



**OVERVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION INFORMATION/RESOURCES FOR CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH,
ADOPTED YOUTH AND YOUTH IN PCA/PMC**

Chart Revised July 2013

EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER (ETV) PROGRAM	STATE COLLEGE TUITION AND FEE WAIVER	OTHER DFPS EDUCATION RESOURCES
<p><u>Brief Description</u>-The ETV program is a federally funded program that may provide up to \$5,000 a year to eligible youth/young adults for education related expenses including rent, utilities, childcare, computers, books, transportation, and personal expenses for Students enrolled in college or vocational/technical programs.</p>	<p><u>Brief Description</u>-The college tuition and fee waiver provides exemption at Texas' state supported colleges and universities to DFPS youth who were formerly in foster care, adopted youth, and youth in Permanent Managing Conservatorship.</p>	<p><u>Brief Description</u>-Preparation For Adult Living (PAL) Services prepare youth for adult life when they leave foster care. This is a federal program.</p>
<p>Eligibility: FOSTER YOUTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Youth in foster care who are at least 16 and likely to remain in care until 18; or ❖ Youth who aged out foster care but have not turned 21 <p>*Undocumented youth are not eligible for ETV.</p>	<p>Eligibility: FOSTER YOUTH-must be in DFPS conservatorship on or after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The day preceding the student's 18th birthday; ❖ The day of the student's 14th birthday, if also eligible for adoption on or after that day; ❖ The date the student graduates from high school or receives the equivalent of a high school diploma 	<p>Eligibility: 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/young adults may qualify for PAL services up to their 21st birthday.</p>
<p>ADOPTED YOUTH OR YOUTH WHO ENTER PERMANENCY CARE ASSISTANCE (PCA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Youth not yet age 21 and are adopted after turning after age 16; or ❖ Youth not yet age 21 and entered PCA after age 16 <p>A youth is eligible for ETV if they are in the custody of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD), or under the jurisdiction of a local juvenile probation department and were in a Title IV-E placement and receiving Title IV-E payments the day before he/she turns 18.</p>	<p>ADOPTED YOUTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Adoption occurred on or after September 1, 2009; OR ❖ Adopted and the subject of an adoption assistance agreement for monthly financial assistance and Medicaid <p>PERMANENT MANAGING CONSERVATORSHIP(PMC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ PMC of the student was granted to an individual other than the student's parent on or after September 1, 2009. 	<p>PAL Benefits: <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>Age 21 up to age 23: A student who has applied for and been approved for ETV before his/her 21st birthday may remain eligible until age 23 as long as they are making satisfactory academic progress toward completion of the student's academic program.</p>	<p>DUAL CREDIT COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Students who enroll in a dual credit course or other course in which they may earn joint high school and college credit. Must be in DFPS conservatorship on the day of enrollment. 	<p>Program Enrollment (meet PAL eligibility criteria) and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ be between 16 and 21 years of age; and ❖ meet qualification requirements as they apply to each PAL Service.
<p>Scholastic eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Have a high school diploma or GED or be exempt from required school attendance; or ❖ Are enrolled in a dual credit course or other course at an institution of higher education where they earn a joint high school diploma and college credit. <p>NOTE: ETV funds may be used to pay for some college attendance costs if a student is in paid DFPS foster care. ETV website: http://www.texasetv.com</p>	<p>Higher Education Enrollment/Age Criteria: FOSTER YOUTH, YOUTH IN PMC, AND YOUTH ADOPTED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2009-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Must enroll in an institution of higher education as an undergraduate not later than the student's 25th birthday. <p>ADOPTED YOUTH SUBJECT WITH AN ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ There is no age limit to enroll in an institution of higher education. 	<p>For more information about PAL services go to this website: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Preparation_For_Adult_Living/default.asp</p>



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Cont'd-EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER (ETV) PROGRAM-Schools	Cont'd-STATE TUITION AND FEE WAIVER Schools	Cont'd-OTHER DFPS EDUCATION RESOURCES
<p>Youth/young adults receiving ETV apply these funds to the cost of attendance associated with attending *accredited or pre-accredited nonprofit private or public institutions of higher education, in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ provides a bachelor's degree or not less than a two-year program that provides full credit towards a degree (associate degree) or certification; or ▪ provides not less than a one-year program of training to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation; or ▪ is also a private institution that has been in existence for at least two years and provides a program of training to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation (proprietary schools). <p>Correspondence, Distance Education, or Continuing Education courses must be part of a student's academic degree or certificate program for ETV purposes. Students need prior approval by the ETV staff for these courses.</p> <p>*all of the categories listed above must be accredited or have been granted pre-accreditation status by such an agency or organization that has been recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.</p> <p><i>Statutory Citation:</i> P.L., 110-351, Section 101-Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, Sec. 477 (a) Texas Administrative Code §700.1613</p>	<p>Youth/young adults are exempt from the payment of college tuition and fees at Texas state-supported colleges and universities, public medical school, public dental schools, or public technical institutes.</p> <p>Note: Fees are covered if it is required for education purposes (i.e., lab or other mandatory fees).</p> <p>The waiver letter must be submitted to the schools registrar's office by the youth/young adult at the time of enrollment.</p> <p>The Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THCEB) are responsible for developing outreach programs to ensure that students in foster or other residential care in grades 9-12 are aware of the availability of the exemption from payment of tuition and fees.</p> <p>THECB provides helpful information needed for youth/young adults to plan for college at http://www.collegeforalltexas.com/</p> <p><i>Statutory Citation:</i> Texas Education Code §54.366 and §54.367</p>	<p>If a youth/young adult is eligible for PAL Aftercare room and board assistance, these funds are used after ETV funds have been expended.</p> <p><u>DFPS SCHOLARSHIPS:</u> Freshmen Success Fund for Foster Youth (est. April 2013): This is a grant for first time college freshmen formerly in DFPS foster care. Each year there will be 4 one time grants of \$1,000 available for young adults enrolling in their freshmen year. These grants are to cover basic non-tuition related expenses such as books and supplies, computers and software, tools and uniforms and transportation. Students must be enrolled in a Texas state-supported college, university, or vocational/technical school that accepts the state college tuition and fee waiver. More information about this scholarship is available at: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/txyouth/education/financial.asp</p> <p>C. Ed Davis-PAL Scholarship (est. July 2012): This scholarship is for basic non-tuition needs for former foster youth who are majoring in government, political science, history, or other pre-law field. Scholarships are for \$1,000 per academic year and are available to sophomore, junior, or senior year students. More information about this scholarship is available at: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/txyouth/education/financial.asp</p>

Regional PAL staff can be contacted for additional information regarding these services/programs.
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Preparation_For_Adult_Living/PAL_coordinators.asp
 For additional information on CPS-Transitional Living Services go to:
http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/default.asp