable/Licensing/Residential/201603\\_ChildPlacing.pdf](http://www.dcfslouisiana.gov/assets/docs/searchable/Licensing/Residential/201603_ChildPlacing.pdf)

8. What is OJJ's expectation for ratios of staff supervision of youth in the Transitional Placing Program? Must youth be supervised around the clock, 24/7, or are youth expected to spend some time in the community unsupervised as they move closer to the goal of independent living?  
The youth are expected to spend some time alone in the community as they progress through the program. Youth at this level can utilize public transportation as well. OJJ expects access to a staff member 24/7 for the youth.
9. Regarding the Veteran and Hudson initiatives, is this intended to be a good faith proposal?  
If you are a Veteran Hudson provider you must include a copy of your current certificate in the proposal. If you plan to do business with a provider who is a Veteran Hudson provider, you must list their name and the planned dollar amount or the percentage of work to be subcontracted. We are able to confirm if the provider is a Veteran Hudson provider through a website. The dollar amount is good faith and can be required to be reported/confirmed.
10. What are the current contract rates for the Transitional Placing Program?  
See Question #5
11. What is the demographic breakdown of the potential youth? (Age, gender, ethnicity, primary language spoken, etc.)  
Potential youth will be aged 16-21; male/female/transgender; White, black, or Hispanic; Most of our clients speak English as a primary language but we have received Spanish speaking youth in custody as well.
12. What geographical areas do the potential youth come from? Is there a specific area that has a higher number of youth?  
The youth can come from any region of the state. Our current regions with the highest number of youth in custody are Baton Rouge, Lafayette, New Orleans and Shreveport (in no specific order).
13. For the Transitional Placing Program, can we provide sample floor plans and square footage estimates since many landlords will not agree to a lease without first meeting the intended resident?  
Yes. This can be provided as a sample facility. However, the contract cannot be finalized without a physical program facility.
14. For the purpose of the Transitional Placing Program, is 16 years old considered adulthood/age of emancipation?  
No. OJJ follows the state laws as far as the age of adulthood. Emancipation is only achieved through a court order.
15. We are currently in the final stages of receiving our Child Placing Agency license through DCFS. Is it acceptable to be at this point of the process of earning the license at the time the proposal is submitted? If so, will the submission of our correspondence with DCFS or our application satisfy the licensing requirement?

OJJ expects the program to be fully functional within 90 days of contract award.

16. Will our Child Placing Agency license qualify us to provide Transitional Placing Program services without submitting additional application materials?

The Transitional Placing license falls under the Child Placing Agency umbrella but you will need to communicate with DCFS to see if there is a sub category that you specifically need to apply for to have a Transitional Placing Program.

17. Do we need to identify all areas we would be willing to serve up front, or can we identify areas where we can start with expectations to grow as the need becomes greater?

Identify the areas that you will be able to serve if awarded a contract.