

## Opportunity Passport™

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

Experienced staff at JMG provide ongoing, consistent support as youth develop savings goals and plan for asset purchases.

*FREE!* Opportunity Passport™ is provided at no cost to participants.

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

<http://www.aecf.org/work/child-welfare/jim-casey-youth-opportunities-initiative>

Opportunity Passport™ is a program of



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## Opportunity Passport™



*Providing tools for success through  
financial education & matched savings*



[www.jmg.org](http://www.jmg.org)

# The Opportunity Passport™ program in Maine

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

After determination of eligibility and training, youth open a bank account at a financial institution of their choice.

Money saved by enrolled youth is **matched, dollar for dollar up to \$1,000 per year**, toward the 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 Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Maine Department of Health & Human Services, and private funders.

## Who is eligible?

The Opportunity Passport™ program is for youth who:

- Are age 14-25
- Are currently or have been in the Maine foster care system for at least one day since the age of 14
- Participate in financial education training (dates/locations across ME)
- Have a job or 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?

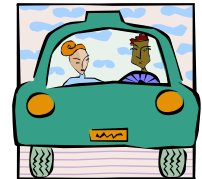
Referrals from caseworkers, foster parents, educators, support staff and self-referrals are encouraged. Please contact program staff for additional information on referrals.

## What types of purchases are eligible for matching funds?

Examples of eligible purchases by enrolled youth include:

**Education:** Tuition and room & board, computers;

**Housing:** Rent, the purchase of a home, furnishings;



**Transportation:** Vehicles and certain associated expenses & repairs, bus passes;

**Medical,** dental and health costs;

**Credit Building &** credit repair;

**Investments:** Certificates of Deposit and retirement accounts.

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