

Opportunity Passport™

The **Opportunity Passport™** program provides financial literacy skills and an opportunity for matched savings designed to help youth successfully transition to adulthood.

Experienced staff at Jobs for Maine's Graduates (JMG) provide ongoing, consistent support as youth develop savings goals and plan for asset purchases.

It's **FREE!** Opportunity Passport™ is provided at no cost to participants. Youth in good standing may remain active in the Opportunity Passport™ program until their 24th birthday.

To learn more about the **Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative** and other Opportunity Passport™ programs across the U.S. visit

<http://www.jimcaseeyouth.org/opportunitypassport.htm>

Opportunity Passport™ is a program of



Jobs for Maine's Graduates
45 Commerce Drive, Suite 9
Augusta, ME 04330

Phone: (207) 620-7180
Fax: (207) 620-7185
www.jmg.org

Opportunity Passport™

Providing tools for success through financial literacy & matched savings



www.jmg.org

The Opportunity Passport™ program in Maine

The **Opportunity Passport™** program is an important financial literacy and matched savings program that helps Maine youth develop a general understanding about personal finances and goal setting.

After determination of eligibility and training, participants open an *Individual Development Account* – a matched savings account.

Money saved in the account by the youth will be **matched, dollar for dollar up to \$1,000 per year**, upon purchase of specific assets.



Hundreds of Maine youth who are currently or formerly in foster care have benefited from Opportunity Passport™ which is funded by the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, the Maine Dept. of Health & Human Services, and private funders.

Who is eligible?

The Opportunity Passport™ program is for youth who:

- Are age 14-23
- Are currently or have been in the Maine foster care system for at least one day since the age of 14
- Participate in a one-day training (dates & locations across Maine)
- Have an ongoing, reliable source of income
- Have the desire and commitment to save money
- Have government issued identification (state ID, license or passport)

What is the referral process?

Referrals from caseworkers, foster parents, educators, support staff or self-referrals are encouraged. To download a referral form with instructions, visit:

<http://www.jmg.org/programs/>

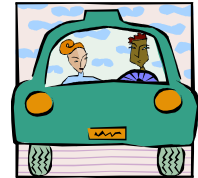
Click the Opportunity Passport™ link.

What types of asset purchases are eligible for matching funds?

Since 2004 hundreds of Maine youth have been matched for dollars they saved toward assets in several categories including:

EDUCATION: college tuition and room/board, computers;

HOUSING: First month's rent and security deposit for a new apartment or the purchase of a home;



TRANSPORTATION: A vehicle and certain expenses associated with the purchase;

INVESTMENTS: Certificates of Deposit and retirement accounts.

Opportunity Passport™

Jobs for Maine's Graduates
45 Commerce Drive, Suite 9
Augusta, ME 04330

Phone: (207) 620-7180
Fax: (207) 620-7185
www.jmg.org