



IMPROVING OUTCOMES AFTER FOSTER CARE.

## Statewide Resource List

### **ACTION Ohio**

Alumni of Care Together Improving Outcomes Now – our initiatives include hosting annual regional early Thanksgiving dinners for foster care youth ages 14+, including emancipated youth. Please contact [info@fostractionohio.org](mailto:info@fostractionohio.org) for more information.

### **CCMEP**

**Comprehensive Case Management and Employment Program:** Current and former foster youth ages 16-24 are eligible to receive workforce support that combines TANF and WIOA resources.

Each county has a designated “lead agency” that is responsible for managing CCMEP. A list of county lead agency contacts is available at:

<http://jfs.ohio.gov/owd/CCMEP/docs/County-Lead-Agency-List.stm>

### **Central State ~ Emerging Scholars Mentoring Program**

**Eligibility:** Freshman attending Central State who have a foster care history.

**Services offered:** Seeds2Success workshops for foster youth to attend with their mentors, Power Hour study tables and a Helping Hand by connecting them with local professionals.

**Contact:** Zakiya Brown, (937) 376-6414, [zbrown@centralstate.edu](mailto:zbrown@centralstate.edu)

### **Columbus State Community College ~ Scholar Network**

**Link to details:** [www.csc.edu/campus-life/cares/scholar-network.shtml](http://www.csc.edu/campus-life/cares/scholar-network.shtml)

**Eligibility:** Current or former foster youth who are admitted and enrolled at Columbus State Community College

**Services offered:** A network of support, including a five-day conference, ongoing mentoring, monthly Lunch & Learn Workshops, peer-to-peer support and other campus resources. Eligible participants may receive scholarships and other incentives to support student success.

**Please visit:** <http://www.csc.edu/campus-life/seal/foster-youth-support.shtml>



### **Filling Out the FAFSA**

Former foster care youth should fill out the FAFSA as an “independent student,” in accordance with the 2007 College Cost Reduction and Access Act. This enables former foster youth to be eligible for financial aid.

**Eligibility requirements:** Youth must fit into ONE of the following categories:

1. An orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, at any time when the student was 13 years of age or older OR
2. An emancipated minor or is in legal guardianship as determined by the court in their state of legal residence OR
3. Verified as an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of homelessness and self-supporting

### **ETV Funds (Education and Training Voucher Program )**

Foster Care to Success provides up to \$5000 a year for qualified school related expenses. Funding is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis to eligible students. Please visit: <http://www.fc2sprogram.org/ohio/>

**Eligibility requirements:**

1. At least 18 years old, but younger than 21 years old to apply for the first time. Youth can reapply for ETV funds, if they have a current grant, up to the age of 23.
2. Youth must either have been in foster care on their 18th birthday and aged out at that time, or adopted from foster care with the adoption finalized after his/her 16th birthday, or will have his/her foster care case closed between the ages of 18 and 21.
3. Must be enrolled in a degree, certificate or other accredited program at a college, university, technical, vocational school.
4. To remain eligible for ETV funding, youth must show progress toward a degree or certificate.

### **Free Legal Help**

Foster Youth Advocacy Center (FYAC)  
Capital University Law School, 303 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 236-6768  
[fyac@law.capital.edu](mailto:fyac@law.capital.edu)

**Services offered:** Capital Law School provides a free legal clinic for current or former foster youth between ages 16-25 who need help with getting their foster care records, accessing healthcare, public benefits, housing or insurance, expunging criminal records and/or obtaining social security card, birth certificate, or other personal documents. This includes counseling for life-planning and decision-making to help foster youth avoid homelessness and poverty and help in understanding a lease.



### **JobCorps**

Job Corps is a free education and training program that helps young people learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job. This program provides free housing. The state of Ohio has three JobCorps Centers.

**Cincinnati Job Corps Center**  
1409 Western Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
(513) 651-2000

Cleveland, OH 44110  
(216) 541-2500

**Cleveland Job Corps Center**  
13421 Coit Road

**Dayton Job Corps Center**  
3849 Germantown Pike  
Dayton, OH 45417  
(937) 268-6571

### **Medicaid**

Foster care youth who "age out" of foster care in Ohio are eligible for Medicaid until their 26th birthdays. After being initially signed up for Medicaid at age 18, former foster youth must stay in touch with Medicaid, so that they don't lose services between ages 18-26. Please contact the Medicaid Hotline: 1-800-324-8680.

### **Ohio Reach**

Will Murray, Ohio Reach Coordinator  
Public Children Services Association of Ohio  
(614) 224-5802  
[www.ohioreach.org](http://www.ohioreach.org)

Ohio Reach improves post-secondary outcomes for foster care youth and alumni through leadership, empowerment, advocacy, research and networking (L.E.A.R.N.).

Several Ohio colleges and universities have Ohio Reach Campus Liaisons to support the success for former foster youth pursuing post-secondary education.

### **Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)**

Tamika M. Braswell  
(614) 728-8862  
[tbraswell@regents.state.oh.us](mailto:tbraswell@regents.state.oh.us)  
[www.ohiohighered.org](http://www.ohiohighered.org)

Foster youth at community colleges can apply for OCOG funds, and have special permission to use these funds for housing if needed, in addition to other college-related expenses. The funding allocation is up to \$1,048 to assist with college living expenses.



### **Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program**

**Eligibility:** Current and former foster youth can apply for this opportunity.

**Services provided:** Scholars receive professional guidance, educational support, and peer mentoring as important components of the program structure

**Contact:** Please visit: <https://www.csuohio.edu/engagement/sullivan-deckard-scholars-opportunity-program>

### **Tri-C ~ Foster Scholars Mentoring Program**

**Eligibility:** Current or former foster youth who are admitted and enrolled at Cuyahoga Community College.

**Services provided:** Pairs students with a faculty or staff member to provide encouragement and support the student's progress towards degree completion.

**Contact:** Please visit: <http://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/foster-youth-scholars.html>

### **Wright State University ~ Independent Scholars Network**

**Eligibility:** Current or former foster youth who are admitted and enrolled at Wright State University.

**Services provided:** This program offers a bridge to students who emancipate from foster care or disengage from the adoption process into their new home at Wright State. ISN offers a wide range of services, including help with living arrangements and employment opportunities.

**Contact:** Please visit: <http://www.wright.edu/student-affairs/student-resources/independent-scholars-network>