

Nancy K. Keeling  
**Authorized Signature**

**Number:** CW\_IM\_08\_012  
**Issue Date:** 05/30/2008

**Topic:** Foster Care

**Subject:** Transition Plan and ILP Referral Forms

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |                                     |                               |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | All DHS employees             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | County Mental Health Directors  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Area Agencies on Aging        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Health Services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Seniors and People with Disabilities  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | County DD Program Managers    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify): Youth, Oregon Tribes, ILP contractors and other community partners. |

**Message:** The Foster Care Unit has determined it necessary to lower the maximum award amount for Chafee Education and Training Grant (ETG) Awards for academic year 2008-2009. The maximum an eligible student will be awarded is \$4,000 (\$1,333 per term). This is a reduction from academic year 2007-2008. The decision was made to allow DHS to continue to serve as many youth as possible with the funds available.

The impact of lowering the Chafee ETG maximum should be minimal. The Oregon Opportunity Grant will be providing more funding for low income students for the upcoming year than in past years. Foster youth are also eligible for the federal Pell Grant and the federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant. Other grants and scholarships available to foster youth are:

- Oregon Student Assistance Commission (<http://www.GetCollegeFunds.org>)  
(DREAM Scholarship, plus access to apply for over 370 other scholarships)
- Orphan Foundation of America (<http://www.orphan.org>)
- Casey Family Scholars Program (<http://www.orphan.org>)
- National Foster Parent Association Scholarships (<http://www.nfpainc.org>)

In addition to the above funding streams that do not require repayment, foster youth are also eligible for subsidized Stafford Loans. Foster youth planning to continue their postsecondary education or training have many options for financial assistance.

Following is the Eligibility criteria for the Chafee ETG:

Must be a current child welfare foster youth, or

As a former foster youth, must have at least 180 days of child welfare substitute care after the age of 14, or

Youth was at least age 16 when adopted from foster care.

Youth must access Chafee ETG funding prior to turning age 21. If a youth is accessing funds at age 21, youth may continue to receive assistance to age 23.

Youth can obtain a Chafee ETG application at [www.osac.state.or.us/ChafeeETV.html](http://www.osac.state.or.us/ChafeeETV.html).

Youth must reapply for funding each year.

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

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