

All Iowa Opportunity Foster Care Grant (AIOFCG)

The All Iowa Opportunity Foster Care Grant (Opportunity Grant) is a state-funded program that provides youth aging out of the Iowa foster care system with grant assistance to pay postsecondary education and training expenses. There are frequently more applicants for the grants than can be awarded, so it is important to apply early.

Eligibility:

Youth who are Iowa residents and who have received their high school diplomas or HSET and attending an Iowa approved college who meet one of the following criteria are eligible to apply:

- Currently in licensed foster care under the care and custody of the Iowa Department of Human Services or Iowa Juvenile Court Services and will remain in placement to within 30 days of their 18th birthday.
- Currently under Juvenile Court order to live with a relative or suitable person and will remain in placement until they turn 18 OR will remain in placement to within 30 days of their 18th birthday.
- Will be under the age of 23 AND meet one of the out-of-home placement conditions described above at the time of completing the grant application AND on the date the education/training program starts.
- Was PREVIOUSLY in Iowa foster care and was legally adopted after the age of 16. At the time of application and on the date the education program starts, student will be under the age of 23.
- Currently living in or will be graduating from a state training school or state institution 30 days prior to student's 18th birthday.

Award levels for full-time students are as follows:

Maximum awards for students attending eligible Iowa colleges and universities vary depending on type of post-secondary institution and credit enrollment and are adjusted annually. Please complete the Iowa Financial Aid application annually located at: www.IowaCollegeAid.gov

Your grant amount will be determined by your financial aid administrator after registration and enrollment.

Opportunity Grants are renewable if a student's education program is more than one year in length. In addition, students must reapply each year and are required to meet the academic progress standards of the college or university or make satisfactory progress towards completion of the training program to renew this grant. Students are eligible for program benefits until they reach the age of 24, if they are participating prior to turning 23.

For more information:

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Applications are submitted as part of the Iowa Financial Aid Application available at: www.IowaCollegeAid.gov