Fostering Independence Through Education Annual Report for Academic Year 2022-2023

August 2023

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333
www.education.pa.gov

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Josh Shapiro, Governor

Department of Education
Khalid N. Mumin, Ed.D., Secretary

Office of Postsecondary and Higher Education
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Kimberly McCurdy, Ph.D., Director

Division of Higher Education, Access, and Equity
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Introduction

Act 16 of 2019 (Act 16) added Article XXVI-K Fostering Independence Through Education (FosterEd) to the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949 (24 P.S. § 26-2603-K). The statute requires institutions of higher education (IHEs), as defined by the Act, to provide a waiver of tuition and mandatory fees to Pennsylvania resident students who have been in foster care and meet certain eligibility requirements. FosterEd intersects with Act 1 of 2022: Assisting Students Experiencing Education Instability as a pathway for students in foster care to access postsecondary education without additional barriers.

Under Act 16, IHEs include the following:

- A community college operating under Article XIX-A of the Public School Code (24 P.S. §19-1901-A et seq.);

- A university within the State System of Higher Education;

- The Pennsylvania State University, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, Lincoln University, or any other institution designated as state-related by the Commonwealth;

- Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology;

- A college established under Article XIX-G (24 P.S. § 19-1901-G et seq.);

- An IHE located in and incorporated or chartered by the Commonwealth and entitled to confer degrees as provided under 24 Pa.C.S. § 6505 (relating to power to confer degrees) and as provided for by the standards and qualifications prescribed by the State Board of Education under 24 Pa.C.S. Ch. 65 (relating to private colleges, universities, and seminaries);

- A private school licensed under the Private Licensed Schools Act of 1986 (24 P.S. § 6501 et seq.); and

- A foreign corporation approved to operate an educational enterprise under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 36 (relating to foreign corporation standards) (22 Pa. Code § 36.1 et seq.).

FosterEd is jointly administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS), the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry (L&I), and Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA).

To determine and maximize the effectiveness of the program, Act 16 requires PDE, in conjunction with DHS, to collect information from IHEs and annually report the following information by August 31 to the chair and minority chair of the Education Committee of the Senate, the Education Committee of the House of Representatives, the Health and Human Services committee of the Senate, and the Children and Youth Committee of the House of Representatives:

- The number of students receiving the Pennsylvania Chafee Education and Training Grant (Chafee ETG) under the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999;

- The number of students who apply for the program;

- The number of students participating in the program;

- The number of students who are participating in the program and have unmet financial need;

- Recommendations on how to improve outreach to students who are or are potentially eligible for the program;

- Impediments to retaining students who are eligible under section 2602-K(c); and

- Recommendations on ways in which to improve delivery of services to students who are eligible for the program under section 2602-K(c) and to address the identified impediments.

Act 16 requires IHEs to provide the above data and information to PDE by June 30 each year. IHEs submit data electronically using PDE's electronic Higher Education Reporting system. This reporting website allows IHEs to submit all mandatory reporting to PDE in a single submission.

Statutory Requirements

Beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year, IHEs must provide eligible students with tuition waivers for the balance of tuition and mandatory fees for undergraduate courses after the eligible student has been awarded all federal and state grants and other grants and scholarships for which the student qualifies.

An eligible student is defined as an individual who is a current resident of the Commonwealth and eligible for the Chafee ETG program under the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-169, 113 STAT.1882) as administered by the Department of Human Services.

Students may receive the waiver for a total of five years or until the individual reaches 26 years of age, whichever occurs first.

Act 16 requires IHEs to do the following:

- Through a designated point of contact (POC), provide technical assistance to eligible students under section 2602-K (c) of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 2602-K(c)) in completing admissions applications and financial aid applications:

  o Assist students in obtaining verification of eligibility for the program from the courts, the county agency, or DHS;

  o Assist eligible individuals in accessing available federal and state financial aid resources and identifying further scholarship and grant opportunities, in consultation with the institution's financial aid department;

- o Serve as the primary contact for all eligible individuals applying to or attending the institution who are eligible under section 2602-K (c) of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 2602-K(c));

- o Provide all individuals applying to or attending the institution who voluntarily disclose that they are eligible under section 2602-K (c) of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 2602-K(c)) with information and referrals for on-campus support services and resources, including admissions, housing, financial aid, health, mental health, tutoring, career, academic advising, and other services;

- o Prove all eligible individuals applying to or attending the institution with information and referrals as available for off-campus support services, including transitional housing and medical insurance and services; and

- o Post POC information on the publicly accessible website of the institution.

- Disseminate the information prepared under section 2602-K(a)(1) of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 2602-K(a)(1)) to recipients of a Chafee ETG under the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 and post the information on the institution's publicly accessible website.

- To improve retention, report to PDE by June 30, 2021, and June 30 each year thereafter all of the following:

  - o The number of students receiving the Pennsylvania Chafee ETG under the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999;

  - o The number of students who apply for the program;

  - o The number of students participating in the program;

  - o The number of students who are participating in the program and have unmet financial needs;

  - o Recommendations on how to improve outreach to students who are or are potentially eligible for the program;

  - o Impediments to retaining students who are eligible under section 2602-K (c) of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 2602-K(c)); and

  - o Recommendations on ways in which to improve delivery of services to students who are eligible for the program under section 2602-K (c) of the Public School Code (24 P.S. § 2602-K(c)) and to address the identified impediments.

Program Data

Numerical data for this annual report is taken from information submitted by the IHEs during the Higher Education Reporting cycle, which occurs annually from January to March. During this period, 236 institutions reported on FosterEd. To meet the August 31 deadline for the submission to the General Assembly, the data provided in the 2021-2022 report was estimated until the institutions were able to complete the reconciliation of numbers with PHEAA and

include any enrollment changes after March 1. In this year's report, the 2021-2022 data is reconciled and accurate, while the 2022-2023 data is estimated for the previously mentioned reasons.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, 64 IHEs had students who received tuition waivers under FosterEd. Reconciled data showed that:

- 505 students received a Pennsylvania Chafee ETG under the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 and applied for the waiver under the FosterEd program[1]

- 161 students participated in the program[2]

- The average retention rate at IHEs was 76.33 percent[3]

Although the majority met the eligibility criteria, often applicants did not participate in the program because they received enough aid from other sources to meet their tuition cost and mandatory fees. As a result, those who did not participate but were eligible were labeled ineligible by PHEAA to maintain their eligibility for future FosterEd tuition waivers. While the student may have received a Chafee grant but was deemed ineligible to receive the FosterEd waiver due to having all tuition and mandatory fee costs met, they still may have an unmet need due to the costs associated with room and board, books, transportation, and other expenses not defined under tuition and mandatory fees.

2021-2022 Student Program Participation by Sector[±]

Sector	Received Chafee Grant/ Applied for Tuition Waiver	Received Tuition Waiver	Unmet Financial Need[±±]
Community Colleges	131	4	49
PASSHE	119	11	120
State-Related	103	54	43
Thaddeus Stevens	25	0	0
Rural Regional College	0	0	0
Private IHEs	88	64	61
Private Licensed Schools	39	28	19
Education Enterprise[±±±]	0	0	0
Total	**505**	**161**	**292**

[±]*The 2021-2022 data reflects reconciled information reported to PHEAA in June 2023.*

[±±]*Unmet Financial Need includes costs associated with room and board, books, transportation, and other expenses as reported by the IHE; these numbers are supplied by the reporting IHEs and include participating and nonparticipating students.*

[±±±]*An Education Enterprise is an out-of-state IHE that is authorized to operate at a physical location in Pennsylvania.*

[1] PHEAA Chafee Program Statistics 2021-22 Academic Year (06/08/2023)
[2] PHEAA 2021-22 FosterEd Waiver Recipients By School (June 2023)
[3] 2022-23 Higher Education Reporting Collection

2022-2023 Student Program Participation by Sector*

Sector	Received Chafee Grant/ Applied for Waiver	Received Tuition Waiver	Unmet Financial Need**
Community Colleges	116	4	18
PASSHE	64	9	24
State-Related	50	47	53
Thaddeus Stevens	6	0	0
Rural Regional College	0	0	0
Private IHEs	73	70	66
Private Licensed Schools	24	16	13
Education Enterprise***	0	0	0
Total	**333**	**146**	**174**

The data are estimates. Final AY 2022-2023 data will be reported in the 2023-2024 Annual Report.
*** Unmet Financial Need includes costs associated with room and board, books, transportation, and other expenses as reported by the IHE; these numbers are supplied by the reporting IHEs and include participating and nonparticipating students.*
****An Education Enterprise is an out-of-state IHE that is authorized to operate at a physical location in Pennsylvania.*

NOTE: The above charts should not be compared at this time until reconciliation is complete and shown in next year's report due to the 2021-2022 chart reflecting reconciled data and the 2022-2023 chart reflecting estimated data.

Program Activity

In the 2022-2023 reporting year, DHS, PHEAA and PDE expanded efforts to ensure consistent and accessible forms and information.

PHEAA disseminated 2,809 student brochures at sites across the commonwealth and built up its offerings across PHEAA.org:

- Students: PHEAA.org/FosterEd

- Schools: PHEAA.org/FosterEd School Page

  - 2022-23 FosterEd Program Guidelines
  - FosterEd Brochure
  - FosterEd POC & FAA Contact Form
  - FosterEd POC FAQ

- Other Resources

  - DHS County Agency List
  - PDE Annual Reporting Site (requires username/login credentials from PDE)

PHEAA participated in multiple conferences and training events during the 2022-2023 year where FosterEd was a topic of discussion:

- April 2022: Foster Care to College Quarterly Networking Meeting

- September 2022: Refugee Education Summit and Paving the Way to Educational Success Conference – Fostering Independence Through Education: What is Required and How You Can Help

- October 2022: PASFAA Fall Conference: FosterEd/Chafee Overview

In addition, ongoing visits and sessions were conducted throughout the 2022-2023 reporting year, including:

- Monthly secondary and postsecondary newsletters containing information regarding the FosterEd program.

- PA Schools Services highlighted FosterEd and Chafee ETG along with many other special programs during Financial Aid Nights events in 2022.

- SGSP Staff conducted an Overview of Special Programs during an Educator Series Webinar.

- 35 high-school counselor workshops on the financial aid process, which included FosterEd materials.

During the 2022-2023 reporting year, DHS Office of Children, Youth, and Families (OCYF), in collaboration with The Child Welfare Resource Center (CWRC) conducted the following activities:

- Information about FosterEd is included in every Quarterly Administrative Update (set of written updates) that is provided to all participants at the Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network/Independent Living (SWAN/IL) network and available online at https://www.diakon-swan.org/swan/documents.

- During OCYF's announcements at the SWAN/IL Quarterly Meetings held across the state in October 2022 and April 2023, information about ETG and FosterEd was provided to all participants.

- In September 2022, information on FosterEd during the Paving the Way to Educational Success Conference was provided in collaboration with Youth Law Center and PHEAA.

- During OCYF's announcements at the SWAN/IL Winter Statewide (January 2023) information about ETG and FosterEd was provided to all participants.

- During Statewide Youth Advisory Board (YAB) meeting held in September 2022, youth and IL Coordinators present were provided a Q&A document to simplify ETG and FosterEd eligibility, covered costs, POCs with link to website and "things to remember" as a quick reference tip sheet.

- During the YAB meetings held in November 2022, January 2023, March 2023 and May 2023, youth and IL coordinators/staff present were provided with information on ETG and FosterEd. This format presented an opportunity for youth and staff to ask questions.

- Spoke with youth and IL Coordinators about ETG and FosterEd at the YAB Summit held on June 14, 2023.

- Additionally, for every ETG and/or FosterEd inquiries received during this reporting period from youth/young adult and/or parent, advocate and IL worker responding correspondence includes information about FosterEd along with the website link.

- OCYF continues to be responsive to inquiries from postsecondary institutions regarding a youth's eligibility for ETG and FosterEd.

- OCYF continues to collaborate with PHEAA to validate youth/young people for ETG allowing eligibility for FosterEd.

In addition, information about FosterEd is available at the Pennsylvania [Youth Advisory Board](#) website.

Recommendations on How to Improve Outreach to Eligible Students

As in previous years, among the IHEs that responded with recommendations, the most common were the following:

- Ensure that student eligibility is determined, and outreach is conducted via the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®).

- Engage with agencies that assist foster children and provide information on available programs.

- Provide direct outreach to high school counselors and guidance offices.

- Communicate information and resource links via email, texting, and social media.

- Create collaboration opportunities between college admissions staff and community agencies.

- Maintain a centralized database of college and postsecondary schools' POC website address.

Several institutions noted the importance of having access to a statewide resource list of organizations that provide services to foster youth. Orleans Technical College, for example, reported that "such a repository will enable Private Licensed Schools to share information about their programs with the agency and foster children directly." Penn College of Technology added, "Collaboration with these organizations, our college and PHEAA would certainly improve outreach."

Many institutions highlighted the need for high-touch engagement, such as direct outreach to secondary schools. Somerset County Technology Center pointed out the need for more literature and posters, for example, that "can be shared at recruiting events and in the financial aid office."

Recommendations on How to Improve Delivery of Services

Of the recommendations provided by IHEs for service delivery, many focused on the following:

- Transition paper roster certification process to web-based system.

- Provide mentoring and student-success programming specific to this population.

- Collaborate with local/regional community partners to provide wraparound services.

"Based on a workshop with student panelists who are beneficiaries of the program, here is what we observed. They spoke about feelings of isolation and 'otherness' once they arrived at the college campuses. Therefore, we recommend some type of state-led orientation for students to discuss the hidden curriculum, the importance of peer and professional mentors, and skills or arsenal to combat imposter syndrome," noted Drexel University.

Orleans Technical College "has partnered with a number of community groups to ensure that all students are provided with additional support to help them succeed. OTC offers financial literacy workshops, self-improvement workshops, and professional development classes to support student learning."

Impediments to Retaining Students

IHEs identified the primary impediments to retention as the following:

- Lack of access to stable housing and transportation.

- Lack of proper health and wellness support.

- History of trauma, abuse or neglect.

- Lack of continuity in K-12 education.

- Lack of outside support from families and friends.

- Focus on work and basic income.

For example, "External issues can result in students needing to work longer hours. Students who need face-to-face classes may have transportation challenges. Those who would benefit from remote or internet courses may not have computer access," noted Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC).

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology also stated that a program should "cover expenses that are not considered 'mandatory fees.' A lot of excluded costs pertaining to housing, food, books, etc., are necessary, although they do not constitute required/mandatory fees under the current status."

For traditional campuses, "housing options when semesters are completed, winter break, and summer" are an issue for many students in this population, reported Alvernia University.

Lehigh University suggested that "institutions provide a network of individuals on campus who will work with students to identify resources that can help them be successful (i.e., tutoring, emergency aid funds, etc.)."

Conclusion

PDE, DHS, and PHEAA continue to use data and recommendations provided in the 2022-2023 Higher Education Report to enhance the FosterEd program and increase awareness and participation for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Appendix A: FosterEd Brochure

The Fostering Independence Tuition Waiver Program, created by Act 16 of 2019, seeks to remove barriers in accessing a postsecondary education for youth who are or have been in foster care. This allows eligible foster youth to complete their studies, graduate with less debt, and have the opportunity to build a network of support.

The program is being administered collaboratively by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) in conjunction with the PA departments of Education, Human Services, and Labor & Industry.
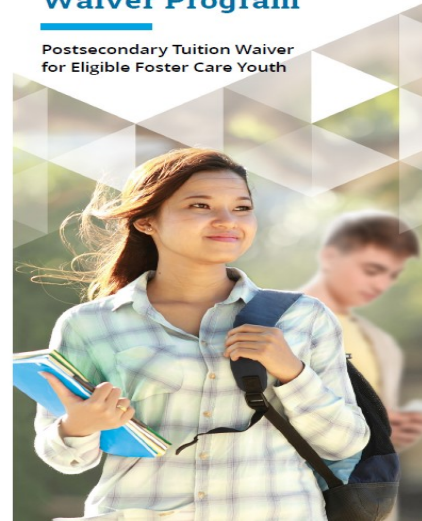
PHEAA

Fostering Independence Tuition Waiver Program

Postsecondary Tuition Waiver for Eligible Foster Care Youth

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

PHEAA Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

The Fostering Independence Tuition Waiver Program provides tuition waivers at postsecondary institutions for eligible youth who are or have been in foster care.

The information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of printing.
GR-FITEB 122820

Am I Eligible?

To be eligible for the tuition waiver, students must meet the following criteria:

- Be a Pennsylvania resident
- Have not reached age 26 by July 1 immediately prior to the upcoming academic year for which the FosterEd waiver is received
- Have graduated from high school or received a Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma
- Be eligible for services under Pennsylvania's John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood
- Be identified as a youth in foster care or a youth discharged from foster care at age 16 or older OR exited foster care on or after age 16 to adoption or permanent legal custodianship
- Be enrolled as an undergraduate, at least half time in a postsecondary institution that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education for Title IV student assistance programs
- Have unmet cost for the PA Chafee Education and Training Grant (Chafee ETG), as determined by the postsecondary institution.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the postsecondary institution
- Not be in default on a federal student loan

How to Participate

Eligible foster youth must take the following steps:

- File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)
- Submit a Chafee ETG Application (visit **PHEAA.org** for additional info)
- Enroll in an eligible PA postsecondary institution

FAQs

What is a Fostering Independence Tuition Waiver?
An eligible student's remaining tuition and mandatory fees will be eliminated after all federal and state gift aid is applied.

Does the tuition waiver cover room and board?
No, the tuition waiver applies only to tuition and mandatory fees. It does not cover room and board.

Will the tuition waiver cover existing education debt?
No, the tuition waiver will only be applied to tuition and mandatory fees charged for the current academic year.

Do I need to fill out a specific application?
Yes, you must submit a FAFSA® and a PA Chafee ETG application. You also may be required by your institution to apply for state aid. Your Point of Contact will be able to assist you in identifying further scholarship and grant opportunities.

How long does the tuition waiver apply?
The tuition waiver may be applied up to 5 academic years defined as 10 semesters or the equivalent, whether or not consecutive, until age 26.

Is there anyone at my postsecondary institution who can help?
Each school has a Point of Contact available to support eligible students throughout their college careers with the following:

- Assistance in completing admissions and financial aid applications
- Obtaining verification of eligibility
- Providing referrals for on- and off-campus resources and support services

For additional information visit
PHEAA.org/FosterEd

Appendix B: Fostering Independence Through Higher Education – What is Required and How You Can Help

Background

- Fostering Independence Tuition Waiver (FosterEd) Program enacted into law under Act 16 of 2019
  - Jointly administered by PHEAA and the PA departments of Education (PDE), Human Services (DHS), and Labor & Industry (L&I)
- Program created to remove barriers in accessing postsecondary education for youth who are or have been in foster care
  - Waives tuition and mandatory fees for eligible students in the foster care system
    - Program legislation amended by Act 91 of 2019 to require students to apply for federal and state grants
  - Assists students in completing studies, reducing student loan debt, and building a network of support
- Differs from Chafee Education and Training Grant (Chafee ETG) Program
  - Federally funded program jointly administered by PHEAA and DHS
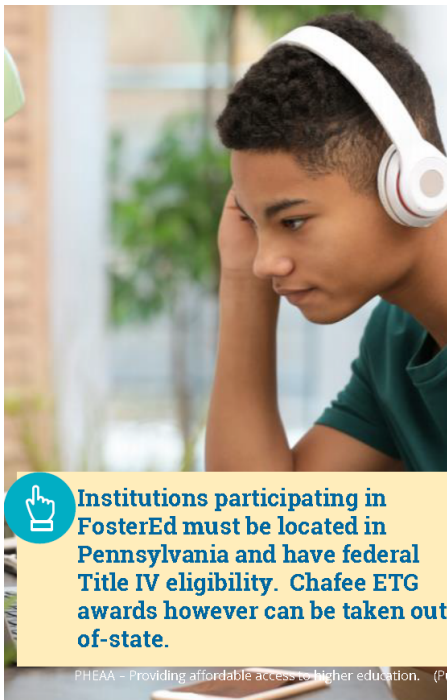 - Chafee ETG provides a grant to assist with postsecondary expenses

Student Eligibility

- Student must:
  - Be a resident of Pennsylvania
  - Meet the program's age requirement (under the age of 26)
  - Possess a high school diploma or Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma
  - Be eligible for services under Pennsylvania's John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood
    - Be identified as a youth in foster care or a youth discharged or adopted from foster care on or after attaining age 16 or has exited foster care on or after age 16 due to permanent legal guardianship
  - File a FAFSA® and application for Chafee ETG by May 1
    - Student does **not** have to be awarded Chafee ETG funds
    - Chafee ETG application not required for renewal applicants
    - To receive a Chafee ETG grant, student must submit application/renewal by December 31
  - File a PA State Grant Form or PA State Grant Summer Application, if applicable
    - Student does not need to be eligible for PA State Grant

Student Eligibility

- Student must:
  - Have unmet costs for the Chafee ETG Program
    - Unmet costs = student's cost of attendance – federal gift aid
  - Enroll as an undergraduate, on at least a half time basis in an approved federal Title IV certificate, diploma, or degree program of study at an eligible PA institution
  - Maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the institution
  - Not be in default on a federal student loan or owe a refund on other Title IV aid
  - Have not previously exhausted the FosterEd award counter (defined as 10 semesters or the equivalent)

Institutions participating in FosterEd must be located in Pennsylvania and have federal Title IV eligibility. Chafee ETG awards however can be taken out-of-state.

Student Eligibility

- Students will establish FosterEd eligibility via one of two ways:

Option 1	Option 2
1. Student applies/renews Chafee ETG eligibility directly with PHEAA 2. PHEAA runs eligibility checks and advises the student and school 3. Students presented on 1 of 2 biweekly reports provided to postsecondary schools	1. Student self-identifies to school's POC 2. Student and school verify student's eligibility and advise PHEAA; Student applies/renews Chafee ETG eligibility 3. PHEAA runs eligibility checks and advises the student and school 4. Students presented on 1 of 2 biweekly reports provided to postsecondary schools

PHEAA – Providing affordable access to higher education.   (Public Information)

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Point of Contact (POC)

- POC is primary contact for prospective and eligible FosterEd students
  - Will support both admitted students and students applying to the institution
- Each institution must determine who is most qualified for the role
  - May name multiple individuals
  - May delegate duties to other campus individuals/offices
  - Contact information for POC must be publicly available and posted online
    - Communicate POC information to PHEAA

PHEAA – Providing affordable access to higher education.   (Public Information)

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Institution/POC Responsibilities

- Assists students in obtaining verification of foster care status if student self identifies or is listed on FosterEd Denial Listing
  - Acceptable sources for verification:
    1. Court order that verifies that the youth was in foster care from the local Court of Common Pleas
    2. A statement (verbal or written) from the County of Placement Office or Department of Human Services
    3. A statement from a private provider agency that delivers child welfare services that the youth was in foster care
    4. A statement from an attorney, guardian ad litem, or court-appointed special advocate verifying the person's relationship to the student and that the youth was in foster care
  - Document verification source, date, and method in institutional records
  - Report eligibility verifications to PHEAA via email

Institution/POC Responsibilities

- Provides students with information and referrals for support services
  - Referrals may be for on-campus or off-campus assistance
    - Services needed may vary between students (e.g., transitional housing, academic advising, religious services, career services, etc.)
    - Students may not understand what/how/when to do things (e.g., finding medical insurance)
  - Connect students with Act 101 or TRIO programs on campus, if applicable
  - Support students transferring by connecting them with POC at the new institution

Institution/POC Responsibilities

- Assist students in accessing available federal and state financial aid resources and in identifying further scholarship and grant opportunities
  - Different types of financial aid available
  - Waivers are not contingent upon receiving additional aid sources
  - Students not required to apply for PA State Grant if attending a non-approved institution or enrolled in a non-approved program of study
    - Encourage students to consider other PHEAA-administered programs (e.g., PA Targeted Industry Program)
  - Waivers do not cover existing loan debt, room, board, and non-mandatory fees
  - PHEAA offers free FAFSA events and other events to explore covering funding gaps

The PA State Work-Study Program is an opportunity for students to earn while they learn! Your institution could become an approved employer and support your FosterEd students. Learn more at PHEAA.org/SWSP.

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Institutional Annual Reporting

- To maximize program effectiveness, annual report compiled and submitted to the PA legislature in early fall
- PDE, DHS, PHEAA, and postsecondary institutions to report on:
  - Number of students receiving Chafee ETG;
  - Number of students that apply for FosterEd;
  - Number of students that receive FosterEd;
  - Number of students who are participating in the program and have unmet financial need;
  - **Recommendations on how to improve outreach to students who are or are potentially eligible for the program;**
  - **Impediments to retaining students who are eligible; and**
  - **Recommendations on ways to improve delivery of services to students who are eligible for the program**

Slide 1

- Additional resources for students and schools

StudentAid.ed.gov	ED's site providing information on preparing for and funding education
Education Planner	Provides advice to help students prepare for college and a career
MySmartBorrowing	Interactive tool where students create different scenarios to see how career and college choices may affect college borrowing
YouCanDealWithIt	Helps students learn to manage money, student loans, a budget, and credit card
PA DHS Provider Directory	Contains a list of County Children and Youth Agencies
PAFosterCare.org	Features POC directories

Resources & Tips

Check out PHEAA's Toolkit for Counselors/Partners!

Slide 2

Resources & Tips

- Work with Financial Aid Administrators at your school to flag students who have a FAFSA comment with Code 166 and share FosterEd and Chafee ETG information

- Incorporate the program into your school's admissions materials
  - Share program information with university faculty and staff

- Employ social media to reach current and prospective students

- Identify local support services and contacts
  - Share brochures with local schools and relevant agencies and organizations
  - Develop FAQ documents that can be readily available

- Coordinate regular check-ins with current FosterEd students

Chafee ETG & FosterEd Program Stats*

- Question 52 on the 2022-23 FAFSA asks students: *At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court?*

Answered "Yes" to Question 52 on the 2021-22 FAFSA	Applied for 2021-22 Chafee ETG	Received 2021-22 Chafee ETG	Applied for 2021-22 FosterEd	Received 2021-22 FosterEd
4,450	1,069	510	1,069	157

Answered "Yes" to Question 52 on the 2022-23 FAFSA**	Applied for 2022-23 Chafee ETG**	Applied for 2022-23 FosterEd**
3,722	825	825

Help us reach Pennsylvania foster youth pursuing undergraduate postsecondary education!

*Data as of approximately September 1, 2022.
**2022-23 Award Year application window still ongoing.

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Resources

Connect with PHEAA socially!

Web
- PHEAA.org
- Alec

Print Materials
- Brochures
- Calendars
- FAQs

Events
- Webinar Series
- Conferences
- Workshops

SGSP Staff
- Email: fostered@pheaa.org
- Phone: 800-443-0646