

Teen and Young Adult Utilization of Foster Care Transitional Funds

The John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (formerly known as Independent Living Program) provides funds and services to assist current and former foster youth to gain life skills needed to successfully transition into adulthood. The following criteria outline who is eligible for these transitional services. Please note an individual teen or young adult may receive services and funding from more than one category at a time.

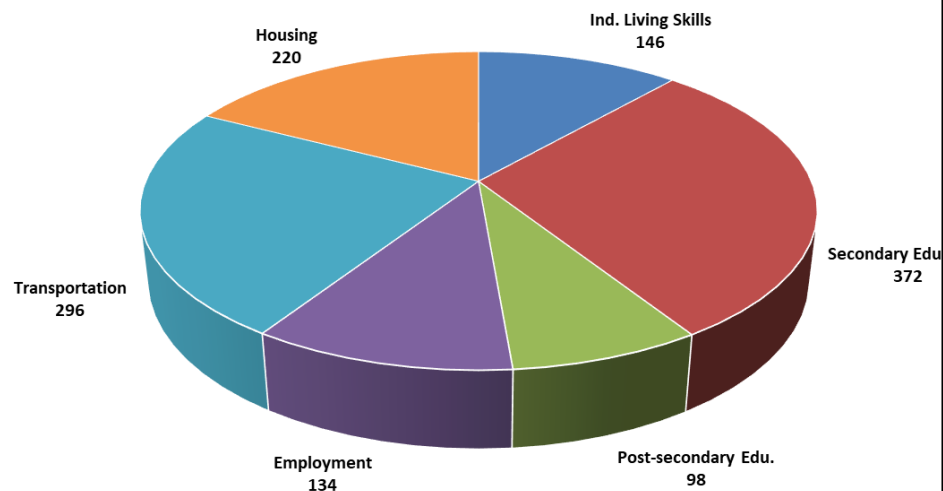
- Chafee funds are available for
 - Foster youth ages 14 until 18th birthday who are in foster care or are receiving Adoption Preservation services
 - Foster youth ages 18 until 21st birthday who are in Extension of Foster Care
 - Former foster youth, who left foster care to reunification at or after age 14 and have not reached age 21
 - Former foster youth, who reached age of majority (18th birthday) while in foster care and have not reached age 21
 - Former foster youth who have left foster care to Adoption, Kinship Care, or Legal Guardianship at or after age 16 and have not reached age 21

The ETV (Education and Training Voucher) program provides funds for current and former foster youth pursuing post-secondary education. ETV awards are up to \$5,000 per academic year and must be applied to the cost of attendance (COA) identified on College/University official financial award letter. The College/University must have a FASFA code to be eligible for the ETV Voucher. The funds are available for the following youth for up to five (5) years or until the youth reaches their 26th birthday.

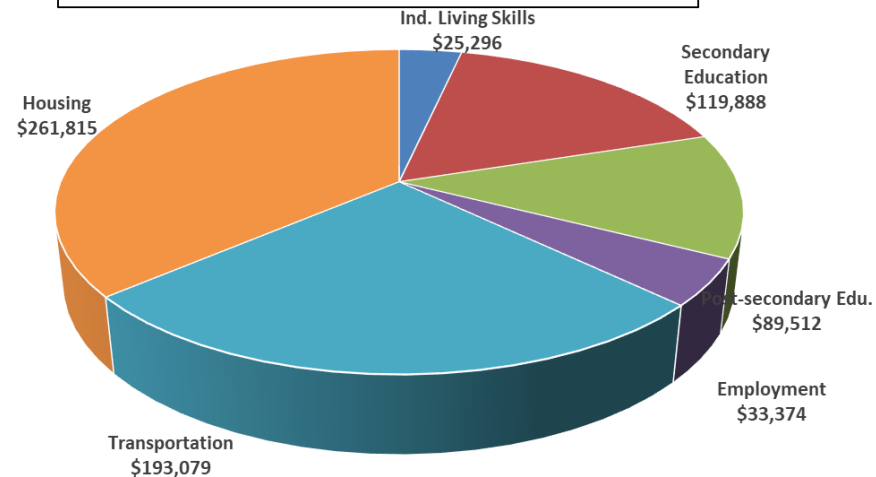
- ETV funds are available for
 - Foster youth ages 14 until 18th birthday who are in foster care or are receiving Adoption Preservation services
 - Foster youth ages 18 until 21st birthday who are in Extension of Foster Care
 - Former foster youth, who left foster care to reunification at or after age 14 and have not reached age 26
 - Former foster youth, who reached age of majority (18th birthday) while in foster care and have not reached age 26
 - Former foster youth who have left foster care to Adoption, Kinship Care, or Legal Guardianship at or after age 16 and have not reached age 26

Please see additional details on the following page.

**Recipients of Chafee and ETV Support and Services
SFY 2025-2026**



**Expenditures for Chafee and ETV Support and Services
SFY 2025-2026**



The Chafee services are categorized for this report as follows:

Independent Living Skills (IL Skills Development)

- Life skills classes/workshops/activities (NYTD categories)
- Financial Readiness
- Chafee Match Financial Program
- Community leadership/scholar programs
- YEA!/ Youth leadership and advocacy development activities/conferences

Secondary Services and Support

- School and Non-School Sponsored activities
- GED Program and Non-ETV coursework
- Tutoring, study skills training, books and supplies for specialized classes, and summer school
- Senior Prom, Senior Fees, Senior Graduation Packages, and Graduate award
- Chromebook for high school or GED

Post-Secondary Services and Support

- Pre-College Expenses such as college applications, birth certificate for school, SAT/ACT preparation classes and test fees
- College Readiness Workshops
- Laptop Bundle for enrolled college students
- Dorm Room Bundle (bedding, towels, décor)
- Non-ETV coursework

SCDSS – Division of Accountability, Data, and Research (data from SCDSS – Transition Services and Support – effective August 2026)

- Academic Incentive for 3.0 GPA
- College related fees
- Home visits during college to maintain permanency/connections

Employment Services and Support

- Certification programs (license, fees, and vocational equipment)
- Employment Readiness Workshops
- Job skills training classes
- Birth certificate for employment
- Interview clothing, work uniforms/footwear, and professional attire

Transportation Services and Support

- Transportation to GED program and vocational school
- Transportation to job skills training and work
- Transportation to college orientation
- Bicycles
- Driver's education courses, driver's license, state IDs, and beginner's permit fees
- Vehicle Repairs/ maintenance
- Insurance Policy

Housing Services and Support

- Housing Readiness Workshops
- Utilities deposit, furniture, rental application, rental deposit, and rental assistance
- SIL/Transition Program participation fee
- Interim Housing for College Students during breaks
- Emergency Assistance to stabilize housing and prevent homelessness
- Household Bundle (bedding, towels, cutlery, appliances)
- Dependent Bundles for parenting young adults (furniture, bedding, towels)
- DDSN Bundles

Please note an individual may receive services and funding from more than one category at a time.