What Should I Know About the Bridges Program?

What is the Bridges Program?

The Bridges Program is a statewide voluntary program that assists young adults (ages 18-21) who have aged out of state custody (foster care, Detention and Youth Services, or Custody of a Juvenile Court). The Bridges Program provides eligible young adults with monthly financial assistance, stable housing, access to community resources, and case management services.

For More Information: [https://bridgestosuccess.jfs.ohio.gov](https://bridgestosuccess.jfs.ohio.gov)

Am I Eligible for the Bridges Program?

You may be eligible for the Bridges program if when you turned 18-years-old you were in the custody of:

- A public children services agency; OR
- A Title IV-E Juvenile Court; OR
- Another governmental agency that provides Title IV-E reimbursable placement services, AND
- You have not yet turned 21, AND
- You meet at least one of the following criteria:
  - You are completing high school or your GED;
  - You are enrolled in college, university, community college, tech school, vocational program or other post-secondary or vocational education program;
  - You are participating in a program or activity designed to promote, or remove barriers to, employment (CCMEP, Job Corps, job skills training program);
  - You are employed for at least 80 hours per month (job, AmeriCorps, internship/externship); or
  - You are incapable of doing any of the activities above due to a physical or mental condition.

How Do I Get Started In Bridges?

If you think you are eligible for the Bridges Program, you can fill out an interest form online at: [https://www.ohiocombinedalliance.org/interested-in-applying](https://www.ohiocombinedalliance.org/interested-in-applying) The Bridges Program does involve a court process. If you would like to speak to an attorney about your rights as a Bridges Participant, please contact Southeastern Ohio Legal Services.
Who is Southeastern Ohio Legal Services?
Southeastern Ohio Legal Services (SEOLS) provides access to legal help so people can protect their livelihoods, their health, their homes and their families regardless of income. SEOLS provides legal assistance for people who cannot afford an attorney through representation and easy-to-understand information about your legal rights. This includes information about how to get into court, what to do when in court or what to do when dealing with government agencies. SEOLS also provides easy-to-complete legal forms.

The information on this flyer is not legal advice. If you are seeking representation or legal advice, please contact SEOLS. An attorney-client relationship does not exist between you and SEOLS.

How To Contact SEOLS:

**Athens Office**  
740.594.3558  
800.686.3669  
Serving Gallia, Meigs, Morgan, Noble, Vinton, and Washington Counties

**Chillicothe Office**  
740.773.0012  
800.686.3668  
Serving Fairfield, Fayette, Hocking, Jackson, Pickaway, Pike, and Ross Counties

**Newark Office**  
740.345.0850  
888.831.9412  
Serving Knox, Licking, Muskingum, and Perry Counties

**New Philadelphia Office**  
330.339.3998  
800.686.3670  
Serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Holmes, and Tuscarawas Counties

**Portsmouth Office**  
740.354.7563  
800.837.2508  
Serving Adams, Lawrence, and Scioto Counties

**Steubenville Office**  
740.283.4781  
800.837.4781  
Serving Belmont, Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson, and Monroe Counties