

NYS Education and Training Voucher Program

Supporting Your Future

The Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program of New York State is designed to help current or former foster care youth become economically self-sufficient. **Awards of up to \$5,000 per year** are granted for post-secondary education or vocational training and related expenses.

The State program is part of a national initiative funded by the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act of 1999. The Act broadened state capabilities for providing youth access to a variety of supports to assist with the transition from foster care.

As of 2020, the ETV program is administered in New York State by Welfare Research, Inc. (WRI), a not-for-profit agency devoted to providing technical assistance to government agencies and the non-profit sector.

Students can apply for ETV funding in New York State at etv-nys.smapply.org. Further specifications about eligibility and program requirements appear on the reverse of this flyer.



ETV funding may be used for tuition, fees, books and supplies, housing, transportation, and other education-related costs.

**NYS
ETV**

etv-nys.smapply.org
admin@etv-nys.com

ETV Eligibility Requirements for Students

To qualify to receive a voucher for expenses, a student must:

- be accepted or enrolled in a school that qualifies for Title IV of the Higher Education Act; AND
- demonstrate progress towards completion of their program

A student must be enrolled in:

- An educational program where the institution awards a degree; OR
- A school which awards a certificate for an educational training program that prepares students for gainful employment in a recognized profession

A student must be at least one of the following:

- A current foster care youth, including persons in need of supervision (PINS) and those who are in the custody of the juvenile justice system; OR
- A former foster youth who has not yet attained the age of 21 years who is eligible for services under the Chafee Foster Care Independent Program; OR
- A youth adopted from U.S. foster care or placed in Kinship Guardianship at age 16 or older; OR
- A youth who left U.S. foster care at age 14 or older; OR
- A youth who is currently in the custody of the Office of Children and Family Services and placed in a non-secure or voluntary agency (Title IV-E facility); OR
- A youth who is currently in the custody of the Office of Children and Family Services on aftercare status or receiving services in an Evening Reporting Center (ERC) and has been placed in a non-secure or voluntary agency (Title IV-E facility)

A student must be either a:

- United States citizen; OR
- Qualified non-citizen

ETV funding:

- Must start before the student's 21st birthday; AND
- Must end after their 23rd birthday

Student can access ETV funding:

- For up to five years (consecutive or intermittent)

Allowable Expenses

(ETV) awards may only be used to pay for allowable expenses, which include:*

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| • Tuition / fees | • Study abroad expenses |
| • Dorm fees / rent | • Cooperative education program expenses |
| • Utilities | • Transportation (school-related) / gasoline |
| • Food / meal plans | • Health insurance premiums |
| • Books / e-books | • Disability services |
| • Supplies (uniforms, tools, equipment) | • Childcare from licensed provider |
| • Laundry / hygiene products | |

* Other expenses may qualify. Message admin@etv-nys.com with questions about your budget details.

STUDENT RESOURCES

ACADEMIC

- Purplemath.com
- Study.com
- Bestessayhelp.net

Search your school's website for more information about on-campus assistance (writing center, student learning center, academic assistance)

PLANNING

- Careerzone.ny.gov
- Mappingyourfuture.org

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

1-800-4FEDAID

ocfs.ny.gov/main/youth/scholarly_resources.asp

freescholarships.com

mappingyourfuture.org/Paying/

hesc.ny.gov

collegeboard.org

Check with your school's Financial Aid Office



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