

Financial Aid for Foster Youth: Grants and Scholarships

Federal Pell Grant: *Foster youth are eligible for this grant as they have “independent” status. Accessed through <http://fafsa.ed.gov/>*
The following website provides solutions to the questions foster youth, adopted youth, or youth in a guardianship have regarding how to answer questions about family income: <http://www.nasfaa.org/annualpubs/FosterYouthFAFSA.pdf>

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG): *Foster youth are eligible for this grant as they have “exceptional financial need”. Access through www.fafsa.ed.gov*

Oregon Opportunity Grant: *Foster youth often receive this grant due to financial need. It can only be used by Oregon residents and at a nonprofit college or university in Oregon. Access through completing the FAFSA. To get more information go to www.oregonstudentaid.gov*

Education Training Voucher (ETV or ETG): *Funded through the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP). This grant provides up to \$3,000.00 a year for youth who were in foster care (DHS or one of the federally recognized tribes) and dismissed from care at age 16 or older with 180 days of foster care placement services. If a youth is receiving these funds at age 21, s/he is eligible to apply for funding until age 23. Access application through www.oregonstudentaid.gov/chafeetv.aspx*

Although the Chafee ETV grant can be accessed year round through the ILP Desk, we encourage all youth to apply for their financial aid between January 1st and March 1st (FAFSA, OSAC & ETV applications) in order to obtain maximum funding for post secondary education.

Orphan Foundation of America Scholarship Program: *Several scholarships are available through the Orphan Foundation of America including the Casey Family Scholarships. For more information go to www.orphan.org and click on ‘scholarships’.*

National Foster Parent Association Scholarships: *To get more information go to <http://www.nfpainc.org>. This website also lists a full scholarship for the University of Phoenix.*

Fostering A Future: Scholarship to benefit youth **adopted** from foster care after age 13. <http://www.childrensactionnetwork.org/scholarship.htm>

Financial Aid for Foster Youth: Grants and Scholarships

Oregon Student Assistance Commission: *Hundreds of scholarships are available through the Oregon Student Assistance Commission at www.oregonstudentaid.gov including:*

- **Irmgard Schultz Scholarship:** *This scholarship is privately funded and can be accessed through OSAC. Note: Foster youth are a secondary priority. First priority is to any graduate from Jackson County.*
- * **DREAM Scholarship for Foster Youth aka Former Foster Children Scholarship:** *This scholarship was initially funded by the Oregon Legislature but is now funded by private donations. Primary eligibility are for those youth who meet the requirements for the ETV listed above. However, as a secondary purpose, this scholarship can serve youth who were in the DHS child welfare system; youth who are adopted from DHS child welfare between the ages of 14 ½ and 16; foster youth who did not receive Chafee funds before age 21, or are over age 23 (less than age 26) and have not yet completed their post-secondary education.*

To contribute to the DREAM Scholarship:

- <http://www.oregonstudentaid.gov/donate.aspx>
- *Make checks payable to: Oregon Student Assistance Commission*
- *Put Code 442 in the “memo” section of your check.*
- *Mail check to: Oregon Student Assistance Commission,
Grants and Scholarship Division,
1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 100,
Eugene, OR 97401.*

Oregon Tuition & Fee Waiver: To be eligible a youth must: **1)** have at least 365 days of **Oregon** child welfare care and custody after the age of 16. **2)** Must enroll at a post-secondary institution within 3 years of wardship dismissal or completing high school/GED (whichever is earlier). **3)** Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A student must complete 30 hours of volunteer activities to retain eligibility for year 2 and all subsequent years. Once enrolled and receiving the tuition waiver, the student is entitled to the equivalent of 4 years of undergraduate studies.

QUESTIONS?? Contact the ILP Desk

Sandy Raschko, ILP Fiscal Assistant
Rosemary Iavenditti, ILP Coordinator

Phone #: 503.945.6612
Phone #: 503.945.5688
Fax #: 503.945.6969