



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING



ISMAEL AHMED
DIRECTOR

Get Assistance with your Financial Aid Paperwork on Sunday, February 21, 2010

Dear High School Senior,

Foster Care College Goal Sunday is a student's chance to maximize the amount of money they can apply for to attend college. If you are heading to college this fall and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA Form), you may be eligible for federal and state grants that can help you with paying for college. Foster youth will be assisted with completing this form correctly at College Goal Sunday – FOR FREE.

Preparing for the event is simple:

1. Come to the following location on **Sunday, February 21, 2010 from 2pm – 4 pm:**

University of Michigan – Dearborn
Schools of Education and Management
Fairlane Center South
19000 Hubbard Dr
Dearborn, MI 48128

2. Bring the following to the event:

- Your Social Security Number.
- Your W-2 form(s) if you worked last year or your completed 2009 tax return if you have already filed. If you did not work last year, just bring your Social Security Number.
- Your driver's license. If you do not have a driver's license, a state ID will work fine. If you do not have a state ID, don't worry, you can still complete the form.

Don't miss out on this important event that can help turn your college dreams into a reality. If you have any questions, please call 1-517-373-2851, Monday – Friday 8am – 4:30pm.

Sincerely,

Ann Rossi
Department of Human Services
Youth Services



Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Fact Sheet



What do I get?

Up to \$5,000 per school year!!

This can cover the following school-related expenses:

- tuition and fees
- room and board
- student loans
- books and school supplies
- transportation
- personal computer/supplies
- miscellaneous personal expenses
- health care expenses
- child care

How do I apply?

- ❑ You can get the application at:
 - Lutheran Social Services of Michigan: (877) 660-METV, or
 - On-line at:
 - www.mietv.lssm.org
- ❑ You must **also** apply for the FAFSA
 - www.fafsa.ed.gov

Verification of Court/State Ward Status forms for Financial Aid are available through your caseworker or by contacting the ETV office.

Am I eligible?

You are, if you meet the following requirements:

- ✓ were in foster care on or after your 14th birthday because of abuse/neglect and,
- ✓ **IF** adopted, were adopted from foster care on or after your 16th birthday
- ✓ have a high school diploma or GED
- ✓ attend, at least half-time, an **accredited** school that:
 - ◆ awards a Bachelor's degree or not less than a 2-year program that provides credit towards a degree,
 - ◆ provides no less than 1-year of training towards gainful employment, *or*
 - ◆ Is a vocational program that provides training for gainful employment and has been in existence for at least two years.

You must receive your first ETV prior to your 21st birthday. You are then eligible until your 23rd birthday, provided you receive at least a 2.0 GPA and do not drop more than one class per semester.

What is the Application Process?

- ❖ Applications will be processed on first come, first served basis. Only after **all** of your application materials have been turned in and processed, and you have completed an entrance interview, will you be awarded.
- ❖ Once the ETV office has received your application, you will be contacted by an ETV caseworker to schedule a face-to-face or phone interview. Therefore, if your contact information changes, you **must** notify the ETV office.
- ❖ Any money owed to the school for tuition or other costs will be sent directly to the school. Other checks will be written out to vendors, such as a landlord, car insurance company, or a store. These checks will be mailed to you and you will be responsible for paying the appropriate people and companies. You are also responsible for obtaining receipts for all ETV money spent and sending copies of them to the ETV office.
- ❖ Lutheran Social Services of Michigan reserves the right to contact the student's school to verify the youth's enrollment.

Contact/Mail Information To:

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan

Attn: ETV

209 E. Washington Ave. Suite 284

Jackson, MI 49201

Phone: (877) 660-METV Fax: (517) 789-6809



ETV Checklist



Please turn in the following documents in order for the application to be processed:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ___ ETV Application | ___ Copy of high school diploma or GED |
| ___ ETV Budget Form | ___ Copy of class schedule |
| ___ ETV Student Educational Agreement | ___ Copy of cost of tuition |
| ___ ETV Financial Aid Release Form | ___ Copy of financial aid package (financial aid award letter) |
| ___ If this is not your first ETV, receipts showing how your last ETV was spent | ___ Copy of college/trade school Grade Point Average (GPA) OR Acceptance Letter |

If the Education and Training Voucher will be used for expenses other than tuition, you need to provide documentation to support need. For example but not limited to:

- ___ Rent/housing: copy of lease agreement.
- ___ Computer: estimate from store you plan to buy it from.
- ___ Transportation expense: copy of payment stubs and car insurance bill **OR** price estimate from the dealership you plan to buy from.
- ___ Daycare: written documentation of DHS denial through FIP program and written statement from daycare provider.

An accredited school means:

- ___ The school is legally authorized within the State to provide a program of education beyond secondary education; **AND**
- ___ The school is a public, private or other nonprofit institution; **AND**
- ___ A nationally recognized accrediting agency or association accredits the school **AND**

- ___ The school provides an educational program where the institution awards a bachelor's degree *or* provides not less than a 2-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree, **OR**
- ___ The school provides an educational training program to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.

If you have any questions:

- Call the ETV office at (877) 660-METV

Completed applications with documentation can be faxed or mailed to:

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan
Attn: ETV
209 E. Washington Ave., Suite 284
Jackson, MI 49201
Fax: 517-789-6809



Application Form

(Please note that this is not the only form that needs to be completed. See the ETV Checklist)

Basic Information

NAME _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____ E-MAIL _____

TELEPHONE (_____) _____ CELL (_____) _____

ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip

COUNTY of Foster Care Case _____ CASE # _____

AGENCY of Foster Care Case _____ JJ Cases Only PLACEMENT _____

CASE WORKER'S NAME _____ TELEPHONE (_____) _____

HOW DID YOU BECOME AWARE OF THIS PROGRAM? (please check the box that applies)

DHS Caseworker Non-DHS Caseworker School Counselor Foster Parent College/University/Vocational Program

School Information

SCHOOL/PROGRAM NAME _____

YEAR IN SCHOOL/PROGRAM _____

STUDENT ID NUMBER _____

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE TELEPHONE (_____) _____

Total ETV Amount Requested (Up to \$2,500 twice per fiscal year*): _____
(Please list budget on the following provided page)

Youth Agreement

I, _____, agree to meet the terms and conditions of the Education and Training Voucher Program and will work toward successfully completing the course work at the school listed above. I also agree that all school documents that I have submitted are official. I understand that if any of the information that I have submitted is found fraudulent, I may be found permanently ineligible for ETV funding. I have read the eligibility requirements for the Education and Training Voucher Program funds.

Youth's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Fiscal Year October 1, 2009-September 30, 2010



ETV Budget



Please identify the school-related costs this award will meet for **UP to 6 months (or one semester/term)**. Identify the areas specific to YOUR needs. Make sure that if you are asking for \$2,500, then the total below should add up to \$2,500. Finally, you must **provide documentation for the expenses** (lease for rent, car insurance estimate, store estimate for a computer). You will NOT be approved until this documentation is turned into the ETV office.

Tuition for 1 year (not covered by grants, Pell, Tip, etc.): _____

Student Loans: _____

Housing: _____
How much per month X 6 months = Total Housing Costs

Food: _____
How much per month X 6 months = Total Food Costs

Books: _____

Materials/Supplies/Computer: _____

Transportation: _____
How much per month X 6 months = Total Transportation Costs

Daycare Expenses: _____
(not covered by DHS) How much per month X 6 months = Total Daycare Costs

Other, please list: _____

Total: = _____

YOUTH SIGNATURE

DATE



ETV Student Educational Agreement



Student Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State Zip _____
 DHS Case Number _____

In order to be approved for Education and Training Voucher (ETV) to help fund my post-secondary educational endeavors, I _____ (print name) agree to the following conditions.

Please initial beside each commitment:

- ____ To complete and submit all necessary documentation according to the ETV application requirements.
- ____ To maintain full-time or part-time status at my post-secondary institution.
- ____ To maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. or the equivalent of passing grades without dropping more than one class per semester.
- ____ To send in my grades to the ETV office after EACH semester.
- ____ To meet the terms of this student educational agreement.
- ____ To meet the goals, listed below, of this Student Educational Agreement.
- ____ To provide receipts for the full amount of money awarded to the ETV Coordinator.

In the space provided identify long-term educational and career goals. Include any extracurricular activities that will help attain these goals:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

If the above conditions are met, I may receive up to \$2,500.00 twice per fiscal year from the State of Michigan's Education and Training Voucher Program to support my documented need for post-secondary educational endeavors (this may include assistance with tuition, room and board, and personal miscellaneous expenses).

By signing below I agree that I have been involved in the development of the student education agreement plan and accept responsibility for this plan. I understand that I must meet the above conditions, or I will not receive the education training voucher funds.

 YOUTH

 DATE

ETV Financial Aid Release Form

School _____
(print name of school or program you are attending)

Student ID _____
(print your student ID)

Social Security Number _____
(print your Social Security Number)

I have completed the FAFSA (please check one): _____ Yes _____ No

To the Financial Aid Office:

I _____ (print name) have applied for State funding towards my school costs. In order to receive this funding, the Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program staff at Lutheran Social Services of Michigan may need access to my enrollment status, grade history, and financial aid information. If requested, I authorize you to send a copy of my Schedule, Transcripts, and Financial Aid Award letter to the Michigan Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program. I further authorize you to release information regarding my enrollment status, grade history, and financial aid information to the Michigan ETV Program via US Mail, telephone or fax.

Sincerely,

(Student Signature)

(Date)

Please circle one of the following:

I am a full time student (_____ credits) part time student (_____ credits)

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan
Attn: ETV
209 E. Washington Ave., Suite284
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: (877) 660-METV Fax: (517) 789-6809

ETV Frequently Asked Questions

How do I receive my second ETV amount?

You can be awarded one ETV grant of UP TO \$5000 per fiscal year. This amount is then split into two semesters/terms. In order to get your second award amount this year, please make sure to complete the **Checklist for Re-Determination (ETV Part II)** form that came with your ETV award letter. The form will need to be completed at the end of your current semester.

What can my ETV money be used for?

ETV money will first pay for any tuition and fees that are owed to the school. After that, ETV can pay for anything educationally relevant, including student loans, housing, transportation, computers, school supplies, daycare expenses and anything else that is going to assist you with staying in school. Remember to always save receipts and to send in copies to the ETV office.

How will I re-apply?

You can re-apply for a new ETV anytime after October 1, 2009, provided that you are still in school. When re-applying next year, you will need to complete the ENTIRE application packet again. You are not automatically enrolled to be re-awarded because you were awarded at this time.

What will I need to send in to re-apply?

In addition to completing the application packet again, you will need to provide all your grades, including your Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA), which needs to be above a 2.0. You also need to send in receipts showing how your ENTIRE current ETV was spent. Without both of these items, you will not be re-awarded.

What happens if I drop classes in the middle of a semester?

When you re-apply next year, we will not only look at your GPA, but also look at the completion of your classes. Please be aware, if you drop more than ONE class per semester, you will not be awarded again until you complete a full semester. This means that, although your GPA may be above a 2.0, you are not guaranteed to be re-awarded.

What do I do if I move or change phone numbers?

You **MUST** contact the ETV office when your contact information, including your mailing address and/or phone number change. An ETV case manager will be contacting you on a regular basis and they need to be able to get in touch with you. In addition, we also occasionally send out mailings to inform you of additional funding and resources, and these often have deadlines. If we can't reach you, you cannot be fully informed.

How do I get in touch with the ETV office when I want to send in information?

You can call the office t 1-877-660-METV. Our fax number is 517-789-6809, and our website is www.mietv.lssm.org. The mailing address is:

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan

Attn: ETV

209 E. Washington Ave., Suite 284

Jackson, MI 49201

Resources Available to Youth Pursuing College

Ever wonder how you were going to pay for college, or who can afford to go to college? This fact sheet will answer those questions and direct you to the right places for more information.

College is affordable and available to YOU!

- ✓ All students must complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Students can access online at <http://www.fafsa.org> or <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> or by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID. The deadline for the application is February 15th. In order to receive loan money, the Pell grant for low-income students or other aid, the student **MUST** complete the FAFSA.
- ✓ The **Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)** helps pay for tuition and fees. Contact the office for eligibility requirements at 1-888-4GRANTS.
- ✓ **Education and Training Vouchers (ETV)** offer up to \$5,000 towards school-related costs and living fees. It is for youth that were in foster care after the age of 14. Contact Lutheran Social Services of Michigan for eligibility requirements at (877)-660-METV or visit the website at www.mietv.lssm.org.
- ✓ **Youth in Transition (YIT)** is another funding source that can provide educational supports. If the youth still has unmet needs, the YIT fund source is available until the youth turns 21 years old. Please apply at your local DHS office.
- ✓ **Casey Family Scholars Program** provides scholarships of up to \$10,000 for young people who spent at least 12 months in foster care and were not subsequently adopted. Check the OFA website at www.orphan.org.
- ✓ The **Children's Benefit Fund** provides educational supports that include the purchase of computers. Contact Bruce Hoffman, Acting MCI Superintendent at (517) 335-6152.
- ✓ **Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver** pays tuition for students who are at least ¼ American Indian. Youth apply directly to the financial aid office. The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan approves this award. Contact Paul Cloutier at (517) 335-7782.
- ✓ **Aquinas College** offers a Fostering Success Scholarship which ensures that total assistance from scholarships and grants will cover tuition, room, board, and book costs. For more information, visit http://www.aquinas.edu/undergraduate/foster_scholarship.html.
- ✓ **Ferris State University** in Big Rapids offers services to youth through the local DHS office to those interested or attending Ferris State University.
- ✓ **Lansing Community College** now offers the Theresa and Frederick Junger Scholarship for students who were in foster care. For more information contact Susan Fisher at 517-483-1987.
- ✓ **Macomb Community College** now has a Youth in Transition Scholarship Program for all youth interested in attending Macomb Community College for FREE. For more information, visit <https://mietv.lssm.org/forms/Youth%20in%20Transition%20FINALpdf.pdf>.

- ✓ **Michigan State University** offers the Jim and June Grant Expandable Foster Care Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are awarded to recipients having been a client during childhood of the State of Michigan's Department of Human Services Child Foster Care System and enrolled in at MSU. For more information and to apply, contact the Office of Financial Aid at 517-353-5940 or <http://www.finaid.msu.edu/default.asp>.

- ✓ **Michigan State University** in East Lansing has a scholarship program, currently offering one scholarship per year, for youth exiting foster care. Contact Dr. Gary Anderson at 517-335-7515 or by email at ander664@msu.edu.

- ✓ **The University of Michigan** offers the Paul and Amy Blavin Scholarship to students that were in foster care. Contact the office of financial aid for eligibility information and application materials: (734)-763-6600.

- ✓ **University of Phoenix** is partnering with the National Foster Parent Association and will provide 50 full tuition scholarships for youth in foster care. For more information, visit <http://www.nfpainc.org/content/?page=145&nmenu=4&title=First%20Chance%20Scholarship>.

- ✓ **Western Michigan University** now has the Foster Youth and Higher Education Initiative, which includes the John Seita scholarship. This scholarship offers paid tuition for youth that were in foster care. For more information, visit <http://www.wmich.edu/finaid/fyit/>

Other Websites to Checkout!

<http://www.fastweb.com>
<http://www.nfpainc.org>
<http://www.casey.org>
<http://www.maeo.org>
www.fyi3.com
www.foster-education.org
www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid
www.imagine-america.org
www.nrcys.ou.edu