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# **College Supports for Transition Age Youth & Young Adults**

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**Education Reach Conference 2024**

**Todd Serpico, Division Administrator of Transitional Living Services**

# TLS Team Members

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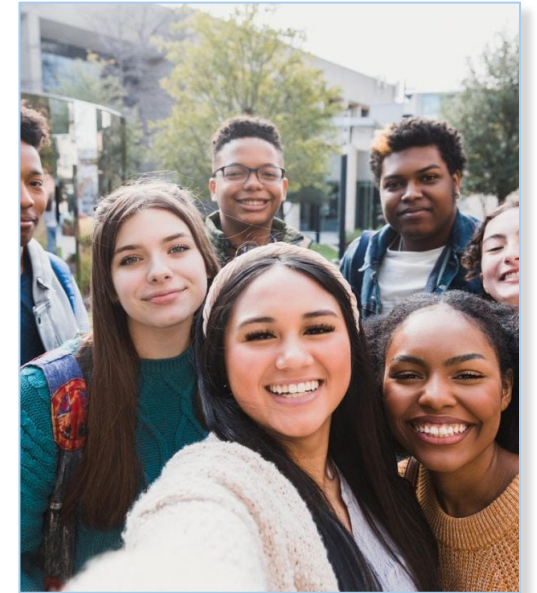


# Types of TAY Population on college campuses



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- TAY who are presently in-care or who aged out of care
- TAY who were adopted
- TAY who experienced foster care at some point but achieved other positive permanency



# Broad Supports



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- Most are available to all of your TAY population.
- Some may be limited but are not limited to one singular category of types of TAY students.



# Post Secondary Education Resource Tuition and Fee Waiver



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## Tuition and Fee Waiver (provided by Texas Law)

Provides exemptions from payment of tuition and fees at **Texas state supported colleges and universities** to individuals formerly in conservatorship of Texas DFPS and those adopted from the conservatorship of Texas DFPS.

- To be exempt from the payment of tuition and fees, youth or young adults **must have been in DFPS conservatorship**.
- Eligible population are individuals in DFPS conservatorship and meets one of the certain criteria to receive the waiver.

# Post Secondary Education Resource: Education and Training Voucher

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## Purpose of ETV:

- This benefit is to help support postsecondary education goals
- Federally-funded (Chafee) and state-administered program.
- Young people ages 16 to 23 MAY be eligible for up to \$5000 of financial assistance per year to help them reach their postsecondary educational goals.
- Youth who were in state custody / foster care are eligible if they meet the following criteria:
  - Aged out of DFPS conservatorship
  - Adopted after the age of 16
  - Part of a PCA agreement after the age of 16



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# ETV application process




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discoverbcfs.net/texasetv/

DFPS Public Website Impact Login DFPS Intranet CPS Regional Big D... Travel Google Facebook NYTD log in NYTD | Children's B... State Ind Living Co... Child Information G... HHS Enterprise Port...



### Mission

The Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program allows Texas to help current and former foster youth and young adults, youth adopted at age 16, and youth that enter Permanency Care Assistance at age 16 to make a smoother transition to a successful adulthood by providing funding and supports to help youth and young adults achieve their educational goals. [Additional information on eligibility criteria.](#)



### ETV Application Deadlines

Contact your ETV coordinator if you think you may qualify for additional funds

- Fall – October 1
- Spring – March 1
- Summer – July 1

### About ETV

### Texas ETV

- ETV Home
- How ETV Can Help
  - ETV Allowable Expenses
- Apply for ETV
  - ETV Application
  - ETV Eligibility & Qualifications


07/12/2024



# ETV application process

discoverbcs.net/texasetv/documents/

DFPS Public Website Impact Login DFPS Intranet CPS Regional Big D... Travel Google Facebook NYTD log in NYTD | Children's B... State Ind Living Co... Child Information G... HHS Enterprise Port...



Contact your case manager or ETV coordinator if you need assistance.

## Document Checklist

Be sure to gather the necessary documents listed below for the Initial Application and Application Update processes. If you need assistance gathering documents, please contact DFPS PAL staff, URM staff, case manager or ETV coordinator.

Initial Application Documents	Update Application Documents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Budget worksheet</li><li>ETV direct deposit form</li><li>Request of funds and supporting documents (formerly "purchase voucher")</li><li>Class schedule</li><li>Student classification</li><li>Financial aid award letter or billing statement for vocational schools</li><li>DFPS verification of eligibility</li><li>College tuition and fee waiver letter, if available</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Budget worksheet</li><li>ETV direct deposit form</li><li>Request of funds and supporting documents (formerly "purchase voucher")</li><li>Class schedule</li><li>Student classification</li><li>Financial aid award letter or billing statement for vocational schools</li><li>Unofficial transcript</li></ul>

[Upload Documents Here](#)

### Texas ETV

- [ETV Home](#)
- [How ETV Can Help](#)
  - ETV Allowable Expenses
- [Apply for ETV](#)
  - ETV Application
  - ETV Eligibility & Qualifications
  - [Important ETV Documents](#)
  - ETV Important Dates & Reminders
- [Learn more about ETV](#)
  - ETV Resources & Information



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# Housing Support Options

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- Out-of-Care Transitional Living Programs
- Foster Youth To Independence (FYI) Vouchers
- Family Unification Program (FUP) Vouchers
- Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Housing Program





# Housing Options

- FYI & FUP Vouchers
  - Age 18 and not yet 24 years old
  - Was in foster care
  - Homeless or at risk of homelessness
  - Time limited to 36 months (FYI can receive conditional increase of up to 2 years)
  - Income and criminal background check required
- 811 Project Rental Agreement Program
  - Age 18 to 62
  - Youth with disabilities who were in foster care
  - Eligible for SSI (not needed for some youth)
  - Can have zero income
  - Income and criminal background check required



# DFPS Partnerships: Transition Centers, TWC, and Workforce Solution Boards

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## Transition Centers

- Serve youth currently or formerly in foster care ages 15 to 25 (varies per center)
- Central clearing house of services to include employment, education support, PAL services, and referrals to community resources (varies per center).
- Co-locate with community partners.

## Texas Workforce Commission

- Agreement with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to prioritize workforce services for youth and young adults currently and formerly in foster care.

## Workforce Solutions Boards

- Agreement with all 28 local Workforce Boards in to prioritize workforce services for youth and young adults currently and formerly in foster care.

## Education Reach Regional Breakouts

- Regional partnerships of relevant agencies, stakeholders, and educational institutions.



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# Scholarships and/or financial supports

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Foster Love: <https://academics.fosterlove.com>

- Multiple scholarships offered
- Rapid Response program that can partner with your institution to provide emergency assistance to youth on your campus.

International Student Foundation: <https://www.isfsite.org/students>

- Scholarships offered

Texas DFPS: Freshman & Sophomore Success Scholarship

- Scholarships administered through the DFPS:

[https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Education/other resources.asp](https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child%20Protection/Youth%20and%20Young%20Adults/Education/other%20resources.asp)

# TLS/PAL for youth currently in care or who aged out of care



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- PAL Staff & Services
- Extended Foster Care Services
- Transition Support Services/Aftercare Supports



# Preparation for Adult Living (PAL)

- Life Skills Assessments & Training
- Tuition waiver & ETV
- Transitional Living Allowance
  - *\$1,000 in transition assistance*
- Transition Support Services
  - *Aftercare Room & Board - \$3,000 until age 21*
- Other supportive financial services
- Teen Conferences & Aging Out Seminars
- Statewide & regional Youth Leadership Councils
- Other conferences, seminars, college visits, camps, and events



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# Extended and Return to Foster Care

## *Extended Foster Care Eligibility Requirements*

To continue to receive foster care, a young adult must be...

and...

18, 19, or 20 years old...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>regularly attending high school or a program leading to a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate (GED);</li> <li>regularly attending an institution of higher learning or postsecondary;</li> <li>vocational or technical program (minimum six hours per semester);</li> <li>participating in a program or activity that promotes or removes barriers to employment;</li> <li>employed at least 80 hours a month; or</li> <li>incapable of performing the activities described above due to a documented medical condition.</li> </ul>
21 years old...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>regularly attending high school or a program leading to a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate (GED).</li> </ul>



# Extended Foster Care Placements



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- In-Care Transitional Living Placements
- Supervised Independent Living
- General Residential Operations (GROs)
- Foster Homes



# Supervised Independent Living

**Supervised Independent Living (SIL)** is a voluntary program under Extended Foster Care. The contracted placement settings allow eligible young adults to reside in a less restrictive, non-traditional living arrangement while continuing to receive casework and support service to help them become more independent and self-sufficient.

SIL settings can include:

- Shared Housing
- Apartments
- Non-College Dorms
- College Dorms
- Host Homes



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# Supervised Independent Living (SIL) Con't

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## SIL is available for young adults who can:

- Demonstrate a reasonable level of maturity and ability to manage the expectations required in an SIL setting with no direct supervision and minimal case management
- Meet the eligibility requirements for Extended Foster Care.

## Major Goals of the SIL Program

- ✓ Provide a supportive, safe living environment for individuals who have aged out of foster care and ready to meet their own needs.
- ✓ Provide financial support for participants in the form of housing, food, funding for hygiene products and cell phone services.



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# Important Contacts

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## **DFPS PAL Staff**

[http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Preparation For Adult Living/PAL coordinators.asp](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child%20Protection/Youth%20and%20Young%20Adults/Preparation%20For%20Adult%20Living/PAL%20coordinators.asp)

## **DFPS PAL Transition and Financial Support Contractors**

[https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Preparation For Adult Living/aftercare.asp](https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child%20Protection/Youth%20and%20Young%20Adults/Preparation%20For%20Adult%20Living/aftercare.asp)

## **Transition Centers**

[https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Transitional Living/transition centers.asp](https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child%20Protection/Youth%20and%20Young%20Adults/Transitional%20Living/transition%20centers.asp)



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**Thank you**

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