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	<b>Contact:</b> Ann Rossi, RossiA@michigan.gov, 517-373-2851	
	<b>Originating Office:</b> Health, Education and Youth Unit	
	<b>Subject/Title:</b> Education and Training Voucher (ETV) update and other college resources	
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The purpose of this memo is to update the field regarding college resources for youth in foster care.

The Education and Training Voucher (ETV) program awards youth from foster care funding for college tuition and education related living expenses. Although federal law allows for a student to be awarded up to \$5000 per year in funding, Michigan has recently lowered this amount. **As of June 1, 2013**, full-time students will be eligible for up to \$2000 per semester and part time students will be eligible for up \$1000 per semester, with a youth not to exceed \$4000 in a fiscal year. Award amounts are being lowered due to a lower amount in federal funding and the recent sequester.

For any questions regarding ETV or help with applying, call Lutheran Social Services of Michigan – Jackson, 1-877-660-6388, [www.mietv.lssm.org](http://www.mietv.lssm.org).

In addition to the ETV, students may be eligible to receive college funding from the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP). Youth are eligible for TIP funding if they had Medicaid for 24 out of 36 consecutive months as of the 12<sup>th</sup> birthday or after. Youth **must** be registered for TIP prior to graduation. Workers, youth, or foster parents can contact the TIP office a 1-888-4-GRANTS.

Students should be encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as January 1 of the senior year. This ensures the maximum amount of financial aid is awarded. DHS case workers/monitors should complete a DHS-945, Verification of Foster Care Status, and give to youth they are working with that are completing the FAFSA. This verification proves a youth was in foster after the 13<sup>th</sup> birthday. This allows him/her to file the FAFSA as an “independent” student, which leads to a maximum financial aid award package.

Several Michigan post-secondary institutions now offer campus-based supports for students that are coming from foster care. Starting in October 2012, seven institutions entered contracts with DHS to have Independent Living Skills Coaches on campus. Coaches work with students in all areas of independent living skills, including but not limited to education, employment, housing, budgeting/financial management, daily living, appropriate relationship building, medical/mental health, finding community resources/funding, and parenting.

The following chart identifies the schools that now have these contracts, their coaches, and contact information:

Institution	Program Name	Coach name	Coach emails	Coach phone
Baker College of Flint	Youth In Transition	Deb Chimovitz	<a href="mailto:debrah.chimovitz@baker.edu">debrah.chimovitz@baker.edu</a>	517-766-4365
Eastern Michigan University	MAGIC (Mentorship Access Guidance in College)	Joi Rencher	<a href="mailto:jrencher@emich.edu">jrencher@emich.edu</a>	734-487-0899
Ferris State University	Ferris Youth Initiative	Janette Ward	<a href="mailto:wardj35@ferris.edu">wardj35@ferris.edu</a>	231-591-5962
Michigan State University	FAME Program (Fostering Academics Mentoring Excellence)	Andrea Martineau	<a href="mailto:mart1525@msu.edu">mart1525@msu.edu</a>	517-353-5573
Saginaw Valley State University	F.A.S.T Program (Fostering an Academic Successful Transition)	Michael Heron	<a href="mailto:mrheron@svsu.edu">mrheron@svsu.edu</a>	989-964-2655
University of Michigan –Flint	M-powering My Success	Cindy Nelson-Pouget	<a href="mailto:cindy-nelson@umflint.edu">cindy-nelson@umflint.edu</a>	810-233-4031
Wayne State University	TIP Program (Transition to Independence)	Danita Echols	<a href="mailto:danita.echols@wayne.edu">danita.echols@wayne.edu</a>	313-577-0063

Although these are the schools that are contracted with DHS, there are other post-secondary institutions that offer financial scholarship and/or campus-based support programs. These include:

- Western Michigan University – Seita Scholarship Program – <http://www.wmich.edu/fyit/>
- University of Michigan – Blavin Scholarship – <http://www.finaid.umich.edu/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=rTgXymr0das%3d&tabid=101>
- Aquinas College – Fostering Success Scholarship – [http://www.aquinas.edu/undergraduate/foster\\_scholarship.html](http://www.aquinas.edu/undergraduate/foster_scholarship.html)
- Lansing Community College – Theresa and Frederick Junger Scholarship – [http://www.lcc.edu/scholarships/foundation\\_scholarships/scholarhips\\_offered/general.aspx](http://www.lcc.edu/scholarships/foundation_scholarships/scholarhips_offered/general.aspx)
- Macomb Community College – Youth In Transition Scholarship – <https://macomb.academicworks.com/opportunities/251>