

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) and FosterEd FAQs

Question	What is ETV?
Answer	ETV stands for Education and Training Voucher. ETV is a program that assists students with postsecondary education costs. Please see this website for more information.

Question	What is FosterEd?
Answer	FosterEd is a program that assists students with postsecondary education costs. Please see this website for more information.

Question	What is the definition of “Foster Care” according to C.R.S. 19-1-103?
Answer	"Foster care" means the placement of a child into the legal custody or legal authority of a county department of social services for physical placement of the child in a kinship care placement or certified or licensed facility or the physical placement of a juvenile committed to the custody of the state department of human services into a community placement.

Question	What is the definition of “Noncertified Kinship Care” according to C.R.S. 19-1-103?
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Answer	<p>“Noncertified kinship care” means a child is being cared for by a relative or kin who has a significant relationship with the child in circumstances when there is a safety concern by a county department of human or social services and where the relative or kin has not met the foster care certification requirements for a kinship foster care home or has chosen not to pursue that certification process.</p>
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Question	How is “Colorado Resident” defined?
Answer	<p>A qualified person must be residing in Colorado with the present intention to reside permanently in Colorado for 12 months before the first day of class. To demonstrate this intention, students should take all actions that would be expected of any permanent resident of Colorado in your circumstances. These actions include severing from your former state your voter registration, driver's license, vehicle registration, employment, and income tax filing, and establishing these connections in Colorado. Please see this website for details on the Colorado residency process.</p>

Question	Is there an application for ETV and, if so, where can I find it?
Answer	Yes. You can find the ETV application here .

Question	Is there an application for FosterEd and, if so, where can I find it?
Answer	There is not an application for FosterEd. Please click here to see how you access FosterEd funding.

Question	How do I know if my ETV application has been successfully submitted?
Answer	You will receive a confirmation email shortly after you submit your ETV application.

Question	If a student is not ETV eligible, are they also ineligible to receive funds through FosterEd?
Answer	No. ETV eligibility is NOT an automatic disqualifier from the FosterEd program. Those who are ETV eligible must complete the ETV application prior to FosterEd program acceptance. Those who are not eligible for ETV but are eligible for FosterEd, do not need to fill out the ETV application.

Question	Are Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) students eligible for ETV and FosterEd?
Answer	Yes, URM students are eligible for ETV and FosterEd.

Question	Can students who are undocumented receive ETV and FosterEd?
Answer	Undocumented students are eligible to receive FosterEd (if they meet FosterEd eligibility criteria), but not ETV.

Question	When do credit hours begin to count towards the 132 semester credit hour or 198 quarter credit hour limit for FosterEd?
Answer	Previously earned credits do not count towards the 132 semester credit hour/198 quarter credit hour limit. We will begin counting your credits when you first enter into the FosterEd program.

Question	Can you receive FosterEd funds if you've already completed 132 semester credit hours or 198 quarter credit hours?
Answer	We will begin counting your credits when you first enter into the FosterEd program. These funds are only distributed for the first 132 credit hours/198 quarter credit hours. After you have completed 132 credits hours/198 quarter credit hours, you are no longer eligible to receive FosterEd funds.

Question	Are students eligible for FosterEd funds for summer classes?
Answer	Yes. If the student is under 132 semester credit hours/198 quarter credit hours, they are eligible for funding during all semesters throughout the year.

Question	Are graduate students eligible for FosterEd funds?
Answer	Yes. If the student is under 132 semester credit hours/198 quarter credit hours, they are eligible for funding for graduate school.

Question	If a student owes money to the school that they must pay before they can go back, can FosterEd funds be used to pay the school?
Answer	Unfortunately, no, because the FosterEd legislation reads that a student must be enrolled/registered in a school and in Satisfactory Academic Standing to receive FosterEd funds.

Question	Are institutions of higher education required to assist with the gap between financial aid and cost of attendance to include housing?
Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FosterEd applies to all public in-state institutions and includes a student's

	<p>Total Cost of Attendance (COA). Most financial aid awards are determined by the COA rather than just the cost of tuition, meaning typically a student’s financial aid package is based on the COA estimate.</p> <p>Depending on the student’s individual situation the COA could include tuition and fees, on-campus room and board, off-campus housing, food allowance for on and off campus students, allowances for books, supplies, transportation, a computer, and, if applicable, childcare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 22-008 reads “The act requires all public higher education institutions in Colorado to provide to Colorado resident students financial assistance for the remaining balance of the student's total cost of attendance in excess of the amount of any private, state, or federal financial assistance received by the student (remaining balance financial assistance). Subject to available appropriations, the act requires the Colorado commission on higher education to provide to an institution money to cover 50 percent of the remaining balance financial assistance provided by the institution to qualifying students.”
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Question *Is a student required to apply for financial aid and take out loans to mitigate the gap?*

Answer Students (who are eligible for FosterEd) are required to apply for Federal Student Aid the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the Colorado Application for State Financial Aid (CASFA), ETV, etc., but not necessarily take out loans because the school

and state will cover whatever remaining balance is not covered by financial aid awards. FosterEd covers the remaining balance after the other financial aid awards have been applied to the student's account. That's why we require students to apply for the ETV before FosterEd, and not the other way around.

Question	Are Department of Youth Services (DYS) committed youth considered foster care youth?
Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It depends on the student's situation and placement. • For ETV, it outlines a student qualifies if they were "In the Division of Youth Services community placement on or after their 14th birthday". • "Community placement" means the placement of a child for whom the state department of human services or a county department has placement and care responsibility pursuant to article 2 or 3 of this title in any licensed or certified twenty-four-hour, non-secure, care and treatment facility away from the child's parent or guardian. "Community placement" includes, but is not limited to, placement in a foster care home, group home, residential childcare facility, or residential treatment facility. Colorado Children's Code - Article 3 of Title 19. • For FosterEd, we base this on the foster care definition outlined in Colorado Children's Code - Article 3 of Title 19. If a student is/was placed in a residential community placement they will qualify. If they are/were

	<p>placed in a detention facility, they do not qualify.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Foster care” means the placement of a child into the legal custody or legal authority of a county department of human or social services for physical placement of the child in a kinship care placement or certified or licensed facility or the physical placement of a juvenile committed to the custody of the state department of human services into a community placement.
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Question	If a student is not able to apply for Federal financial aid due to a conviction, can the student still apply for FosterEd?
Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must first complete their FAFSA or CASFA before receiving FosterEd funds. • Here is more detailed information directly from the FAFSA website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is it true that drug convictions might affect my ability to get federal student aid? No; your eligibility won't be suspended. Drug convictions no longer affect federal student aid eligibility. When you complete the FAFSA form, you will be asked whether you had a drug conviction for an offense that occurred while you were receiving federal student aid. If the answer is yes, you will be provided with a worksheet. Please answer the questions on the worksheet; however, your answers won't affect

	<p>your federal student aid eligibility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What other convictions might affect my aid? If you have been convicted of a forcible or nonforcible sexual offense, and you are subject to an involuntary civil commitment upon completion of a period of incarceration for that offense, you cannot receive a Federal Pell Grant. ○ Federal Student Aid for Students in Adult Correctional and Juvenile Justice Facilities
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Question	If a student is a Colorado resident, but is attending an out of state school, would they be eligible for ETV?
Answer	Yes. A student should apply for ETV in the state in which they are a current resident. ETV state contacts.

Question	Are students eligible to receive ETV and/or FosterEd funding if they have been placed in Colorado but are in the legal custody of a different state?
Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regarding ETV- For a youth in foster care, the state with placement and care responsibility is responsible for providing such an eligible youth with an ETV voucher. This provision, however, does not apply to a former foster care youth who already is receiving a voucher and moves to another state for the sole purpose of attending an institution of higher education. In that instance, we expect that the youth’s original state of

	<p>residence will continue to provide a voucher to the youth for as long as the youth remains eligible for the program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding FosterEd- A student would not qualify for FosterEd. The legislation identifies that the youth must be in the custody of a Colorado child welfare agency.
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<p>Question</p>	<p>Will ETV and/or FosterEd funds be taken into consideration as income by supplemental programs that a student may be on, specifically the Section 8 emergency housing voucher program, but TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) as well?</p> <p>Will Section 8 (Housing Choice Voucher) impact a student’s rent based on the federal wages provided by ETV and/or FosterEd?</p>
<p>Answer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding ETV- ETV will not affect any supplement programs. • Regarding FosterEd- Generally, FosterEd will not affect any supplement programs. However, prospective applicants are encouraged to check with the supplement programs they are participating in to verify as individual cases may vary.

<p>Question</p>	<p>In addition to ETV and FosterEd, are there any other resources for funding sources?</p>
<p>Answer</p>	<p>Please email us and we’ll be happy to share other resources with you! fcnavigator@dhe.state.co.us</p>

Question	Who can I contact if I still have other questions or need further assistance?
Answer	Please email us and we'll be happy to assist you! fcnavigator@dhe.state.co.us