

Postsecondary Options for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities in Foster, Kinship, or Adoptive Families in Georgia



A WAZE To Adulthood Fact Sheet

Thank you to **Formed Families Forward** for their partnership in this resource

Graduation from high school can be a time of uncertainty, especially for youth and young adults in foster care, but it can also open a world of opportunities. There are some postsecondary options that might be helpful as youth and young adults in foster care plan for the transition from high school to college or employment. Here are some of the options and resources available in Georgia.

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program

The [ETV Program](#) provides funding for education, training, and services needed for employment.

The ETV Program:

- Provides up to \$5,000 a year for up to 5 years
- Funds can be used toward tuition and fees, room and board, and other related expenses including books, supplies, transportation, childcare, and a computer
- Funds can be applied toward, but not limited to, college, university, community college, and vocational program

To be eligible for the ETV Program, the youth/young adult must:

- Be between 18-25 years old
- Have been in foster care for at least six months (does not have to be consecutive)
- Have been in foster care at the age of 14 years old or older (youth adopted or placed in guardianship after age 14 should contact their Independent Living Specialist to determine eligibility)

State of Georgia Post-Secondary Tuition Waiver

[The GA Post-Secondary Tuition Waiver](#) waives payment of tuition and fees (and in some cases, campus housing) for students attending a technical college within the [Technical College System of Georgia \(TCSG\)](#).

To be eligible for Tuition and Fee Waiver, the youth/young adult must:

- Be under the age of 28
- Currently in foster care, experienced at least 6 months of foster care after age 14, or were adopted from foster care after age 14
- Be attending or admitted to a part-time or full-time program at TCSG
- Have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) before completing the GA Post-Secondary Tuition Waiver Program [Application](#)

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HOPE Career Grant

[Technical College System of Georgia \(TCSG\)](#) TCSG offers tuition-free programs in 18 high-demand career fields to students who qualify for the [HOPE Career Grant](#). These two grants together may cover full tuition in 18 programs of study. There is no minimum high school grade point average (GPA) however, students must maintain a 2.0 cumulative postsecondary GPA at certain checkpoints.

Georgia C.R.E.W (Cultivating the Rising Experienced Worker)

[Georgia C.R.E.W](#) is a youth employment hub within the Georgia Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS). The program provides employment preparation services such as workshops, trainings, resource connections, and hands-on work experience to youth ages 15 to 18 years old in foster care.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Services

[Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency \(GRVA\)](#) is a program that helps eligible youth and young adults with physical, sensory, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities overcome barriers to employment. Programs focus on career counseling and work readiness training. Services include postsecondary education, job training, job search assistance, job placement, and ongoing support.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

WIOA offers free Youth Services to in-school and out-of-school youth and young adults ages 14-24 who have experienced foster care. Services include assessment of current skills and interests, career guidance, assistance obtaining a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma GED, job readiness and occupational skills training, and job placement. To apply for the WIOA grant, youth should contact the WorkSource Center for the [county](#) in which they reside.

Check out these other resources:

[Embark Georgia](#)

[Job Corps](#)

[Scholarship Opportunities](#)

[Youth Apprenticeship Program](#)



PEATC's mission is to build positive futures by empowering individuals with disabilities through education and training.



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