

ETV and College Resources for Youth with Foster Care Experience

Information on resources available to students in foster care for the pursuit of post-secondary education.



Texas Tuition and Fee Waiver

State law that exempts or waives payment of tuition and fees at state supported colleges/universities for foster youth currently or formerly in the care of DFPS and for those adopted from DFPS.

Students can get their waiver from their DFPS PAL worker.

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Education/state_college_tuition_waiver.asp

Texas Tuition and Fee Waiver

Texas Tuition and Fee Waiver:

- Waives Tuition and Fees at state-supported schools in Texas
- Must be activated by age 25
- ❖ No age limit to enroll



The **University of Texas at Austin** is one of many schools that accepts the Texas Tuition and Fee Waiver.



- No limit on credit hours
- Not dependent upon GPA
- Works for online classes while living out of state

Tuition and Fee Waiver Eligibility

Students qualify for the tuition and fee waiver, if they were in DFPS conservatorship:

- The day before their 18th birthday.
- The day of their 14th birthday, if they are also eligible for adoption on or after that day.
- The day they graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma.
- The day they were adopted, if that date was on or after September 1, 2009.
- The day Permanent Managing Conservatorship was granted to a non-parent, if that date was on or after September 1, 2009.
- They were 14 years or older on or after June 1, 2016 and left DFPS's Permanent Managing Conservatorship return to the legal responsibility of a parent.
- They were 16 years or older on or after June 1, 2016 and left DFPS Temporary Managing Conservatorship to the legal responsibility of a parent.
- They enrolled in a dual credit course or other course which a high-school student may earn joint high school and college credit, and were in DFPS conservatorship on the day of enrollment.

Note: They **must** have enrolled in a state supported college or university before their 25th birthday.

https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Education/state college tuition waiver.asp



Education and Training Voucher (ETV)

Federal need-based benefit for current and former foster youth to complete their post-secondary education

Students must apply

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/handbooks/CPS/Files/CPS_pg_x10300.asp#CPS_10320

What Does ETV Do?



Eligible students can receive up to \$5,000 per school year to pay for

- Housing *1st priority
- Utilities
- Tuition & fees ex. private school
- Vocational training
- Personal living expenses
- Childcare
- Books and school supplies
- Computer
- Transportation

ETV Eligibility

Who is eligible to receive ETV funds?

- Youth who are at least 16 years old and still in foster care
- Young adults under 23 who:
 - Have aged out of foster care
 - Are in extended foster care
 - Were adopted after turning 16
- Also includes:
 - Youth under the custody of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
 - Tribal youth in foster care
 - Unaccompanied Refugee Minors



*Can only be used for a total of 15 semesters, ends the month of the student's 23rd birthday.

What Can ETV Help With?

ETV can help pay for:

- Dual credit in high school
- Associate's degree*
- Bachelor's degree*
- Graduate degree programs*
- Licensed career schools
- Technical/Vocational training
 - Dental assistants
 - Vet Techs
 - Chefs & head cooks
 - Petroleum engineers
 - Nurses
 - Plumbers
 - Heating & AC installers



* Must be taking at least 6 semester hours

Tuition Waiver vs. ETV

Tuition Waiver	ETV
State law	Need-based federal funds
Only state-supported colleges/universities	Post-secondary education institutions
Waives tuition/fees	Up to \$5,000/school year
Lifetime	16-22 years old
Must access before 25	Ends the month of 23 rd birthday
No grade requirement	Has to make SAP

^{*} The Tuition/Fee Waiver and the ETV program can be used together at state-supported colleges/universities

How do you get Texas ETV?





***REQUIRED to graduate from high school in Texas

How Do You Get Texas ETV?



Apply for Texas ETV

www.TexasETV.com

Visit TexasETV.com for:

- Applications (online and downloadable)
- Important dates
- Eligibility guidelines
- Needed documents
- Allowable expenses
- Space for trusted adults
- Success stories
- Frequently asked questions
- Tutoring services
- And more!



Application Reminders

We are now accepting Fall applications through 10/31/24.



Application Deadlines

Fall Oct. 1 **Spring** *March 1*

Summer July 1

Technical school deadlines may vary, talk with your ETV Coordinator.



<u>Deadlines are only for a completed application,</u> <u>not for other documents.</u>

Speak with a coordinator if it is past the deadline, *There are always extensions!*

Documents Reminders

To receive ETV funding for Fall 2024, documents must be submitted by 12/31/24.

Document Submission Deadlines



Fall Dec. 31 **Spring** *May 31*

Summer Aug 31



ETV Funds Will Not Be Dispersed Until All Required Documents Have Been Submitted and Processed!!!

Technical school deadlines may vary, talk with your ETV Coordinator.

*For youth turning 23 years old, documents must be submitted 6 weeks prior to 23rd birthday.

Tips for Applying for ETV

- Only submit one application per school year Online form RECOMMENDED
- Let your ETV coordinator know EVERY semester you PLAN to attend school
- Full legal name is needed on all documents
- Fill out the entire application, ASK if you don't understand; don't leave anything blank.
- Make sure to click "SUBMIT" (a Thank You! page will appear after submitting)
- Confirm screenshots of documents are legible and the ENTIRE document is sent
- Save a copy of all documents (electronic or hardcopies).
- When a student submits an application or document, the ETV Coordinator will process within 7 business days

How Do You Get Texas ETV?



Turn in Supplementary Documents

*Needed documents are on a case-by-case basis

Initial Application Checklist

Initial Application = NEVER Received ETV Funds in Past

- ✓ Complete Initial Application (TexasETV.com)
- ✓ DFPS Verification of Eligibility** (DFPS staff to complete)
- ✓ Tuition & Fee Waiver Letter** (DFPS staff to complete)
- ✓ Financial Aid Award Letter (or billing statement for Voc. Schools)
- ✓ Class schedule
- ✓ Budget Worksheet (TexasETV.com)
- ✓ Request of Funds(s) & supporting documents (TexasETV.com)
- ✓ Direct deposit form

^{**}Only have to be turned in when student completes an Initial Application.

Transitioning Semester Checklist

Transitioning Semester = Semester(s) <u>AFTER</u> a Completed Application <u>within</u> the <u>SAME</u> School Year

- ✓ New Class Schedule
- ✓ Unofficial Transcript showing grades with GPA Have to be making SAP(Satisfactory Academic Progress)
- ✓ Updated Financial aid award letter for
- ✓ Request of Funds(s) & supporting documents (TexasETV.com)

Budget Worksheet

- The "Budget Worksheet" is available to download on the website
- It is not "set in stone".
- It is to be used to plan for ETV funds. It should NOT include the plan for other scholarships, grants, work-study funds, part time job funds, etc.
- The student should budget for the semesters that he/she submitted for on the ETV application.
- If the student is still in foster care, they cannot budget for Housing, Utilities, Food, Clothing, or Hygiene.

Budget Worksheet

Youth Name:	<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>	Summer	
	(Sept. – Dec.)	(Jan. – May)	(June – Aug.)	
Residential Housing or Room/Board	1200.00	1500.00		2700.00
Tuition/Fees				
Vocational (Training program)				
Educational				
Utilities	400.00	500.00		900.00
Transportation				
Vehicle Insurance				
Fuel				
Maintenance/Repairs				
Purchase of Bicycle				
Bus pass				
Medical				
Books/Related Supplies				
Books	300.00	300.00		600.00
School Supplies				
Computer				
Laptop				
Computer Supplies				
Software				
Food	400.00	200.00		600.00
Clothes/Personal Hygiene	200.00			200.00
Childcare				
Total	2500.00	2500.00		5000.00

Request of funds

(Formerly called a Purchase Voucher)

- **1.Housing** (need 1st and last page of lease or "Renting Together Contract")
- 2.<u>Utility</u> (copy of bill required)
- 3. Release of Funds to the student

^{*}Potentially No more than 3 Request of Funds needed per semester.

^{**21 &}amp; up, only need 1 for Release of Funds to the student.

Request of Funds

Rent Example

DO	FC
BC	rrs

EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER PROGRAM REQUEST OF FUNDS FORM

Address: 1234 Fruit road San Antonio, Texas 77111 Account / Apt. Number (If Applicable) # 0000 Budget Worksheet Items Residential Housing or Room/Board 1000.00 Maintenance/Repairs Vocational (Training Program) Books Educational School Supplies Utilities Laptop Vehicle Insurance Computer Supplies Fuel Software Maintenance/Repairs Food Purchase of Bicycle Clothes/Personal Hygie Bus pass Medical Student Name: Phone Num John Smith 111-333-44 Approved By:	
Account / Apt. Number (If Applicable) # 0000 Budget Worksheet Items Residential Housing or Room/Board Vocational (Training Program) Educational Utilities Utilities Vehicle Insurance Fuel Maintenance/Repairs Food Purchase of Bicycle Bus pass Medical Student Name: Phone Num 1000.00 Maintenance/Repairs Books School Supplies Computer Supplies Computer Supplies Food Clothes/Personal Hygie Bus pass Childcare Phone Num 111-333-444 For Assistance or Information: ETV: 4346 Loop 410 San Antonio TX 78229, Phone: 1-877-268-4	
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John Smith 111-333-444 For Assistance or Information: ETV: 4346 Loop 410 San Antonio TX 78229, Phone: 1-877-268-4	
Approved By:	14
approved by.	
ETV Coordinator	Date
ETV Program Director, Sr. Program Director, or Executive Direc	tor Date
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	
Description of Goods:	

Supporting Documents

Renting Together Contract

In agreement between (Tenant) <u>Jane Smith</u>	and
/I II I) II D	
(Landlord) <u>Happy Rentals</u>	
PROPERTY TO BE RENTED	
Property located at (address) 123 Main Street	
DEPOSIT A deposit of \$250 is required prior to move is	in
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
IT IS ALSO AGREED THAT:	
OCCUPANCY	
The above property is to be available for tenant to move	e into on <u>August 1st</u> .
RENT	
Rent is to be <u>\$500</u> dollars. (\$) per month, pay	able in advance.
CONTRACT TERM	
	<u>8/1/19</u> until (end dat
The contract begins on or about (start date) 8/1/20 UTILITIES	<u>8/1/19</u> until (end dat
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UTILITIES Please mark the utilities included in the rent: Heat Water Natural Gas	☐ Electricity

A "Renting Together Contract" should be completed by students who are under 21 and:

*are not paying rent and/or utilities or

*are not listed on the lease and/or utility bill

It is a legally binding contract between the student and their landlord/roommate.

Under 21 year olds must show proof of paid housing and utilities if they want an entire release of funds to them

It must be filled out in its entirety.

Tips for Calling your Coordinator

Please remind youth...

When you call your coordinator, if they don't answer:

- Don't hang up, leave a message!
- Do not leave multiple messages in a short amount of time – they will return your call within 2 business days
- Speak slowly when leaving a message
- Give your full name and number, and then repeat



Setting Students up for Success

Encourage your students to sign up for:

A free email account





A checking account







H.B. No. 1379

HB 1379 went into effect 9/1/2023 and is an act relating to a pilot program to increase financial independence of foster youth who are transitioning to independent living.

https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/88R/billtext/html/SB01379F.htm

Financial Pilot Program

DFPS and Capitol Credit Union entered into an agreement to assist youth and young adults with achieving financial security and independence while transitioning to adulthood:

- Ages 14 21
- Checking and Savings Accounts
- Sole Ownership of Account
- No Cosigner Needed
- No Monthly Fees
- No Maintenance, Overdraft, Non-Sufficient Fund or Penalty Fees
- Financial Online Training with Incentives
- Financial Mentoring Available
- Get More Information on the DFPS Website at:

https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child Protection/Youth and Youn g Adults/financial pilot.asp









What you need to know

• ETV <u>is not</u> emergency funds, you need to apply as soon as possible and get all your paperwork turned in.

Receipts are not required.

Maximum \$5000 is not guaranteed.

• If you only check that you are attending 1 semester, the most you will get will be \$1666.67 for that semester.

Foster Care Liaisons & Foster Care Alumni Groups

ISD-level Foster Care Liaisons:

Social worker with each school district who connects students in foster care with community resources and helps arrange for their transportation.

https://www.theotx.org/liaison-directory/

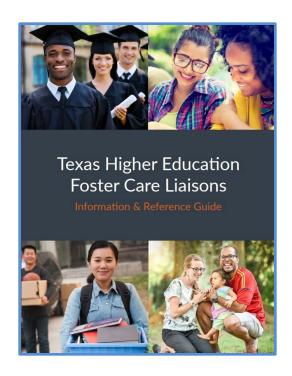
College Foster Care Liaison:

One staff member who is appointed from each institute of higher education in Texas. They advocate for students who are foster alumni and connect them with support services and other resources. Foster Care Liaisons often organize Foster Care Alumni Groups.

http://reportcenter.thecb.state.tx.us/roster/crs-cfat-foster-care-liaison-listing

Foster Care Alumni Group:

Student organization designed to provide guidance and a support system for students that have experienced foster care. Often provides opportunities for mentorship and advocacy.



Temporary Housing Assistance between Academic Terms

Texas' institutes of higher education are required to assist full-time students formerly in DFPS conservatorship or who have been legally emancipated in locating temporary housing between academic terms (Christmas and summer holiday breaks). Students must request the housing assistance and are encouraged to inquire at financial aid offices, student affairs offices, admissions offices, or housing/residence life/residential living offices.

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Transitional_Living/documents/Transitional_Living_Services_Handout.pdf

Available Resources: Supervised Independent Living

Supervised Independent Living (SIL) is an extension of foster care for young adults who are 18 and older in a non-traditional foster care setting.

Major Goals of SIL

- 1. Provide a supportive, safe living environment for young adults who are 18 and older
- 2. Provide financial support for participants in the form of housing, food, and funding for hygiene products and cell phone services.

Different Types of SIL Settings:

- College Dorms
- ➤ Non-College Dorms
- Shared Housing
- Host Homes
- Apartments



https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Transitional Living/Extended Foster Care/SIL Contracted Providers.asp

Texas State Technical College



- ➤ Tuition & Fee Waiver accepted
- > ETV Program eligible
- > Foster Care Liaisons at each campus
- ➤ One of only two state-supported technical schools

Locations in:

Abilene

Breckenridge

Brownwood

Rosenburg (Fort Bend Co)

Harlingen

Marshall

Red Oak (North Texas)

Sweetwater

Waco

Hutto (Williamson Co)

Lamar Institute of Technology

OF TECHNOLOGY



- ➤ Tuition & Fee Waiver accepted
- > ETV Program eligible
- > Foster Care Liaison
- ➤ One of only two state-supported technical schools

Located in Beaumont, TX

- Welding
- Paramedics
- Homeland Security
- Web Design
- CDL (Truck Driving
- Online Learning
- Dual Credit

Foster Care Liaison: Mr. Jamarcus Corks 409-951-5708 jcorks@lit.edu

Sam Houston State University





- Tuition & Fee Waiver accepted
- > ETV Program eligible
- > Foster Care Liaison:
- > Brenda Fernandez
 - ► <u>baf045@shsu.edu</u>
 - >936-294-3417

Paying Forward

https://www.shsu.edu/dept/fye/forward/payin

g-forward.html

fye@shsu.edu

(936)294-3422

University of North Texas





Foster Care Liaison:

Brenda Sweeten - Social Work Lecturer / PUSH Faculty Advisor

brenda.sweeten@unt.edu 940-369-6991 P.U.S.H. (Persevere Until Success Happens) https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/push/index.html

Texas Woman's University





Foster Care Liaison:

Amy O'Keefe - Exec. Director of Campus Alliance & Resource Education

aokeefe@twu.edu

Frontiers Program https://twu.edu/foster-care-alumni/

940-898-3227

Texas State University





Foster Care Liaison:

Dr. Christine Norton - Assoc. Professor, School of Social Work

cn19@txstate.edu

512-245-4562

CARE Center

https://www.dos.txst.edu/services/carecenter/faces.html

Texas A&M San Antonio



Foster Care Liaison:

D'Andrea Davila
ddavila@tamusa.edu
210-784-1427

Norma Davila ndavila@tamusa.edu

210-784-1520

Ashley Garcia
agarcia2@tamusa.edu
210-784-2448



F.A.T.E. Center
https://www.tamusa.edu/student-resources/academic-affairs/foster-care-support-center/index.html

University of Texas at San Antonio





Foster Care Liaison:

Juan J. Reyna Juan.reyna@utsa.edu 210-458-6907 Fostering Futures

https://www.tamusa.edu/student-

resources/academic-affairs/foster-care-support-

center/index.html

Phone: 210-458-6961

Email: fosteringsuccess@utsa.edu

Alamo Colleges



Foster Care Liaison:

Nathalie Riojas – Project Director

nriojas6@alamo.edu

210-485-0446

Gloria Dauberman

gjose@alamo.edu

210-485-0383



P.A.T.H.

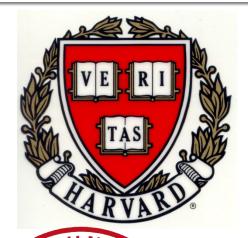
https://www.alamo.edu/experience-the-alamo-colleges/current-students/student-opportunities/p.a.t.h/

Free tuition – Out of state



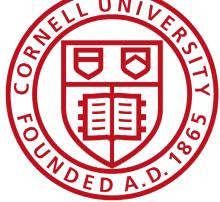








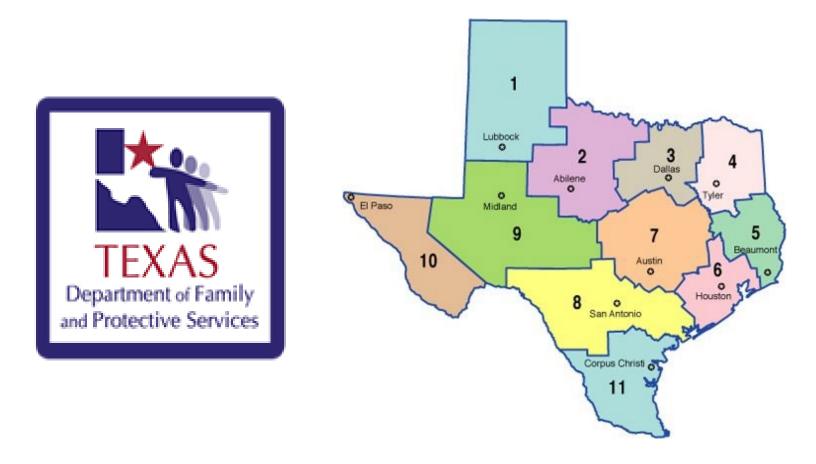








DFPS Regions



https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/contact_us/map.asp

Aftercare Benefits

Eligible Youth can Receive:

- Transitional Living Allowance (\$1,000)
- Case Management Until the Age of 21
- Aftercare Room and Board Assistance (Up to \$3,000)
- Reimbursable Expenses Cap and Gown, Class Ring (When Funds are Available)
- Medical Insurance Until the Age of 26
- TWC Services Until the Age of 25
- Access to Education Specialist Until the Age of 25
- Education and Training Voucher
- Tuition/Fee Waiver

Transition Centers



Transition Centers:

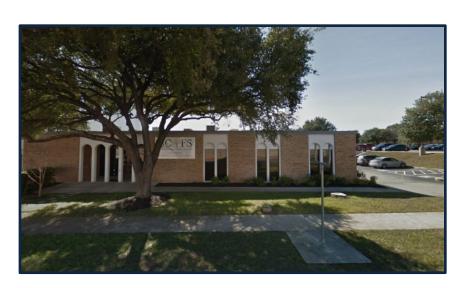
Buildings located in each region of the state that serve as 'one stop shops' for foster care alumni and connect them with resources in the community.

Resources at BCFS Transition Centers:

- Education & Training Voucher Program
- Preparation for Adult Living Training
- o Case Management: PAL Aftercare Services
- Housing Assistance: PAL Aftercare Services
- Transportation Assistance: PAL Aftercare Services
- Job Assistance: Texas Workforce Commission
- Educational Support: Education Specialist
- Mental Health Counseling: Resiliency through Healing
- Computer Lab
- Kitchen
- Parenting Classes
- Substance Abuse Counseling

BCFS Health and Human Services

Community Service Division Region 8 Transition Center



ETV Specialists



Krystal Lopez 210-284-9704

kl3845@bcfs.net

Drew Melton 210-294-0497

DM1117@BCFS.net

Email if you would like a copy of this presentation!

DFPS State PAL Program Specialist



Ben Alexander 903-343-8667

Loy.alexander@dfps.texas.gov

DFPS State Division Administrator of Transitional Living Services



Todd Serpico 512-460-7394

Todd.Serpico@dfps.texas.gov

DFPS State TLS Program Specialist



Gaye Vopat 737-239-6407

Gaye.Vopat2@dfps.texas.gov

Remind for Students

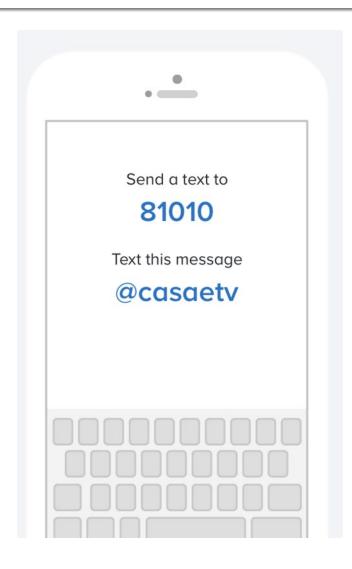


Visit remind.com and join class ETV24

OR



Remind for CASA



Visit remind.com and join class casaetv





Facebook



Visit https://www.facebook.com/TexasETV for:

- Current events ETV,
 educational, and community
- Reminders ETV and educational
- Community resources
- Information on Texas schools
- Natural Disaster Preparation



Scholarships

Find scholarships:

https://www.fastweb.com/

https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search

https://www.studentscholarshipsearch.com/

https://www.salliemae.com/college-planning/tools/scholarship-search/



Scholarships

Find scholarships:

https://www.cftexas.org/scholarships/finding-other-scholarships?gclid=Cj0KCQjw_r3nBRDxARIsAJIjleFk_RezfbFitcLjJbGIMYRmBiDWBOsNaYJgww7cMnSUsAZ6SmBxrvMaAp4_EALw_wcB

Cappex.com

Scholarships.com

https://www.brokescholar.com/

https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships.aspx

https://thescholarshipsystem.com/blog-for-students-families/the-ultimate-list-of-scholarships-for-women-and-girls/?fbclid=lwAR1wjJFsjCoSlU9cRHRUmwan8OB0HetpnTbOAL7P1ik9hEyqJPL5VOL34FU

DFPS College Scholarships

Freshmen Success Fund for Foster Youth

Grant for first time college freshmen formerly in DFPS foster care. Each year there will be 4 one time grants of \$1,000 available for young adults enrolling in their freshmen year. These grants are to cover basic non-tuition related expenses such as books and supplies, computers and software, tools and uniforms and transportation. Students must be enrolled in a Texas state-supported college, university, or vocational/technical school that accepts the state college tuition and fee waiver.

Ed Davis-PAL Scholarship

This scholarship is for basic non-tuition needs for former foster youth who are majoring in government, political science, history, or other pre-law field. Scholarships are for \$1,000 per academic year and are available to sophomore, junior or senior year students.

*Scholarship availability is dependent on funding

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Education/other resources.asp

Additional Resources



https://www.findhelp.org/

Find free or reduced-cost resources like food, housing, financial assistance, health care, and more.

Enter zip code to obtain info.







O.A.I.

https://www.oaicares.org/

Our program offers mentoring, life skills training, education and career preparation and transitional living support to youth in Foster Care ages 14 and older.

Referral form:

https://forms.office.com/r/4 H0XEUNRJx





https://academics.fosterlove.com/rapid-response/

As an authorized partner, organizations can refer eligible students to Rapid Response for emergency funding that addresses basic needs such as technology to access college courses, educational expenses, utilities, grocery support, and more.

• https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/2022-fcss- resource-guide.pdf

Resources

DFPS Education Specialists:

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/State Care/education specialists.asp

Regional DFPS Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) Coordinators
 https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Preparation For Adult Living/PAL coordinators.asp

Transition Centers

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Transitional Living/transition centers.asp

Supervised Independent Living Providers

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child Protection/Youth and Young Adults/Transitional Living/Extended Foster Care/SIL Contracted Providers.asp

Texas Youth Connection

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/txyouth/

College For All Texans

http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/financialaid/tofa2.cfm?ID=480

Transitional Living Services

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/child_protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/default.asp

Questions



Feedback

Please assist us by taking a short 4 question satisfaction survey so that we can always provide the best training and information possible.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZZVCHZM

