

College Access Resources and Activities for High School Youth in Foster Care



www.micampuscompact.org

Michigan Youth in Transition

Visit www.michigan.gov/fyit and click the "Education" tab. This will be the most helpful website for youth in transition in Michigan. Available resources include college preparation, GED information, financial aid for foster youth, and tips for applying for college.

Youth in Transition Funding - Youth in Transition is a funding source available to cover expenses NOT covered by other government or community resources, or to augment or supplement services from other funding sources. Applications available at the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS). [Read more here.](#)

Choosing a College

First Year Supportive Programming - When choosing a college, investigate their Equal Opportunity Programs (EOPs), often labeled as First-Year Experience Programs, Summer Bridge Programs, Freshman Seminars, and others. These programs are made to support and aid in the success of foster care and first-generation youth in the transition to college.

Foster Care Alumni Services- Schools may offer services especially for foster care youth such as housing during holiday breaks, consider these Be aware of some of the struggles youth in transition face and when searching for colleges, be sure to look for available programming for these youth.

Michigan Colleges with Foster Care Scholarships and Services

Aquinas College - [Fostering Success Scholarships](#)

Ferris State University - [Ferris Youth Initiative](#)

Lansing Community College - Theresa and Frederick Junger Scholarship [517-483-1987](#)

Macomb Community College - United Way's Scholarship for Youth in Transition [586-463-5660](#)

Michigan State University

The Foster Care Youth Endowed Scholarship Program [517-355-7515](#)

The Jim and June Grant Expendable Foster Care Scholarship Fund [517-353-5940](#)

[Other Funds](#)

[Foster Youth Alumni Services](#)

Western Michigan University - [John Seita Scholarship and Seita Scholars Program](#)

University of Michigan - Paul and Amy Blavin Scholarship [734-763-6600](#)

Financial Aid

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program – The ETV provides up to \$5,000 per year for college or other post-secondary education. Funds may be used to pay for tuition, housing, books, to avoid taking out student loans. Youth are eligible even if they were adopted on or after their 16th birthday. Application must be submitted before the youth's 21st birthday and funds are available until the age of 23. For more information visit mietv.samaritas.org/ or call [1-877-660-METV](tel:1-877-660-METV).

Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) – This program encourages eligible students to complete high school by providing tuition assistance for the first two years of college if the student is enrolled in an Associate's degree program. To meet the financial eligibility requirement, a student must have (or have had) Medicaid coverage for 24 months within a 36-consecutive-month period as identified by the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS). **Registration for TIP must be completed before youth's high school graduation.** [Read more here.](#)

Scholarship Resources

[Casey Family Scholars Program](#)

[National Foster Parent Association Scholarship](#)

[Foster Care to Success Scholarships and Grants](#)

FAFSA HELP

Filing a FAFSA for an independent youth is a fairly easy and quick process. For help filling out the form, [click here](#). For additional questions direct the youth to their school counselor or to a financial aid representative from the college they plan to attend.

Enrollment in TriO Programs

Educate the youth on the variety of TRiO programs available. These programs are set up on college campuses and help prepare youth and young adults for post-secondary enrollment. These programs are offered to low-income and first generation (first in the family to attend college) youth. **For enrollment information contact your local college, a guardian's consent is required to enroll.**

Upward Bound: Helps high school students up to age 19 prepare for post-secondary education by offering tutoring, mentoring, and college planning.

Educational Opportunity Centers: Encourage young adults, 19 and older to contact these centers for help in choosing post-secondary institutions and filing financial aid.

Talent Search: This program offers academic, career, and financial aid counseling to prepare students up to age 27 for post-secondary education.

First Year Supportive Programming

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Foster to Famous

Visit www.fosterclub.com/famous and have a discussion about famous people who grew up in foster care. Find a person who succeeded in the area the youth is interested in and explain that it can be a complex but rewarding journey. Explain that a higher education can help youth in their path to success.

One last Michigan resource

The nonprofit Samaritas, formerly Lutheran Social Services of Mid-Michigan, has a well-maintained [list of resources](#) for youth in foster care pursuing college.