

Resource Guide for Educational Supports for Current and Former Foster Care Youth in Kansas

A youth who has been in foster care, juvenile corrections, or Tribal custody in any state may be eligible to participate in the following programs.

Educational and Training Voucher (ETV) Program

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the ETV program, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- Be a high school graduate or have obtained a GED.
- Placed in the custody of the Kansas
 Department for Children and Families (DCF),
 Kansas Department of Corrections-Juvenile
 Services (KDOC-JS), or Tribal Authority
 (TA) at age 14 or older.
- Youth who were placed in the custody of the state child welfare agency, juvenile corrections, or Tribal Authority in any state at age 14 or older may be eligible.
- Experienced one of the following:
 - » Aged out of DCF, KDOC-JS, or TA from an eligible placement on or after their 18th birthday.
 - » Left an eligible placement to a permanent order of guardianship or custodianship on or after their 16th birthday.

ETV funds are provided to eligible youth to assist with attending a vocational school, community college, or university. ETV funds may be used for necessary education expenses like tuition, textbooks, computer, etc. The ETV program is administered by the Kansas Department for Children and Families Independent Living program.

- » Adopted on or after their 16th birthday.
- » In an eligible placement on or after their 14th birthday.
- » Youth who left a foster care placement subject to permanent custodianship or guardianship or who were adopted before their 16th birthday are not eligible for ETV.
 - ETV funds may be utilized for a total of five years, until their 26th birthday.
 - ETV funds are need-based. The youth will work with their Independent Living Coordinator to determine their level of need.
 - To receive ETV funds, a youth must complete the FAFSA and a minimum of 3 scholarships (documentation of completion is required).
 - On the FAFSA, question 53 asks whether an individual was in foster care or a ward of the court after attaining age 13. Answering "yes" to this question makes them eligible for the full Pell Grantmoney that does not have to be paid back as long as the youth maintains passing grades.

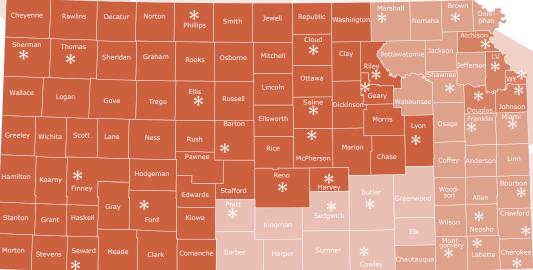
How to Apply Contact the DCF Independent Living team in your area.

West Region
DCF.WestIL@ks.gov

Kansas City Region
DCF.KansasCityIL@ks.gov

East Region
DCF.EastIL@ks.gov

Wichita Region
DCF.WichitalL@ks.gov



* DCF Service Center

The Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance Act waives tuition and required fees for eligible current and former foster youth who are enrolled in an undergraduate program at a Kansas Board of Regents public school. The student is responsible for other charges associated with the educational program, such as room and board. A complete list of approved schools can be found at www.kansasregents.org.

Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance Act (Tuition Waiver)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the Tuition Waiver, an individual must meet one of the following requirements:

- » In the custody of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) and in a foster care placement on the date the youth turned 18.
- » Released from the custody of DCF prior to turning 18, after having graduated from high school or fulfilled the requirements for a GED while in a foster care placement and the custody of DCF.

- Adopted from a foster care placement on or after their 16th birthday.
 - » Left a foster care placement subject to a permanent custodianship or guardianship on or after their 16th birthday.

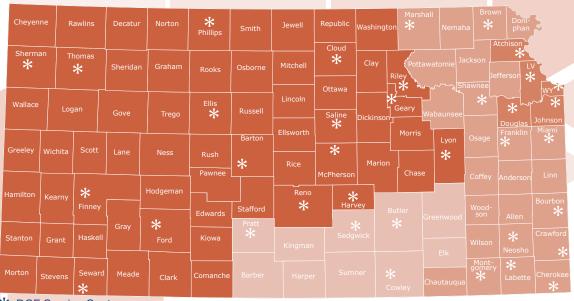
The Tuition Waiver may be utilized until the semester of a youth's 23rd birthday, as long as they are in good standing with the school's academic requirements.



Apply through the registrar's office at the post-secondary institution. Ask to fill out the application for the Foster Child Education Assistance program. For questions about the Tuition Waiver, please contact DCF. Tuition Waivers@ks.gov.

DCF Independent Living Program

Additional assistance may be available to eligible youth through the DCF Independent Living program. For more information, please call the statewide contact at 785-296-4653 or contact the DCF Independent Living team in your area.



* DCF Service Center

West Region
DCF.WestIL@ks.gov

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