

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES
HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES/INFORMATION FOR CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH, ADOPTED YOUTH AND
YOUTH IN PCA/PMC-Chart Revised March, 1 2011**

EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER (ETV) PROGRAM	STATE TUITION AND FEE WAIVER	OTHER DFPS EDUCATION RESOURCE
<p><u>Brief Description</u>-Based on need, the federally funded 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.</p>	<p><u>Brief Description</u>-The state tuition and fee waiver provides exemptions at Texas state supported institutions of higher education to certain 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>A youth is eligible for ETV if they are in a Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) title IV-E placement the day before he/she turns 18. TJPC must provide proof that the youth was in an IV-E placement the day before he/she turned 18.</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 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>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>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 21-23 participation: Youth who are participating in ETV on their 21st 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"> ❖ 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>NOTE: ETV funds may be used for some college attendance cost not covered by the tuition fee waiver.</p>	<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>Program Enrollment (meet eligibility criteria) and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Have a high school diploma or GED or be exempt from required school attendance; and ❖ Be enrolled in an institution of higher education before age 21; and ❖ Complete and file an ETV application with required supporting documentation. <p>For more information go to this website: http://www.bcfs.net/etv</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>

Cont'd-EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER (ETV) PROGRAM-Schools	Cont'd-STATE TUITION AND FEE WAIVER Schools	Cont'd-OTHER DFPS EDUCATION RESOURCE
<p>Youth 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>Online correspondence or distance learning courses must be accredited or pre-accredited and verified by ETV staff.</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>Youth that originally received ETV services in Texas and move out-of-state to attend one of the institutions referenced above may continue to receive ETV services from Texas.</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 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 (i.e., lab or other mandatory fees).</p> <p>The waiver letter must be submitted to the higher education registrar's office by the youth 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 to plan for college at http://www.collegeforalltexas.com/</p> <p><i>Statutory Citation:</i> Texas Education Code §54.211 and §54.2111</p>	<p>If a youth is eligible for PAL Aftercare room and board assistance, these funds are used after ETV funds have been expended.</p>

Note: Regional PAL staff can be contacted for additional information regarding these services/programs. A list of regional lead PAL staff is available at:

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/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/Transitional_Living/default.asp