



# FAMILY TIMES



FOR ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

NOVEMBER, 2014

## COLLEGE RESOURCES FOR YOUTH WHO HAVE BEEN IN FOSTER CARE

### **Kansas Foster and Adoptive Children Scholarship Fund.**

This fund was established to provide scholarships for any type of further education beyond high school including college, junior college, vocational, technical or other trade schools.

The students eligible for assistance shall be students who are or have been foster children in the State of Kansas, including foster children who have been adopted.

Applications are accepted year around, however awards of scholarships will be made each year as follows:

Applications received by July 1 will be awarded in late July for the upcoming academic year.

Applications received by November 1 will be awarded in late November for the spring semester.

Amount:

Amount Varies

Greater Kansas City Community Foundation.  
([scholarships@growyo.org](mailto:scholarships@growyo.org))  
([urgiving.org](http://urgiving.org))

### **Norman A. Fordyce, Sr. Scholarship Fund**

Students who are or have been in KVC Behavioral HealthCare programs; consideration given to financial need, student's work & community service record.

Minimum \$3000 annually; renewable based on GPA

For more information, visit [www.kvc.org](http://www.kvc.org).

### **PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS FUND FOSTER CHILD SCHOLARSHIPS**

The [National Foster](#)

### [Parent Association](#)

(NFPA) offers scholarships designed to help foster families pay for education beyond high school. High school seniors are encouraged to apply once they have been accepted into their state college or university. Each student is asked to submit a short essay with application materials, on a topic to be provided by the Association.

### [Casey Family Programs](#)

is dedicated to improving the child welfare system and providing educational opportunities for foster children. Organizations like [Foster Care to Success](#) administer Casey Family scholarship dollars for needy foster children. Applicants who were in foster care for at least one year prior to reaching their 18th birthday are eligible to

compete for annual scholarships worth \$1500 – \$6000. Casey Family Scholarships enable foster youth under the age of 25 to attend national colleges and universities.

### [The Darko Rapotez Memorial College Scholarship Fund for Aged Out Foster Youth](#)

is administered by Love our Children USA. The foster youth scholarship provides between \$5,000 and \$10,000 worth of tuition fee assistance to children who have “aged out” of the foster care system. Participants must provide books and housing with outside funds. Successful applicants are judged based on academic excellence and financial need. Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 24 and maintain the program’s GPA standard of 3.0.

### [Horatio Alger Scholarships](#)

disburse between \$2,500 and \$10,000 annually, to each qualified recipient.

## Continued from Page 1

Funds can be used to finance undergraduate education for needy adopted students pursuing bachelor's degrees at accredited American colleges and universities.

The Orphan Foundation of America (OFA) is now known as [Foster Care to Success](#), but the philanthropic educational mission remains focused on foster families and adopted children. In addition to valuable Casey Family Scholarships, the group connects willing donors with the foster care children who need help paying for school. The [Sponsored Scholarship Program](#) creates opportunities for organizations, as well as individuals, to contribute to positive outcomes for former foster care youth. U.S. former foster children under 25, with a cumulative high school GPA of at least 2.0 may apply.

[North American Council on Adoptable Children](#) stands committed to meeting the needs of waiting youths and the adoptive parents who welcome them into their lives. The group maintains resources for former foster kids heading into higher education.

### COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES FOR FORMER FOSTER YOUTH (From Voice For Adoption Article)

*Voice for Adoption (VFA) receives many requests from students and*

*adoptive parents who are looking for resources for college scholarships and other financial aid resources. This list provides information about potential financial aid opportunities. Please note that the eligibility criterion varies. Some of the resources below pertain to adopted youth while others are targeted toward youth who emancipated from foster care.*

#### 1. Fostering Adoption to Further Student Achievement Act (Public Law 110-84):

This law made it possible for teens in foster care to be adopted without losing access to college financial aid. Under this law, youth who are adopted from foster care at any point after their 13th birthday will not have to include their parents' income in the calculation for determining their need for federal financial aid. The law revised the definition of "independent student" and the definition now extends to youth who were in foster care on or after their 13th birthday, even if they have subsequently been adopted (refer to question #52 on the FAFSA form. See the resource below on how to access FAFSA.). To learn more, visit: [http://voiceforadoption.org/sites/default/files/FAFSA\\_20fact-](http://voiceforadoption.org/sites/default/files/FAFSA_20fact-sheet_updated2010.pdf)

[sheet\\_updated2010.pdf](#)

#### 2. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):

Federal Student Aid, a part of the U.S. Department of Education, is the largest provider of student financial aid in the nation. At the office of Federal Student Aid, employees help make college education possible for every dedicated mind by providing more than \$150 billion in federal grants, loans, and work-study funds each year to more than 15 million students paying for college or career school. Federal Student Aid is responsible for managing the student financial assistance programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. These programs provide grants, loans, and work-study funds to students attending college or career school. To complete a FAFSA application visit: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

#### 3. Chafee Education Training Vouchers (ETV) - Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act (Public Law 110-351):

This law extended eligibility for Education Training Vouchers (ETV) to youth who exit foster care to kinship guardianship at age 16 or older (these funds are also available to youth who are adopted at age 16 or older). ETV

## Continued from Page 2

is an annual federal grant provided to states to provide funds to former foster youth who are enrolled in college, university and vocational training programs. Students may receive up to \$5,000 each year based on cost of attendance and available funds. To learn more about ETV requirements and state information, visit: <https://www.statevoucher.org/index.shtml>

### 4. Fostering a Future Scholarship (specific to adopted youth from foster care):

Children's Action Network in partnership with the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption sponsors a national scholarship program designed to provide youth who were adopted from foster care at or after age 13 with financial assistance for post-secondary education and vocational programs. To review eligibility and application details visit: <http://www.childrensactionnetwork.org/scholarship.htm>

### 5. UMPS CARE Charities All-Star Scholarship for Adopted Youth:

UMPS CARE Charities partnered with The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption (DTFA) and Slate XP to offer the UMPS CARE Charities All-Star Scholarship. The UMPS CARE Charities All-Star Scholarship is for children adopted from foster care, in order to help provide a college education to students who otherwise might not be able to afford one. UMPS CARE Charities is a 501(c)(3) non-profit established by Major League Baseball (MLB).

All-Star Scholarships are open to children adopted from U.S. foster care at the age of 12 years or older to provide increased opportunities for advanced education. Scholarship funding will provide for \$5,000 scholarships for a two-year institution –OR– \$10,000 scholarships for a four-year institution. To access the application visit: <http://umpscare.com/AllStarScholarship.html>

### 6. Foster Care to Success:

The Foster Care to Success administers a variety of scholarships and grants to help former foster youth and adopted youth achieve a meaningful post secondary education. Foster Care to Success also operates internship and mentoring programs; in addition to providing student care packages for young people who are eligible. Visit: <http://www.fc2success.org/> or email: [scholarships@fc2success.org](mailto:scholarships@fc2success.org)

### 7. States with College Tuition Waivers for Former Foster Youth:

The National Resource Center for Youth Development lists specific in-state college tuition waivers that pertain to former foster youth. Click the following link and search on the right hand side of the web page for "states with tuition waivers" for varying state eligibility and requirements. Visit: <http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu/state-pages/search>

### 8. General Scholarship Search Engines:

Search for scholarships through a variety of websites, just make sure they are free to use. Create a free account with search engines such as Fastweb or Scholarships.com to find grants based on individual criteria and characteristics. The "scholarship matches" will point you to opportunities that you may qualify for through a database of millions of scholarships. Visit: <http://www.fastweb.com/> or <http://www.scholarships.com/>

### Special Note - Understanding Loans:

Loans are not free money and are required to be paid back in full, sometimes with interest. There are typically two types of loans offered to students, subsidized and unsubsidized. Subsidized loans do not accrue interest while you are in school or during future deferment periods. While unsubsidized loans begin accruing interest from the time the loan is disbursed to the school. Students should never accept loans just because they are offered.

Before agreeing to accept a loan students should discuss the need to take out loans with a representative at a school's financial aid office or some other knowledgeable parent or supportive adult.



KVC BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTHCARE, INC.

21350 W. 153 Street  
Olathe, KS 66061  
913-322-4900  
1-888-655-5500  
www.KVC.org

KVC is accredited by The Joint Commission. KVC is a member of the Child Welfare League of America and a recipient of United Way funds.

B. WAYNE SIMS, PRESIDENT/CEO  
CHAD ANDERSON, PRESIDENT  
EDITOR: DENA GATES  
ADOPTION SPECIALIST

**For additional information or to request services, please contact KVC at: 1-888-655-5500 or by e-mail at: [adoptionspecialist@kvc.org](mailto:adoptionspecialist@kvc.org)**

Marco likes to cook, enjoys soccer, and is friendly and helpful to adults. He likes animals, especially panda bears. Marco has a great personality and enjoys talking to adults and peers as he can carry on a great conversation. When Marco trusts someone, he opens up easily. Marco says he is good at "video games, bowling, and reading". He would do best with a family who understands the importance of his Hispanic heritage. If you are interested in Marco, please call or email Dena Gates at 913-956-5331, [dgates@kvc.org](mailto:dgates@kvc.org).



Alexus is a friendly little girl who likes to talk! She gets along well with other children and adults and enjoys playing with her toys. Alexis needs assistance from caregivers in recognizing and managing her emotions. Alexis is anxious to find a Forever Family where she can "be happy". If you are interested in Alexis, please call or email Dena Gates at 913-956-5331, [dgates@kvc.org](mailto:dgates@kvc.org).

