



Resources for Teens and Young Adults With a Foster Care History

Applying for a Job

Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation
1111 E. Broad St., Suite 201, Columbus, Ohio 43205
614-559-5052
info@cowic.org

Services offered: Ohio foster care youth, between 14 – 21 years old, are 100% eligible for local workforce programs that are funded by WIA funds. COWIC services fall into this category.

Free Legal Help

Foster Youth Advocacy Center (FYAC)
Capital University Law School, 303 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 236-6768
fyac@law.capital.edu

Services offered: Capital Law School provides a free legal clinic for current or former foster youth between ages 16-25 who need help with getting their foster care records, accessing healthcare, public benefits, housing or insurance, expunging criminal records and/or obtaining social security card, birth certificate, or other personal documents.

Healthcare

Foster care youth who "age out" of foster care in Ohio are eligible for Medicaid until their 26th birthdays. After being initially signed up for Medicaid at age 18, former foster youth must stay in touch with Medicaid, so that they don't lose services between ages 18-26. Please contact the Medicaid Hotline: 1-800-324-8680.

Ohio Reach

Will Murray, Ohio Reach Coordinator
Public Children Services Association of Ohio
(614) 224-5802

Ohio Reach improves post-secondary outcomes for foster care youth and alumni through leadership, empowerment, advocacy, research and networking (L.E.A.R.N.). Several Ohio colleges and universities have Ohio Reach Campus Liaisons to support the success for former foster youth pursuing post-secondary education.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Filling Out the FAFSA

Former foster care youth should fill out the FAFSA as an “independent student,” in accordance with the 2007 College Cost Reduction and Access Act. This enables former foster youth to be eligible for financial aid.

Eligibility requirements: Youth must fit into ONE of the following categories:

1. An orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, at any time when the student was 13 years of age or older OR
2. An emancipated minor or is in legal guardianship as determined by the court in their state of legal residence OR
3. Verified as an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of homelessness and self-supporting

Ohio Education and Training Voucher Program (ETV funds)

Foster Care to Success provides up to \$5000 a year for qualified school related expenses. Funding is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible students. Please visit: <http://www.fc2sprogram.org/ohio/>

Eligibility requirements:

1. At least 18 years old, but younger than 21 years old to apply for the first time. Youth can reapply for ETV funds, if they have a current grant, up to the age of 23.
2. Youth must either have been in foster care on their 18th birthday and aged out at that time, or adopted from foster care with the adoption finalized after his/her 16th birthday, or will have his/her foster care case closed between the ages of 18 and 21.
3. Must be enrolled in a degree, certificate or other accredited program at a college, university, technical, vocational school.
4. To remain eligible for ETV funding, youth must show progress toward a degree or certificate.

Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)

Tamika M. Braswell

(614) 728-8862

tbraswell@regents.state.oh.us

www.ohiohighered.org

Foster youth at community colleges can apply for OCOG funds, and have special permission to use these funds for housing if needed, in addition to other college-related expenses. The funding allocation is up to \$1,048 to assist with college living expenses.