

## **Pandemic Support for Foster Youth and Young Adults**

*Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act was enacted as Division X of P.L. 116-260, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.*

Since the passage of **Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act** enacted on December 27, 2020, and the March 9, 2021 release by the federal government of additional instructions and clarifications as provided by Program Instruction ACYF-CB-PI-21-04, DFPS has rolled out a wide range of Pandemic-related support to youth and young adults currently in or aged out of foster care.

The following support to youth and young adults is available during FY22:

- Funds for youth and young adults 14-20 (up until their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday) currently in care, or in extended foster care, available through our regional Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) staff: \$2,897,000 obligated for each FY2021 and 2022.
  - These funds are able to meet not only pandemic related needs, but also educational, vocational, and a variety of auxiliary personal and transitional needs for youth and young adults.
- Funds for young adults 18-20 (up until their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday) who aged out of care, and have left care, available through our Aftercare Case Managers: \$1,555,019.40 for each FY2021 and FY 2022.
  - These funds are able to meet not only pandemic related needs, but also educational, vocational, and a variety of auxiliary personal and transitional needs for youth and young adults.
- For young adults participating in the Educational Training Voucher program (ETV), caps on annual funding through the program are increased to \$12,000, and some non-Cost-of-Attendance fees are able to be met through September 30, 2022. These funds are available through BCFS, applications and information can be found at:  
<https://discoverbcfs.net/texasetv/>.

Links to contact:

[Regional Preparation For Adult Living \(PAL\) Coordinators](#)

[PAL Aftercare Case Management Services](#)