

FOSTER YOUTH? EVER BEEN IN FOSTER CARE?



IF YOU HAVE THE
MOTIVATION AND THE DREAM TO
GO TO COLLEGE, YOU CAN

DETAILS
ON BACK

If you are on the path to “aging out” of Oregon’s foster care system, college might seem impossible. With little to no family support or savings, a college degree can seem out of reach.

Can you relate to these feelings? If so, you should know that relief is here. A new law guarantees that YOU have access to Oregon community colleges and public universities tuition-free!

Can I go to college tuition-free?

- Were you in Oregon foster care for one or more years between the ages of 16-21?
- Are you under 25 years of age?
- Are you applying to an Oregon community college or public university?
- Has it been less than 3 years since you left foster care OR since earning your high school diploma/GED? (Whichever is earliest)
- Are you planning to get a Bachelors and/or Associates degree

If you answered **YES** to all of these questions, you can attend college in Oregon tuition-free.

What do I need to do to receive the waiver?

- 1). Apply for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid:
www.fafsa.ed.gov
- 2). Apply for Chafee ETV or Chafee Housing to help you with housing and book costs. Don't know what Chafee is? Talk to your caseworker or ILP worker ASAP!
- 3). Start volunteering now so you'll be ready to complete 30 hours of community service each academic year during college.

Because of local foster youth just like you, Oregon started offering tuition assistance in January of 2012. Current and former foster youth, who are members of Oregon Foster Youth Connections (OFYC), travelled to the state capitol and asked lawmakers to offer this generous support. You too can join Oregon Foster Youth Connection and make a difference for other youth in Oregon...and fulfill your 30 hours of volunteer service!

For more information about going to college tuition-free, or about Oregon Foster Youth Connection, visit:

www.ORYouthconnection.org

or contact Pamela Butler, Policy & Outreach Associate

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