



COLLEGE TUITION EXEMPTION & FEDERAL PELL GRANTS

Who is Eligible for Tuition Waivers?

- Children adopted from state care after May 5, 1997
- Children in foster care or Independent Living eligible for the “Road to Independence Program”
- Children turning 18 in the custody of a relative, through the state, who receives relative caregiver assistance

** Children in each of the above categories must have been adjudicated dependent in the state of Florida*

** Children must enroll in a Florida state university, community college, or technical school*

What are the Requirements for Tuition Waivers?

- Must be in college full time
- Must maintain at GPA of at least 2.0
- Must be used within 4 years of graduation or GED completion

** Full time attendance is waived if there is a documented disability that would prohibit full time attendance*

How do I apply for Pell Grants?

- You must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- The application will be processed to determine the amount of assistance you are eligible to receive
- Can also be filed electronically at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>
- Federal Student Aid Information Center 1-800-433-3243
- Children in foster care can contact Independent Living Services (ILS) program for assistance
- Pell Grants can also be used at private schools

When do I apply?

- Apply as early as possible after January 1
- Schools have different due dates. Contact your school to determine the deadline

How much will I receive?

- The range is between \$400 - \$4050
- The school will notify you in writing how much your Pell Grant will be
- The amount received depends on:
 - cost of attendance
 - full time or part time student
 - whether you attend school for a full academic year or less
 - amount of Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

**Children turning 18 in foster care identify themselves as “ward of the state” on their application and do not need to complete the EFC information.*

**Children in foster care should contact ILS for information on educational and training vouchers available*

How will I get paid?

- Credited to your school account
- Paid to you directly (usually by check)
- Or a combination of both