

**EDUCATION ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION-  
FOR CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH, ADOPTED YOUTH AND YOUTH IN PCA/PMC**

<b>EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER (ETV) PROGRAM</b>	<b>STATE TUITION AND FEE WAIVER</b>	<b>OTHER SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES</b>
<p><u>Brief Description</u>-Based on need, the ETV program provides up to \$5,000 a year to eligible youth to be used for education related expenses including rent, utilities, childcare, computers, books, transportation, and personal expenses for youth enrolled in college or specialized postsecondary vocational programs. <i>RE: Program Handbook-Section 6723</i></p>	<p><u>Brief Description</u>-The state tuition and fee waiver provides exemptions at state supported institutions of higher education to certain youth who were formerly in foster care, adopted youth, and youth in PMC. <i>RE: Program Handbook-Section 6579</i></p>	<p><u>Brief Description</u>-Preparation For Adult Living (PAL) services prepare youth for adult life when they leave foster care.  <i>RE: Program Handbook-Section 6550</i></p>
<p><b>Eligibility:</b> FOSTER YOUTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Youth in foster care who are at least 16 and likely to remain in care until 18; or</li> <li>❖ Youth who aged out foster care but have not turned 21</li> </ul>	<p><b>Eligibility:</b> FOSTER YOUTH-must be in DFPS conservatorship on or after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The day preceding the student's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday;</li> <li>❖ The day of the student's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday, if also eligible for adoption on or after that day;</li> <li>❖ The date the student graduates from high school or receives the equivalent of a high school diploma</li> </ul>	<p><b>Eligibility:</b> The targeted priority population are youth in DFPS-paid substitute care who are at least age 16 or older and likely to remain in foster care until at least age 18. Youth may qualify for PAL services up to their <b>21st</b> birthday.</p>
<p>ADOPTED YOUTH OR YOUTH WHO ENTER *PERMANENCY CARE ASSISTANCE (PCA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Youth not yet 21 and are adopted or enter PCA after age 16</li> </ul> <p><i>*PCA provision is effective September 1, 2010</i></p>	<p>ADOPTED YOUTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Adoption occurred on or after September 1, 2009; OR</li> <li>❖ Adopted and the subject of an adoption assistance agreement for monthly financial assistance and Medicaid</li> </ul> <p>PERMANENT MANAGING CONSERVATORSHIP(PMC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ PMC of the student was granted to an individual other than the student's parent on or after September 1, 2009.</li> </ul>	<p><b>-Benefits:</b> <u>Transitional Living Allowance</u>-Up to \$1,000 and must meet the qualification requirements -to include completion of PAL Life Skills Training. <u>Aftercare Room and Board Assistance</u>-Based on need and emergency, up to \$500 a month (not to exceed \$3,000 of accumulated payments) and have been in DFPS paid care at age 18 and meet qualification requirements.</p>
<p><b>Age 21-23 participation:</b> Youth who are participating in ETV on their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday may remain eligible until age 23 as long as they are enrolled and making satisfactory progress toward completion of postsecondary education or a vocational training program.</p>	<p>DUAL CREDIT COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students who enroll in a dual credit course or other course in which they may earn joint high school and college credit. <b>Must be in DFPS conservatorship on the day of enrollment.</b></li> </ul> <p>NOTE: ETV funds may be used for college attendance not covered by the tuition fee waiver.</p>	<p>Adopted Youth or Youth exiting to PCA after age 16 <u>may</u> be eligible for the Transitional Living Allowance -- if funds are available and they meet the qualification requirements to include completion of the PAL Life Skills Training.</p>
<p><b>Program Enrollment (meet eligibility criteria) and:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Have a high school diploma or GED or be exempt from required school attendance; and</li> <li>❖ Be enrolled in an institution of higher education before age <b>21</b>; and</li> <li>❖ Complete and file an ETV application with required supporting documentation.</li> </ul> <p>For more information go to this website: <a href="http://www.bcfs.net/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?&amp;pid=988">http://www.bcfs.net/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?&amp;pid=988</a></p>	<p><b>Higher Education Enrollment/Age Criteria:</b> FOSTER YOUTH, YOUTH IN PMC, AND YOUTH ADOPTED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2009-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Must enroll in an institution of higher education as an undergraduate not later than the student's <b>25<sup>th</sup></b> birthday.</li> </ul> <p>ADOPTED YOUTH SUBJECT TO AN ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ There is no age limit to enroll in an institution of higher education</li> </ul>	<p><b>Program Enrollment (meet eligibility criteria) and:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ be between 16 and 21 years of age; and</li> <li>❖ meet qualification requirements as they apply to each PAL Service</li> </ul>