

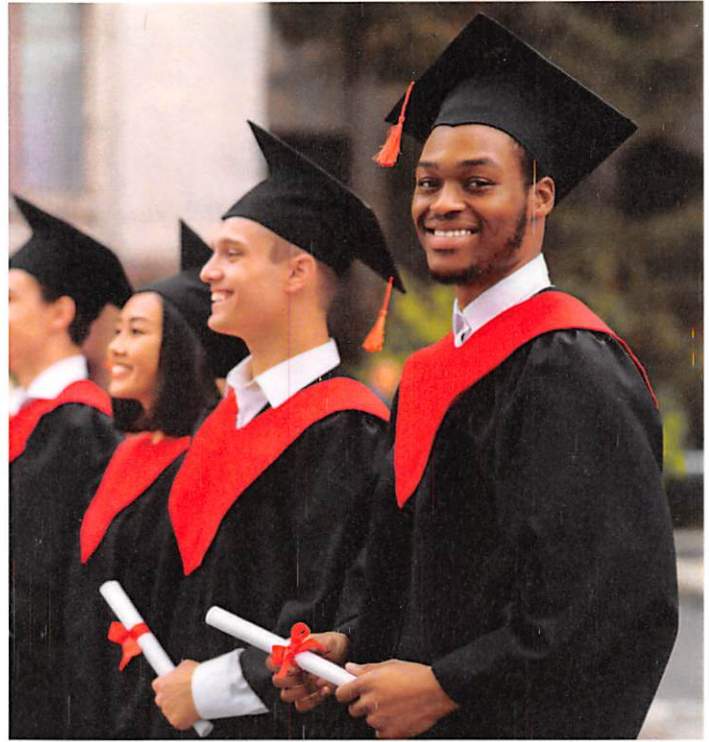
FOSTERINGhope

SCHOLARSHIP

Alabama's **FOSTERING HOPE SCHOLARSHIP** is a state-funded investment in the postsecondary education and training goals of qualified youth who were in the foster care system when they earned a high school diploma or General Education Development (GED) certificate.

The scholarship is also extended to those who are part of the state's kinship-guardianship program or who are adopted from foster care in Alabama after age 14.

This program covers tuition and required fees, set by the school, for eligible students enrolled in postsecondary certificate or degree programs.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- » Youth in the legal custody of the foster care program at the time of graduation from high school or when they receive a GED certificate; **OR** those who are/were in the permanent legal custody of the Alabama foster care program when kinship-guardianship or their adoption was finalized (age 14 or older) and who have graduated from high school or earned a GED certificate.
- » Youth who have been accepted for enrollment in a degree-granting, training, or certification program; **OR** who are enrolled and working toward a degree, certificate, or completion of a job training program, and who are making adequate progress toward completion of said degree, certificate, or training program.
- » Youth must have less than \$30,000 in net personal assets, subject to account adjustment for inflation.

APPLICATION/REFERRAL PROCESS

Youth can apply for this scholarship by themselves or with the help of social workers, community providers, colleges, or universities at fosteringhopeal.org.

Eligible students may attend any of Alabama's public community and technical colleges, four-year colleges, or universities. Eligible enrollees in Alabama's state-funded career and technical training programs may be eligible if the program leads to a recognized certification and employment. Private colleges and universities are not part of this program.

Eligible high school students can be matched with mentors to help plan their postsecondary education. The program does not pay for private high schools or any secondary (high school) education expenses.



For more information or to apply, visit fosteringhopeal.org



Alabama's **EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER** is a federally-funded program designed to help eligible youth who turn 18 while in the foster care system through any state.

The program is also extended to those who are part of the state's kinship-guardianship program or who are adopted from foster care after age 16.

This program provides up to \$5,000 per year for qualified school-related expenses on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible students enrolled in postsecondary degree programs.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- » Youth in the legal custody of the foster care program at the time of their eighteenth birthday; **OR** those who are/were in the permanent legal custody of the foster care program when kinship-guardianship or their adoption was finalized (age 16 or older).
- » Youth who have been accepted into or enrolled in a Title IV, accredited college or vocational/technical training program **AND** who are making adequate progress toward completion of said degree or vocational/technical training program.
- » Youth can access ETV funds for a maximum of five years (does not have to be consecutive) until their twenty-sixth birthday and must apply annually to remain eligible.

APPLICATION/REFERRAL PROCESS

To be considered for the Education and Training Voucher program, youth must first apply for federal student aid on the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) website, studentaid.gov.

Youth can then apply for this scholarship by themselves or with the help of social workers, community providers, colleges, or universities by visiting fosteringhopeal.org. Scholarships are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

The ETV award is based on the student's unmet financial need (which is determined from the school's

published total cost of attendance and the amount of other financial aid the student is receiving) as listed on the ETV Financial Aid Release Form. This form is submitted to ETV each term by the school's financial aid office.

The award may vary from one school term to another, depending on whether the student is attending full or part time. ETV attempts to disburse funds evenly throughout the planned school year. It is important to note that each student may not necessarily receive the full \$5,000.

For more information or to apply, visit fosteringhopeal.org