

# Programs Available for Foster Youth and Alumni of Care for Caseworker

Program/Scholarship Description	Eligibility	How to Apply & Important Dates	Contact Information
<p><b>College Bound Scholarship</b></p> <p>The College Bound Scholarship covers the amount of tuition (at public college rates) not covered by other state financial aid, plus \$500 for books</p> <p>Scholarship can be renewed up to 4 additional years, allowing students to complete a BA</p>	<p>Youth in Care Must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate from a WA State High School (or home school)</li> <li>• Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better.</li> <li>• Be a good citizen and stay crime free.</li> <li>• Apply for admission to an eligible college in Washington.</li> <li>• Be a resident of Washington</li> <li>• Complete the FAFSA in October of their senior year in high school.</li> <li>• Meet the family income requirements at the time of graduation.</li> <li>• Tribal youth are eligible if in the care and custody of the department.</li> </ul>	<p>Foster youth are automatically enrolled in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.</p>	<p>For more information go to: <a href="http://www.wsac.wa.gov/PreparingForCollege/CollegeBound">www.wsac.wa.gov/PreparingForCollege/CollegeBound</a>.</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:collegebound@wsac.wa.gov">collegebound@wsac.wa.gov</a></p> <p>Phone: 1-888-535-0747</p>
<p><b>Governor's Scholarship</b></p> <p>The Washington State Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth is a scholarship program that helps young men and women from foster care continue their education and earn a college degree.</p> <p>Scholarship award amounts range from \$2,000 to \$4,000 depending on the college of attendance. The scholarship can be accessed for up to five years to complete an undergraduate study. Students must be enrolled full time and maintain satisfactory academic progress in order to renew the scholarship each year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be recognized as dependent in the State of Washington or in federal or tribal out of home care or have emancipated from care, group or kinship care.</li> <li>• Youth apply in their senior year of high school, applications typically due the beginning of November.</li> <li>• Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or greater.</li> <li>• Have resided in Washington State for at least three academic years prior to high school graduation.</li> <li>• Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.</li> </ul>		<p>For information contact:</p> <p><b>COLLEGE SUCCESS FOUNDATION</b></p> <p>1605 NW Sammamish Road, Suite 200 Issaquah, WA 98027</p> <p>425.679.5579 tel 877.655.4097 toll free <a href="mailto:lhardin@collegesuccessfoundation.org">lhardin@collegesuccessfoundation.org</a> <a href="http://www.collegesuccessfoundation.org">http://www.collegesuccessfoundation.org</a></p>

<p><b>Passport for Foster Youth Promise Scholarship</b>  <b>Student Scholarship and Assistance:</b></p> <p>This program provides scholarships to foster youth to help with college costs, so youth will have minimal or no borrowing of student loans.</p>	<p>To be eligible youth must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was a dependent of the State of Washington &amp; in foster care on their 18th birthday or after 1-1-07</li> <li>• Spent at least one year in care after age 16</li> <li>• Is a resident of Washington State</li> <li>• Are or will be enrolled at least half-time in an eligible college or university in Washington State by the age of twenty-one.</li> <li>• Have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree and is not pursuing a degree in theology</li> <li>• Have financial need</li> <li>• Youth in a dependency guardianship established after June 10, 2010 are not eligible</li> <li>• Tribal youth are eligible if in the care and custody of the department.</li> </ul>	<p>Sign and submit a consent form to the WASC for verification with DSHS.</p>	<p>For more information contact Dawn Cypriano-McAferly at 360-753-7846 or <a href="mailto:dawnc@wsac.wa.gov">dawnc@wsac.wa.gov</a>.</p> <p>Passport for Foster Youth Promise Scholarship to College website:  <a href="http://www.readysetgrad.org/college/passport-foster-youth-promise-program">http://www.readysetgrad.org/college/passport-foster-youth-promise-program</a></p>
<p><b>Educational Training Voucher (ETV)</b></p> <p>The ETV Program is a national program for youth who qualify and are likely to age out of the foster care system.</p> <p>The maximum ETV award is \$5,000 per academic year. ETV funds may be used for tuition, fees, books and supplies, housing, transportation and other education related costs.</p> <p><b>Running Start/Dual Credit Program</b>  Youth enrolled in the Running Start Program or an eligible Dual Credit Program are eligible to receive up to \$1500 per academic year to help pay for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books and Supplies,</li> <li>• Fees</li> <li>• Bus Pass or Gas Reimbursement</li> </ul>	<p>Youth may be eligible for ETV if youth meet any <b>one</b> of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth are 16 to 20, are currently in a dependency action in a Washington State or Tribal Court, are in the care and custody of the Department of Social and Health Services or Tribal Child Welfare agency, and in foster care.</li> <li>• Youth are 18 to 20 and exited state or tribal foster care because youth reached the age of majority.</li> <li>• Youth were adopted or entered a relative guardianship on or after the age of 16 to 20.</li> </ul> <p>If youth participated and received ETV funds prior to 21, youth are eligible to the age of 23.</p> <p>To continue being eligible for the ETV program youth must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the <b>Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</b> each year on or</li> </ul>	<p>Complete the On-Line Application located at <a href="http://www.independence.wa.gov">www.independence.wa.gov</a></p> <p>The ETV priority application cycle is <b>January 1st to April 30th</b> each year. Applications received after April 30th will be placed on a waiting list and will be awarded on a funds available basis. The application cycle will close on July 31st of each year.</p> <p>If youth are a returning ETV participant youth must complete the renewal application</p>	<p>For more information contact Kathy Ramsay at: <a href="mailto:ramsaka@dshs.wa.gov">ramsaka@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p>ETV Program  P.O. Box 45710  Olympia, WA. 98504-5710  Email: <a href="mailto:ETVWASH@dshs.wa.gov">ETVWASH@dshs.wa.gov</a>  Toll Free Number:  1-877-433-8388</p>

	<p>shortly after October 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and return the <b>ETV Renewal Application</b> each year.</li> <li>• Continue enrollment at an accredited college, university, technical or vocational institute</li> <li>• Continue to meet the college or university Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and Pace of Progression requirements.</li> <li>• Submit the required documents: FAFSA Confirmation Email or Student Aid Report (SAR) Class Schedule at the beginning of each term Unofficial Transcripts at the end of each term ETV Participation Agreement</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Supplemental Educational Transition Planning (SETuP) Program</b></p> <p>This program provides foster youth ages 13-21 with educational planning, information, and connections to other services/programs.</p> <p>It provides coordination between high school counselors and foster youth to ensure they have an educational transition plan.</p>	<p>To be eligible youth must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth must be ages 13-21 (if they have not graduated from high school) years old and in foster care in the State of Washington</li> <li>• Youth in a dependency guardianship established after June 10, 2010 are not eligible</li> <li>• Tribal youth are eligible if in the care and custody of the department.</li> </ul>		<p>For more information contact Dawn Cypriano-McAferly at WASC 360-753-7846 or <a href="mailto:dawnc@wsac.wa.gov">dawnc@wsac.wa.gov</a>.</p>
<p><b>Educational Advocacy Program</b></p> <p>The Program provides educational advocacy, consultation, information and referral services to foster youth</p> <p>This program also provides training to caseworkers, caregivers and community providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All youth in out of home care with unmet educational needs are eligible</li> <li>• Tribal youth are eligible if in the care and custody of the department.</li> </ul>	<p>Youth may be referred at any time.</p>	<p>The caseworker or CHET screener must make the referral, and the referral form is available in Famlink.</p> <p>For more information, please contact your regional lead.</p> <p><b>R1N:</b> Valerie Marshall <a href="mailto:marshvt@dshs.wa.gov">marshvt@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R1S:</b> Lorenzo Lopez <a href="mailto:lopezl@dshs.wa.gov">lopezl@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>

			<p><b>R2NS:</b> Donna LaFrance  <a href="mailto:lafradr@dshs.wa.gov">lafradr@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R3NS:</b> Sandy Duran  <a href="mailto:duross@dshs.wa.gov">duross@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p>HQ Program &amp; Policy Manager  Shanna McBride  <a href="mailto:McBriSM@dshs.wa.gov">McBriSM@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Independent Living (IL) &amp; Transitional Living (TL) Program</b>  <b>IL provides the following services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Casey Life Skills Assessment (CLSA) and Learning Plan</li> <li>• Daily Living Skills</li> <li>• Educational Support</li> <li>• Career Exploration</li> <li>• Vocational Training</li> <li>• Job Placement and Retention</li> <li>• Funding available up to \$500 for IL enrichment activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>TL provides the following services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Casey Life Skills Assessment (CLSA) and Learning Plan</li> <li>• Educational Support</li> <li>• Housing Assistance (funds may be available to help with room and board)</li> <li>• Employment Assistance</li> <li>• Helps youth establish stable and healthy connections.</li> </ul>	<p><b>IL Eligibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth must be 15 years old or older (up to their 21st birthday), is/was in foster care in an established dependency action through DSHS or a tribal child welfare agency for at least 30 days after their 15th birthday.</li> <li>• Once initial eligibility is determined, the youth will continue to be eligible until their 21st birthday.</li> </ul> <p><b>Youth are Not Eligible if the:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth returned home, was adopted or in a guardianship before the age of 15 (and 30 days)</li> <li>• Youth is under the age of 18 and in a Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA)</li> <li>• Youth is under a CHINS petition</li> <li>• Youth is placed in JJRA locked 24hr facility</li> <li>• Youth is not a US Citizen</li> </ul> <p><b>TL Eligibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth age 18 up to 21 who are current or former foster youth from state or tribal out of home care <b>and</b></li> <li>• Youth was in foster care in an established dependency action through DSHS or a tribal child welfare agency for at least 30 days after their</li> </ul>	<p><b>IL Dates</b></p> <p>Youth may be referred anytime between the ages 15 and 30 days up to 18.</p> <p><b>TL Dates</b></p> <p>Youth may self-refer anytime up to age 21.</p>	<p>For more info contact your Regional IL Coordinators:</p> <p><b>R1:</b> Monica Jenkins  <a href="mailto:jenkimm@dshs.wa.gov">jenkimm@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R2N:</b> George Godzik  <a href="mailto:godzigs@dshs.wa.gov">godzigs@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R2S:</b> Donna LaFrance  <a href="mailto:lafradr@dshs.wa.gov">lafradr@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R3:</b> Sandy Duron  <a href="mailto:duross@dshs.wa.gov">duross@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p>HQ Program &amp; Policy Manager:  Peggy Lewis  <a href="mailto:lewispj@dshs.wa.gov">lewispj@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding may be used to assist with self-sufficiency and/or obtaining TL goals.</li> </ul>	<p>15th birthday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth is a US citizen</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Extended Foster Care (EFC)</b></p> <p>EFC is a voluntary program that provides an opportunity for young adults in foster care at age 18 to voluntarily agree to continue receiving foster care services until the age 21 to support a successful transition to independence.</p> <p>Youth who do not elect to participate in the EFC program on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday will have until the day before their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday to make a request to participate in the Extended Foster Care program.</p> <p>Youth who were previously enrolled and participated in the Extended Foster Care program and unenrolled or lost eligibility and had their dependency dismissed may be eligible to re-enter the program prior to the age of 21 through a voluntary placement agreement. Youth can enter into the EFC program one time using a VPA. The youth will need to sign a VPA, receive an attorney and file for dependency.</p> <p>The youth should contact Intake at 1-800-end-harm to request EFC services.</p> <p>If youth are eligible for the program, youth can receive foster care services and supports until your 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Youth will be able to stay in their current placement or have the option of an approved, supervised independent living setting.</p> <p>Services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case planning support</li> <li>Chemical dependency treatment</li> </ul>	<p>To be eligible for the Extended Foster Care program, youth must be dependent and in foster care on youth's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and participating in the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enrolled in high school or GED program; or</li> <li>Enrolled in, applied for or can demonstrate that he or she intends to timely enroll in a college or vocational education program; or</li> <li>Participate in a program or activity designed to promote employment</li> <li>Employed 80 hours or more a month</li> <li>Documented medical condition</li> </ul> <p>Continued participation in Extended Foster Care is subject to continuing eligibility in one of the <i>five</i> categories listed above. Participants can transition between categories.</p>		<p>For more information contact your Regional EFC Leads:</p> <p><b>R1:</b> Christopher McLaughlin  <a href="mailto:mclaucc@dshs.wa.gov">mclaucc@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R2N:</b> George Godzik  <a href="mailto:godzigs@dshs.wa.gov">godzigs@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R2S:</b> Lee Selah  <a href="mailto:selahml@dshs.wa.gov">selahml@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p><b>R3:</b> Sandy Duron  <a href="mailto:duonss@dshs.wa.gov">duonss@dshs.wa.gov</a></p> <p>HQ Program &amp; Policy Manager:          Sherrie Flores  <a href="mailto:floresa@dshs.wa.gov">floresa@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health treatment</li> <li>• Financial support</li> <li>• Placement</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Independent Youth Housing Program (IYHP)</b></p> <p>Provides housing voucher assistance to former foster youth. Youth may receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly rent</li> <li>• Utility payments (gas and electricity)</li> <li>• Move in costs (such as first and last month's rent, security deposits)</li> <li>• Cost for credit checks</li> <li>• Cost for parking (if not included in rent and one is needed)</li> <li>• Case management services</li> </ul>	<p>Youth who on or after September 1, 2006 meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 years of age or older</li> <li>• A dependent of the state of Washington in the month before his/her 18th birthday</li> <li>• Have not yet reached the age of 23.</li> <li>• Total income does not exceed 50% of the area median income</li> </ul> <p>Priority given to youth who were dependents of the state for at least one year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth participating in the Extended Foster Care program are not eligible for this housing program.</li> <li>• Youth may be eligible once they exit the Extended Foster Care Program.</li> <li>• Tribal youth are eligible if in the care and custody of the department when reaching age of majority.</li> </ul>	<p>This program is offered in selected areas and through the following contracted providers:</p> <p>Catholic Family &amp; Child Services</p> <p>Pierce County Alliance</p> <p>Community Youth Services</p> <p>YMCA of Greater Seattle</p> <p>Volunteers of America in Spokane</p>	<p>For more information contact:</p> <p>HQ Program &amp; Policy Manager Peggy Lewis <a href="mailto:lewispi@dshs.wa.gov">lewispi@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Medicaid to 26</b></p> <p>Provides Medicaid benefits to youth age 18-26 exiting foster care or other eligible out-of-home placements</p> <p>Coordinated Care</p> <p>Core Connections</p>	<p>Youth must be eligible if you answer "yes" to one of the statements below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am currently in foster care or other eligible out-of-home placement and under age 21.</li> <li>• I am not 26 years old and when I was in out-of-home placement, I was in foster care or other eligible out-of-home placement under the responsibility of DSHS or a federally recognized tribe within Washington State.</li> </ul> <p>"Other eligible out-of-home placements" include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensed foster and relative care</li> <li>• Tribal foster care</li> <li>• ICPC foster care in Washington State</li> <li>• Dependency Guardianships established</li> </ul>	<p>Continued enrollment is automatic.</p>	<p>For more information call <b>The Health Care Authority (HCA) Foster Care Meds Team at:</b></p> <p>1-800-562-3022 Ext. 15480 or</p> <p><b>Children's Administration Foster Care Health Program Manager, Jim Pritchard at:</b></p> <p><a href="mailto:pritchja@dshs.wa.gov">pritchja@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>

	<p>prior to June 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other foster care (unlicensed, court ordered placements).</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Passion to Action</b></p> <p>A foster youth and alumni advisory board that provides Children’s Administration (CA) with input and recommendations regarding their policy and practices. Our feedback helps CA improve their ability to effectively meet the needs of our brothers and sisters in care.</p>	<p>Youth and young adults ages 14 to 24 who have experience in Child Welfare and the WA State foster care system.</p> <p>P2A consists of approximately 25 foster youth and alumni from across the state.</p> <p>Meeting are every six weeks</p>	<p>Foster youth and alumni are nominated and selected for participation</p>	<p>For more information contact Peggy Lewis at <a href="mailto:lewispi@dshs.wa.gov">lewispi@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Mockingbird Society Regional Network</b></p> <p>A statewide network of local chapters led by youth and alumni of care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing youth and training leaders</li> <li>Strengthening communities and encouraging civic engagement</li> <li>Addressing local and statewide issues affecting children and youth in foster care</li> </ul>	<p>Current and former foster youth ages 14 to 24.</p> <p>The Network consists of six chapters of foster youth and alumni who advocate for improving the quality of child welfare services in Washington State.</p> <p>Network Chapters are located at Host Agencies across the state.</p>		<p>For more information contact <a href="mailto:infor@mockingbirdsociety.org">infor@mockingbirdsociety.org</a></p>
<p><b>Tribal Independent Living (IL) Program</b></p> <p><b>Tribal IL may provide any or all of the following services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Casey Life Skills Assessment (CLSA) and Learning Plan</li> <li>Daily Living Skills</li> <li>Educational Support</li> <li>Career Exploration</li> <li>Vocational Training</li> <li>Job Placement/Retention</li> <li>Funding available for IL enrichment activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tribal youth must be 15 years old or older (up to their 21st birthday), is/was in foster care in an established dependency action through DSHS or a tribal child welfare agency for at least 30 days after their 15th birthday.</li> <li>Once initial eligibility is determined the youth will continue to be eligible until their 21st birthday.</li> <li>Tribal youth may also access regional IL programs if not receiving services directly from their tribe.</li> <li>Must be a federally recognized tribe within the state of Washington in order to receive a tribal IL contract</li> </ul>	<p>Dependent youth should be referred at age 15 and 30 days</p> <p>Youth may self-refer anytime beginning at age 15 (30 days) up to 21.</p>	<p>For more info contact: Peggy Lewis, IL Program Manager at: <a href="mailto:lewispi@dshs.wa.gov">lewispi@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>

For detailed information on any of these programs, please visit our website: [www.independence.wa.gov](http://www.independence.wa.gov)

Independence for Foster Youth in Washington State -- Windows Internet Explorer

http://independence.wa.gov/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Independence for Foster Youth in Washington St...

Home Print Preview... Print Page Safety Tools Help

independence FOR WASHINGTON STATE FOSTER YOUTH

Washington State

Home Jobs Education Housing Budget Health Self-Advocacy

**Passion to Action**

Passion to Action (P2A) is a statewide youth led advisory board to Washington State's Children's Administration. Learn more and get involved in Passion to Action!... [Continue Reading...](#)

**SEARCH**

RECENT NEWS

**Three Scholarship Applications Open in January!**

We are excited to announce that applications for our three scholarship programs open in January! ...

**2015 Foster Youth Internship (FYI) Program**

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) is accepting applications for the 2015 Foster Youth Internship (FYI) program...

**The Five Big Jobs Interview Questions**

worried about having an awkward, unsuccessful job interview? Master your responses to the five basic interview questions and worry no more! Almost every interview question... [Continue Reading...](#)

Local intranet | Protected Mode: Off

100%