

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



## 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 career. Here are some of the options and resources available in Virginia.

### Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program

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

#### The ETV Program:

- Covers tuition and fees, room and board, and other related expenses including books, supplies, transportation, and childcare
- Can be applied toward, but not limited to, colleges, universities, community colleges, vocational programs, and one-year training institutions

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

- 14-25 years old
- In foster care, in Fostering Futures (extended foster care), or aged out of foster care (after 18)
- Out of foster care through adoption or the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program after turning 16

### Great Expectations Program

The [Great Expectations](#) program provides a bridge from high school to college by connecting youth in foster care with an adult coach who provides mentoring and wrap-around support.

#### The Great Expectations Program:

- Available at all [Virginia Community Colleges](#)
- Provides career exploration and coaching
- Assists the student in applying for admission and financial aid
- Provides life skills training, including budgeting and financial planning
- Provides personalized counseling
- Provides support through the [Tuition Grants](#) Program

**To be eligible for the Great Expectations Program, the youth/young adult must be:**

- 17-24 years old
- Connected with the Virginia foster care system or Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program
- Adopted from the Virginia foster care system after the age of 13
- Adopted as a special needs adoption before the age of 13
- Enrolled in at least half-time enrollment (minimum 6 credits) in an eligible program of at least one academic year in length

**G3 Tuition Assistance**

[G3 Tuition Assistance](#) is for students living in Virginia who qualify for state financial aid and is available for select programs in five of Virginia's most in-demand industries that are offered at Virginia's Community Colleges.

**G3 Tuition Assistance:**

- Available at all Virginia Community Colleges
- Helps cover tuition for select programs in healthcare, early childhood education, information technology, and public safety
- Can help students earn workplace certification or academic degree
- Does not require a high school diploma or GED although specific programs may have those requirements

**To be eligible for G3 Tuition Assistance, the youth/young adult must:**

- Be eligible for Virginia in-state tuition
- Have a household income less than or equal to 400% of the federal poverty level (approximately \$100,000 for a family of four)
- Be enrolled or accepted at a Virginia public community college in an approved program
- Be enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours per semester
- Apply for federal and state financial aid programs

**Check out these other resources:**

[Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act \(WIOA\) Youth Programs and Services](#)

[Virginia Career Works](#)

[The Success Foundation of VA \(Richmond area\)](#)

[Virginia Education Wizard](#)



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



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