



WASHINGTON
HIGHER
EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD

GOVERNORS'
SCHOLARSHIP



**Washington State Foster Youth
2008-2009 Common Application
for College Financial Assistance**



Instructions Mail a copy of your application to each program of interest.

Current and former foster youth in Washington state can use this application to apply for up to six of the programs below, each provide money to pay for college and other training beyond high school.

1. Educational and Training Voucher Program
2. Seattle University's Fostering Scholars
3. Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth
4. Passport to College
5. Treehouse Coaching-to-College Scholarship
6. YMCA Transitions Scholarship

Tips

- You might want to find someone to help you fill out this application and have someone proofread your essay.
- Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to complete it.
- Write clearly and fill in all the blanks.
- Contact each program to find out if they need more information from you.
- Keep a copy of your application and supporting documents for yourself.
- Turn in your application as soon as you are eligible because funding may be limited.
- Schools must be accredited or meet other licensing criteria to be funded.

STATEWIDE

1. Educational and Training Voucher (ETV)

The ETV program can help pay *up to \$5000 per year* towards the cost of attendance for current and former foster youth up to age 21. If youth are enrolled before age 21, this program can be extended to age 23.

ETV can help pay for tuition, fees, books, room and board, school supplies and living expenses.

Questions, please contact etvwash@dshs.wa.gov or 1.877.4EDU.ETV (1-877-433-8388). Mail a copy of your application to: ETV; 1115 Washington St. SE; PO Box 45710; Olympia, WA 98504.

2. Fostering Scholars

The Fostering Scholars Scholarship at Seattle University (SU) provides undergraduate financial, personal, and educational support to current and former foster youth attending SU. The scholarship provides full funding of tuition, books, supplies, and year-round on campus room and board. Additionally, the program provides students with academic support, advocacy, and mentorship. In order to be eligible for the scholarship, you must first apply for acceptance to Seattle University by December 3, 2007. For questions or to receive the Fostering Scholars Scholarship Application, contact (206) 296-5310 or email montoyac@seattleu.edu. Mail a copy of your application to: Fostering Scholars Program, Seattle University, 901 12th Avenue, P.O. Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122. Scholarship Application Deadline is February 19, 2007.

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3. Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth

The Governors' Scholarship provides *up to \$5,000 per year*, for five years, for youth who have or will emancipate from foster care in Washington State to attend college. The application deadline for the Governors' Scholarship is March 4, 2008. This scholarship requires the *Governors' Scholarship Supplemental Application*. For more information or to download the application, visit www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/gc. With questions, call 1-877-655-4097 or email governorsscholarship@collegesuccessfoundation.org. Mail a copy of your application to: Governors' Scholarship; 1605 NW Sammamish Rd, Ste 100; Issaquah, WA 98027.

4. Passport to College Promise Scholarship Program

The Passport to College Promise Scholarship Program provides up to \$6,900 per year, for up to five years, to youth who spent at least one year in foster care after their 16th birthday, and will emancipate from care after January 1, 2007. To indicate your interest you must do two things; check the box in Part One and sign the Consent and Certification in Part Seven. For more information on the Passport to College Promise Program, visit www.hecb.wa.gov/passport. If you have questions about the program, you may e-mail passporttocollege@hecb.wa.gov or call 1-888-535-0747. Mail a copy of your application to: Passport to College Scholarship, P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA. 98504-3430

KING COUNTY

5. Treehouse Coaching-to-College Scholarship (CTC) (for participants residing in King County)

You must be enrolled in the Treehouse CTC program to apply for this scholarship. The CTC program assists King County youth in foster care graduate from high school and plan for post-secondary opportunities. Participants of the Treehouse CTC Program are eligible to receive *up to \$2500 per year* based upon the cost of attendance. With questions, please call (206) 267-5147. Mail a copy of your application to: Treehouse; Coaching-to-College Scholarship; 2100 24th Avenue South, Suite 200; Seattle, WA 98144

6. YMCA Transitions Scholarship (for participants residing in King County)

The YMCA Transitions scholarship is available to participants in the YMCA Transitions housing program. YMCA Transitions provides housing, independent living skills development, career development and educational support to young adults who have been in foster care. Recipients of the YMCA Transitions scholarship are eligible to receive *up to \$4000 per year* based upon the cost of attendance. Please contact the YMCA Center for Young Adults Education Coordinator at (206) 749-7578 or jwarren@seattleyymca.org with any questions. Mail a copy of your application to YMCA Transitions Scholarship; 2100 24th Avenue South, Suite 250; Seattle, WA 98144.

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Print Name (First Last): _____

Part One – Program Eligibility Checklists

You must meet these three requirements to qualify for any funding listed below.

1. I have applied for financial aid, by submitting the 2008-2009 FAFSA. You can fill out a FAFSA at www.fafsa.edu.gov .	Date submitted:
2. I am a senior on track to graduate from high school, or enrolled in a GED program, or have graduated from high school or received a GED.	Date of high school/GED completion (Month/year):
3. I plan to enroll or am enrolled full-time or part-time (or accepted for next term) in an accredited post-secondary program. Name of college:	

To apply for a program, you must meet the additional eligibility requirements listed below each program name. Please check the box next to each program for which you are applying.

Educational and Training Voucher (ETV)	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am 16-21 years old, or first enrolled in the ETV program prior to my 21st birthday and have not reached my 23rd birthday. I am currently, or was until emancipation, or was until I was adopted after age 16, <u>recognized as a dependent youth in Washington State or Tribal out-of-home care.</u>
Seattle University Fostering Scholars	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am a participant in Treehouse's Coaching to College program OR the Foster Care to College Mentor Program I am 17-25 years old (or legally emancipated if still a minor) I have been accepted to Seattle University as either a Freshman or Transfer Student I have applied for financial aid by completing the FAFSA by the <i>priority filing date</i>. <p>I will need to complete a brief Fostering Scholars Supplemental Application. For the application, contact (206) 296-5310.</p>
Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am currently, or was until emancipation, recognized as a dependent youth in Washington State, federal or tribal out-of-home care. I am a senior at a Washington State high school and will graduate during the 2007-08 academic year. I have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.0 or above. I will have resided in Washington State for three academic years prior to graduating from high school. I plan to enroll in college full-time and complete a program of study at an eligible WA college. <p>I will need to complete the <i>Governors' Scholarship Supplemental Application</i> available at www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/gf.</p>
Passport to College	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I spent at least one year in care after my 16th birthday. I will emancipate from foster care on or after January 1, 2007. I am a Washington State resident. I will be enrolled at least half-time in an eligible college by age twenty-one. I have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree. I am not pursuing a degree in Theology.
Treehouse Coaching-to-College Scholarship	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am not eligible for ETV or the YMCA Transitions Scholarship. I have a current/open DCFS case file in King County, or am a former foster youth who was in King County foster care between the ages of 14 – 18 for a minimum of one year and have not reached my 22nd birthday. I have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above.
YMCA Transitions Scholarship	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<p>I am a <input type="checkbox"/> participant or an <input type="checkbox"/> alumnus of the YMCA of Greater Seattle's Transitions program.</p> <p>If an alumnus, I am</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Under 25 or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Graduated from Transitions within the last two years.</p>

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Print Name (First Last): _____

Part Two – Applicant Information

Today's Date (date application completed): _____

Date of Birth (M/D/Y): _____ Last four digits of Social Security # _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____ E-mail: _____

Student Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____ Gender: Female Male Other

High School: _____ High School Principal: _____

High School Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

The following items are collected for research and program development purposes:

Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes No If no, are you a legal permanent resident? Yes No Alien Registration # _____

If English is not your first language, what language do you speak best? _____

Ethnicity (how you best describe yourself; please read all choices and choose only one):

- African American Indian Asian, Asian American Pacific Islander
 Black American White or Caucasian Hispanic – of European ancestry
 Hispanic/Latino—of Mexican, Central or South American or Caribbean (Cuban, Puerto Rican, Dominican) ancestry
 Multi-Racial (please specify) _____ Other (please specify) _____

Will you be responsible for a child while in college? Yes No If so, please explain: _____

How did you learn about these programs? _____

Would you be interested in volunteering for any of these programs? Yes (list program(s)) _____ No

Please check the programs below if you would like information to determine if you are eligible to participate.

- Foster Care to 21 Medicaid to 21 Foster Care to College Mentor Program

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Part Three - Alternative Contact Information

Please provide contact information for an adult, who stays in contact with you:

Name of Adult Contact: _____ (First, Last) E-mail: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____ Do you reside with this adult contact? Yes No

Home Phone: (____) ____ - ____ Cell Phone: (____) ____ - ____ Other Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Part Four- Enrollment Information

I will be attending: Full-time (12 credits or more) Half-time (6-11 credits) Less than half-time (1-5 credits)

In 2008-2009, I plan to enroll the following terms (check all boxes that apply):

Summer 2008 Fall Winter Spring Summer 2009 Other _____

Please identify the final degree/ certificate you expect to receive:

Bachelor Degree Associate Degree Voc/technical Certificate Other _____

Please list the colleges or programs to which you have applied, or will apply, for admission:

1st Choice _____ Anticipated field of study _____

Applied and admitted Applied, still waiting to hear (Date applied : _____) Have not yet applied

2nd Choice _____ Anticipated field of study _____

Applied and admitted Applied, still waiting to hear (Date applied : _____) Have not yet applied

3rd Choice _____ Anticipated field of study _____

Applied and admitted Applied, still waiting to hear (Date applied : _____) Have not yet applied

Part Five- Essay (First time applicants only)

Please write your essay in 250-500 words making sure to address each of the four questions. Please type your essay on a separate sheet of paper. Include your name and date of birth at the top right corner of each page.

- o Explain your interest in college and where you think it may take you?
- o What have you done to prepare yourself to pursue your higher education?
- o What are your education and career goals through the next six years?
- o How will your personal strengths help you reach your goals?

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Part Six– Common Application and Supporting Documents *Checklist*

Please complete the application, then photocopy and mail the following documents with your application to EVERY PROGRAM for which you are applying and keep one copy of all documents for yourself. If you are applying for the Governors' Scholarship, be sure to complete the *Governors' Scholarship Supplemental* by March 4th. If you are applying for the Fostering Scholars Scholarship, be sure to complete the *Foster Scholars Supplemental Application* by February 19.

- Typed response to the essay question (please include your name and date of birth)
- Current High School or College Transcript or your GED score report (Not needed for Seattle University's Fostering Students)
- Copy of your college financial aid award letter or if you have not received your award letter yet, your *Student Aid Report (SAR)* or a copy of your completed 2008-2009 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*. You can fill out your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Completed "ward of the court" verification letter documenting your "ward of the court" foster care status, filled out and signed by a social worker (see page 5).
- Registration for upcoming term (*not needed for the Governors' Scholarship or Seattle University's Fostering Students*)

If you are unable to submit all documents as soon as you are eligible, please submit those you have and complete your application when the missing documents become available.
Refer to the instruction page for the location to submit each program application.

Part Seven– Application Consent and Certification

I certify by my signature and initials (please initial before each line and sign at the bottom):

_____ To the best of my knowledge, all information submitted in this application is complete and accurate and the essay accompanying this form is my own work. I understand that if information is found to be false, it is sufficient cause for rejection or dismissal from the programs. (*Education and Training Voucher, Governors' Scholarship, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Seattle University Fostering Scholars, YMCA Transitions Scholarship, Treehouse Coaching to College*)

_____ I give permission to the Department of Social and Health Services to provide verification of my foster care status with the above programs or any institution to which I have applied, been admitted or I am enrolled.

_____ I understand that it in order to determine an appropriate award amount and/or to determine my continuing eligibility for an award, the agency or organization assisting me may need to discuss my application and the information in my application with one of the other participating organizations, including the College Success Foundation, Department of Social and Health Services, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Foster Care to College Mentor programs, Orphan Foundation of America, Seattle University Fostering Scholars, Treehouse, the YMCA and Independent Living Programs, as well as with the admissions, financial aid and student service offices at any college, university or vocational or technical program which I attend or to which I may be applying for admission. I agree to this exchange of information about me.

_____ I understand that my educational records are confidential and cannot be disclosed without my consent. With that understanding I give permission to any college, institution or vocational or technical program that I am attending, have attended, or to which I am applying to provide information about me to the following programs and organizations for the purpose of evaluating my application or assisting me in obtaining educational funding: College Success Foundation, Department of Social and Health Services, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Orphan Foundation of America, Seattle University Fostering Scholars, Treehouse, YMCA, Independent Living Programs.

_____ I DO NOT want my application provided to (checking any of the programs below will result in your application not being forwarded to that program):

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Success Foundation | <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle University Fostering Scholars | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Living Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Coordinating Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Treehouse | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orphan Foundation of America | <input type="checkbox"/> YMCA | <input type="checkbox"/> FCTC Mentor Program |

Signature _____

Date _____

“Ward of the Court” Verification Letter

Regarding student (print first and last name): _____

Date of Birth: _____

**Last four digits of Social Security number
(Optional and on approval of applicant):** _____

Start Date of Most Recent Dependency: _____

Close Date of Most Recent Dependency: _____

Total time ever in care: _____

FASFA “ward of the court” Eligibility

This letter is to confirm that the above mentioned student was under the supervision and care of the court through a Washington State dependency order until the age 18.

This means that the student is considered a “Ward of the Court” for the purpose of responding to questions on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Financial Aid Administrators should be advised that recent or current wards of the court typically have little or no income and for purposes of the FAFSA, the federal Verification Guide states that “Payments and services received from states for foster care or adoption assistance, under Part A or Part E of Title IV of the Social Security Act are not to be reported on Worksheet B of the FAFSA.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mailing address: _____