

	INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE POLICY	
	Chapter 11: Older Youth Services Section 15: Post-Secondary Education	
	Effective Date: January 1, 2026	Version: 7

POLICY OVERVIEW

Youth who get Older Youth Services (OYS) will learn about ways to pay for post-secondary education. OYS help youth understand their options for financial aid after high school:

- Pell grants
- John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (the Chafee Program)
- Grants
- Federal supplemental grants
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Indiana Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program
- 21st Century Scholars Program

POLICY STATEMENT

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) will:

- Encourage all youth to prepare for and take the:
 - Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT),
 - Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), and/or
 - The American College Test (ACT), as appropriate.
- Make sure children in grades seven (7) through 12 are enrolled in the 21st Century Scholars program.

LEGAL REFERENCES

- [IC 21-12-6: Chapter 6. Twenty-First Century Scholars Program; Tuition Grants](#)
- [IC 21-12-6-5: Qualifications to participate in program](#)
- [IC 21-12-6-14: Foster care children; caseworker to provide information](#)
- [IC 31-25-2-21: Transitional services plan; participation by child representatives](#)
- [42 USC 675\(5\)\(H\): Transition plan for children aging out of foster care](#)