



Illinois Information on Student Population

[Imprint News Article](#)

[Chapin Hall Study/Community College Support](#)

[Youth Today Article with Recommendations](#)

[Postsecondary Programs and Services for Current and Former Foster Care Youth in Illinois: Office of Community College Research & Leadership](#)

[Postsecondary Pathways for Former Foster Care Youth](#)

Illinois Programming Resources

[Foster Progress](#): Illinois program that provides assistance to youth with experience in foster care and tech support to professionals working with them.

[Financial Aid Guide](#)

[First Star Academy](#): National organization that partners with specific communities to build a pipeline of support for youth with experience in foster care from high school to college. [First Star ISU Academy](#) is one of 12 national programs.

[Project STRIVE \(Strategies to Rejuvenate Interest and Value in Education\)](#): Partnership between the Illinois Department of Children and Families and Chicago Public Schools. [Youth Guidance Chicago](#) serves approximately 200 youth annually.

Life Skills Program–Illinois Department of Children and Family Services: Assists youth aged 14-20 in developing life skills through training. Stipends are available to students to complete the training. [Tip Sheet](#)

[Brighter Futures–Illinois Department of Children and Family Services](#): The Service Provider IDentification and Exploration Resource (SPIDER) is a free, comprehensive service resource database that connects you to nearby organizations offering services and supports to youth. Search your area via the [SPIDER database](#) to find community resources for your students.

[TRIO Programs](#): Educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds.





Illinois Financial Resources

Chafee Education & Training Voucher Program (ETV)

[Tip Sheet](#)

[ETV Application](#)

Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP):

[Program Information with Links](#) (Tied to the FAFSA and available at specific campuses)

Youth In Scholarship Illinois Tuition Waiver: Tuition waiver for youth (Public, In State College, or University—does not include room and board)

[Tip Sheet](#)

[Application: DCFS Form CFS 438](#) and/or [2021 CFS 438](#) (I could not find a 2023 version)

Email address: DCFS.Scholarship@illinois.gov

Youth in College Vocational Funding: Appears to be Chafee (ETV) and covers room and board.

[Tip Sheet](#)

[Application: DCFS Form 449—filled out by caseworker](#)

National Resources

[Fostering Success Michigan](#): Comprehensive website with over 600 library resources including podcasts, webinars, toolkits and more!

[Fostering Success Coaching Institute](#): Provides training designed for professionals who are working with students who have experienced foster care or adverse childhood experiences. [FSCI Virtual Coaching Summit](#) 2/15 & 2/16 from 1:00-4:00PM EST.

[The Legal Center for Foster Care and Education/American Bar Association](#): Policy related information and recommendations for states on how to support education for youth with experience in foster care.

[NextUp Expansion Toolkit](#): John Burton Advocates for Youth in California recently put together a great toolkit that provides steps in establishing on campus support for youth with experience in foster care.

