

Educational and Training Vouchers for Current and Former Foster Care Youth

Are you currently in or have been in foster care and need help paying for college or career school? If so, you might be interested to know that the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program helps current and former foster care youth through the Educational and Training Vouchers (ETV) Program.

What are Educational and Training Vouchers?

ETVs are grants, funded by the federal government and administered by the states, awarded to eligible current and former foster youth to help pay for college, career school, or training.

Am I eligible?

The ETV Program is intended to serve

- youth who are likely to remain in foster care until age 18,
- youth who were adopted or under kinship guardianship at age 16 or older, and
- young adults ages 18–21 who have aged out of the foster care system.

For detailed eligibility information, you must contact your state's Child Welfare Agency directly. You can find the *State Independent Living and Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Coordinator* list at www.childwelfare.gov/organizations/?CWIGFunctionsaction=rols:main.dspROL&rolType=Custom&RS_ID=38

You can also reach the site through www.childwelfare.gov. At the home page, select *State Resources*. At the drop-down menu, select *State Related Organization Lists*. You'll find *State Independent Living and Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Coordinators* under *View All Other State Organizations Related to Child Welfare*.

How much ETV funding can I get?

Students can get up to \$5,000 per academic year based on cost of attendance and available funds.

How do I apply for an ETV?

Apply for vouchers and learn more about the ETV Program:

- Contact the Foster Care Manager at the Child Welfare Agency in your state. Find state Child Welfare Agency contact information at the web site above.
- Some states have their ETV Program administered by a third party. Visit www.fc2sprograms.org to find out if you live in one of those states.

Is there any other help for current or former foster care youth besides these education and training vouchers?

- For general information, help, and more resources for foster care youth, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Children's Bureau at www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth.
- For a list of specific in-state college tuition waivers, visit www.nrcyd.ou.edu/state-pages/search to search for waivers in your state.

This information was compiled in the spring of 2015. For updates or additional information on federal student aid, visit StudentAid.gov or call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).