

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

POLICY GUIDE 2020.11

PROCEDURES 314, EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

DATE: September 8, 2020

TO: DCFS and POS Agency Staff

FROM: Marc D. Smith, Acting Director

SUBJECT: Youth in College/Vocational Training and Education and Training Voucher Programs

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy Guide is to notify staff of changes in eligibility for the Youth in College/Vocational Training (YIC) and Education and Training Voucher (ETV) programs and of corresponding updates to the CFS 449 (YIC) and CFS 449-3 (ETV) applications, pursuant to the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA).

II. PRIMARY USERS

Primary users of this Policy Guide are youth in DCFS care, or formerly in DCFS care, who meet program eligibility and who are applying for post-secondary education assistance; and Department and Purchase of Service Permanency Workers, TLP, ILO, and Residential Staff who work with these youth.

III. BACKGROUND

On February 9, 2018, the Congress enacted Public Law 115-123, the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) within Division E, Title VII of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. This law made changes to requirements and definitions in programs authorized by title IV-B, subparts 1 and 2 of the Act. FFPSA also renamed the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) as the “Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood” and made changes both to the base Chafee program and to the Chafee Educational and Training Voucher program.

IV. INSTRUCTIONS

The updated versions of the CFS 449 and CFS 449-3 are available on the DCFS website at https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/aboutus/notices/Pages/com_communications_forms.aspx and in DCFS Templates on the DCFS T: drive.



V. SUMMARY

The changes expand the ages of eligibility for both the ETV and YIC programs and will increase the number of youth who will be served under these programs. The CFS 449 Youth in College/Vocational Training Program Application and the CFS 449-3 Application for Education and Training Voucher Funds have been updated. The new forms issued by this Policy Guide implement changes required by the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) and improve the readability and usability of the forms. Specific changes include that young adults up to age 26 are eligible for ETVs through the newly titled John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (formerly the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program). Changes to Department procedure implement changes pursuant to section (section 477(i)(3) of FFPSA which expand the ages of eligibility for the ETV to 26, with a 5 year participation maximum; (section 477(b)(3) delete the requirement to complete Consent for Release Information form, add the requirement to notify students that enrollment in college or vocational training will be confirmed via the National Student Clearinghouse and increase the monthly YIC board rate. Modifications to CFS 449 and CFS 449-3 and reflect these changes. Updates to Procedure 314.75 are in process.

VI. QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this Policy Guide may be directed to the Office of Education and Transition Services ETV Mailbox at DCFS.ETVCoordinator@illinois.gov.

VII. FILING INSTRUCTIONS

File this Policy Guide immediately behind Procedures 314.75.