



SAJE:
Strengthening Abilities and
Journeys of Empowerment

Youth and Young Adult Transitions

BC Ministry of Children and Family Development



BC's Supports for Youth Transitioning Out Of Care Where We Are Coming From

2008	2016	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AYA introduced• Limited care statuses• Program duration 24 months• Up to age 24• Attending post-secondary or vocational program• No financial support over program breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extended up to age 26• Increased program duration to 48 months• Life-skills and rehabilitation options introduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extended up to age 27• Increased monthly benefit amount• Financial support provided over program breaks

What We Heard

Government supports are not meeting the needs of young people transitioning to adulthood from care.



Young adults leaving care without the necessary skills to navigate adulthood



Criteria for AYA is too restrictive



Lack of options to meet holistic & cultural needs



Insufficient funding & program duration



Administration of AYA is too complex; not all ICFSA administer

IMPROVING YOUTH TRANSITIONS

Budget 2022

STRENGTHENING ABILITIES AND JOURNEYS OF EMPOWERMENT



Housing
Supports



SAJE Guides
and
Navigators



Life-skills,
Training and
Cultural
Connections



Enhanced
Medical
Benefits



Expanded
Eligibility
&
Increased
Program
Duration



Earnings
Exemption

New Income
Supplement

Strengthening Abilities and Journeys of Empowerment (SAJE) Implementation Roadmap

Spring 2022

Indefinite extension to Temporary Housing and Temporary Support Agreements.

Flexibility to AYA life-skills, rehabilitative and mental health options maintained.

Summer 2022

No-limit earnings exemption so that benefits are not reduced or impacted based on employment.

Fall 2022

Rent Supplement program first intake (\$600-a-month).

Approved life-skills provider list removed.

Spring 2023

Rent Supplement program second intake.

SAJE Navigators and Guides have begun to be available on Vancouver Island and in the North.

Summer 2023

Rent Supplement program third intake.

Provincial Tuition Waiver Program becomes available for all ages.

Youth Transitions gets a new name through a youth-led process (SAJE).

Temporary Support and Temporary Housing Agreements available between age 19-21 with flexibility to move between agreements.

Enhanced medical benefits including expanded dental and optical coverage.

Duration of AYA support increased to 84 months, up to age 27.

Spring 2024

Enhanced medical benefits - access to counselling.

More SAJE Navigators and Guides become available around the province.

Expanded eligibility for post-19 supports and services.

Housing and Support Agreements to remain in current homes up to age 21.

Unconditional income supplement at age 19, up to 20th birthday.

★ We are here ★

Fall 2023

Enhanced funding for life-skills, training, and cultural programming.



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TO LEARN MORE VISIT
www.gov.bc.ca/youthtransitions



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Thank you!