

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program

The Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program is designed to assist students who have experienced foster care with financial supports for educational and living expenses while attending a post-secondary educational institution

ETV Eligibility Requirements

Student must have been in foster care for at least 6 months (whether or not the months are consecutive) with at least one day of that 6 months coming on or after the student's 14th birthday

If a student entered kinship guardianship or was adopted after attaining the age of 16, they must have been in foster care for at least 6 months (whether or not the months are consecutive) with at least one day of that 6 months coming on or after the student's 14th birthday

If a student was reunified with one or more of their biological parents after attaining age 16, they must have been in foster care for at least 6 months (whether or not the months are consecutive) with at least one day of that 6 months coming on or after the student's 14th birthday



Additional Criteria

- Student must attend an **accredited** college or tech school
- Student is limited to a maximum of 5 years of ETV support
 - * One "Year" is utilized when a student spends ETV dollars between July 1st and June 30th of the following year
- Student must be under the age of 26
- ETV funds are 'last dollar' funds, meaning all other sources of financial aid are applied first and ETV funds can be used to meet unmet need
- Student must be enrolled in school on the date they attain age 21 and continue to make satisfactory progress toward their degree to receive support at and beyond the age of 21

Students must attend educationally accredited institutions in order to receive ETV. To check school accreditations, visit:

<https://www.ed.gov/accreditation> or <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program

Eligible students can receive...

\$5,000 per year

These are funds typically paid directly to an accredited school or institution on a student's behalf

Notable eligibility criteria...

- ⇒ Must be ILP eligible ^A
- ⇒ Must be under age 26
- ⇒ 5 Year maximum limit for support ^B
- ⇒ Must meet GPA requirements

Additional Support

\$300 per month ^C

Student's living on campus or in a DFCS paid placement

OR

\$600 per month ^C

Student's living off campus in a non-paid placement

These are funds paid directly to a student through a pre-paid debit card

Must be under age 23 to receive stipend

NOTES:

A...As part of Georgia's Division of Family and Children Services, the **Independent Living Program** serves to support eligible students in their transition from students into adulthood

B...A year is used when any ETV dollars are spent between July 1st and the following June 30th

C...A student must be enrolled full-time in an accredited school or educational institution to receive benefits for that month

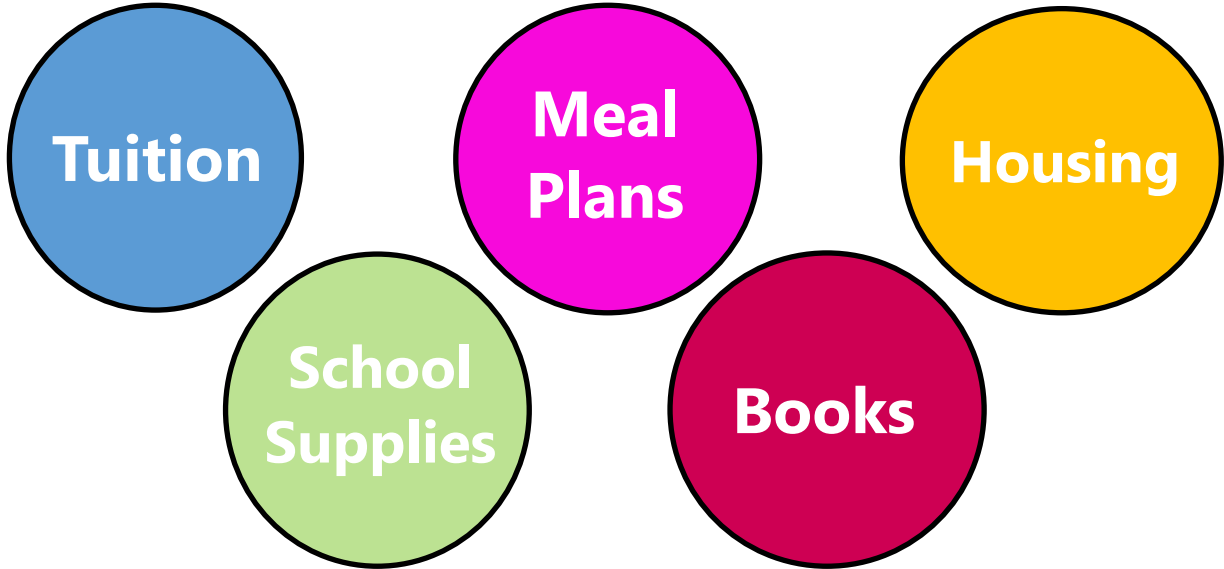
Students should connect with their Independent Living Specialist for access and information...



www.garyse-ilp.org

What ETV Pays For

The Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program helps pay for Cost of Attendance which often includes:



ETV Expenses are paid to...

Institutions (Schools)

Tuition, housing and meal plans on campus, books, supplies, tools, and equipment related to current coursework, (after aid is applied, e.g., Pell and HOPE Scholarships)

ETV will work with an ILS to pay these expenses directly to the school

The student will be responsible for providing applicable

Students

Payments that cannot be paid directly to the school but are considered cost of attendance can potentially be paid by the student and then reimbursed

ETV will work with an ILS to pay these expenses directly to the student through a check or direct deposit

The student will be responsible for providing applicable receipts, information and pa-

Getting Approval

The student MUST communicate and coordinate with their Independent Living Specialist consistently to determine what expenses are covered.

Students will also have to work closely with their financial aid and/or student accounts office at their school to make sure the school has everything they need to authorize payments correctly and make sure schedules/classes

Pandemic Response 2021-22

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, enacted into law on December 27, 2020, includes additional, supplemental or enhanced funding.

In response to the allowable exceptions and additional provisions made, GARYSE has made the following allowances for existing and prospective ETV students:

As it relates to Cost of Attendance (COA):

- Temporary increase in funds to an amount not to exceed \$9,000 per academic year until June 30, 2022.
- Funds may be utilized to support outstanding balances incurred after January 27, 2020.
- After the student's COA has been covered, some additional expenses may be covered, including:

Laptops or other tech for virtual education

Earbuds, earphones

Supplies, i.e. printer paper, ink, etc.

Tools for internet access

Desk, chair, items for a learning space

As it relates to monthly stipends:

- Temporary extension of eligibility for stipends through age 26.

Getting and Keeping ETV

In order to access ETV support, eligible students must...

1) Connect with their ILS



2) Be accepted into college or technical school

ILS: Independent Living Specialist;
view page 20 or go to:

<http://www.garyse-ilp.org/>

3) Graduate high school or get their GED

Once students begin receiving ETV support, they must...

An application allows students to share their goals and plans and changes (ex. transfer schools)

Complete Application

Schedules help confirm enrollment, grades and plan for ETV spending each semester

Submit Class Schedules

Communicate with their ILS

Submit Grades

Submit Invoices

Some schools will work directly with an ILS to submit invoices and some will require students to submit those to their ILS

Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher to continue receiving ETV. They must provide that grade report at the end of each semester

Developing strong, positive relationships with an Independent Living Specialist is the most important component to a student receiving ETV support consistently and timely

Georgia Independent Living Specialists (ILS)

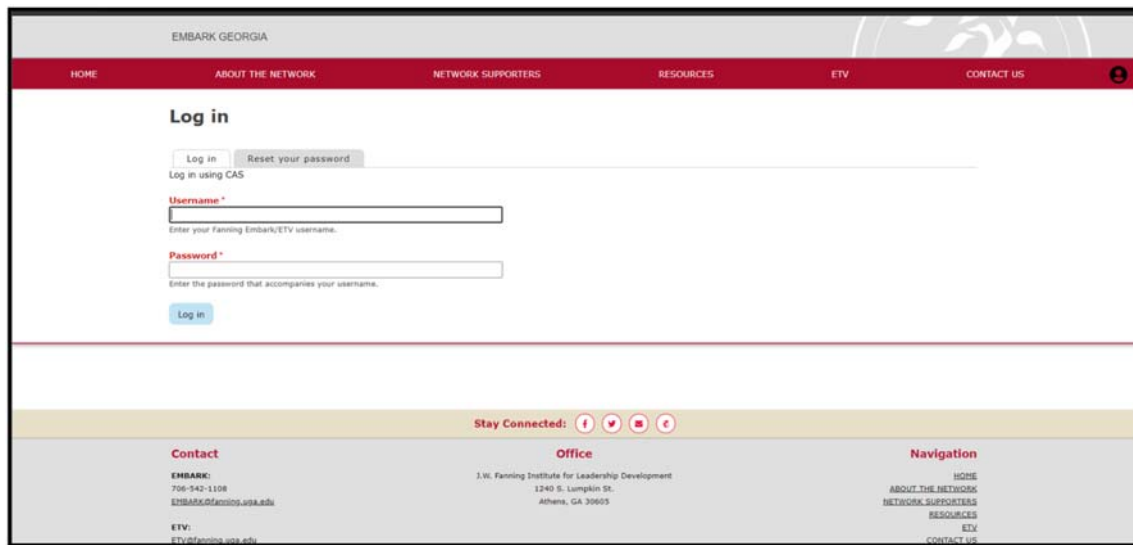
Region	Independent Living Specialist	Counties Served		
Region 1	Jershaun Roberts <i>Jershaun.Roberts@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Dade, Fannin, Gilmer, Gordon, Murray, Pickens, Walker, Whitfield		
Region 2	Fallecia Gee <i>Fallecia.Gee@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White		
Region 3	Shakeria Jones <i>Shakeria.Jones1@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Bartow, Douglas, Floyd, Haralson, Paulding, Polk		
Region 4	Gerrica Morton <i>Gerrica.Morton@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup, Upson		
Region 5	Jo R. Thomas <i>Jo.Thomas@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton		
Region 6	Latrice Bakon <i>Latrice.Bakon@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs, Wilkinson		
Region 7	Larissa Thompson <i>Larissa.Thompson@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington, Wilkes		
Region 8	Angela Davis <i>Angela.Davis2@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Webster		
Region 9	Wynecoka Thompson <i>Wynecoka.Thompson@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Appling, Bleckley, Candler, Dodge, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wayne, Wheeler, Wilcox		
Region 10	Caitlin Giles <i>Caitlin.Redmon@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Worth		
Region 11	Caitlin Giles <i>Caitlin.Redmon@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brantley, Brooks, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Pierce, Tift, Turner, Ware		
Region 12	Latrice Bakon <i>Latrice.Bakon@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh		
Region 13	Shante Campbell <i>Shante.Campbell@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Clayton, Henry, Rockdale		
	Simone Adderly <i>Simone.Adderly@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Cobb	Hannah Harris <i>Hannah.Harris@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Gwinnett
Region 14	Contesia Hoover <i>Contesia.Hoover@dhs.ga.gov</i>	Fulton		
	Barrett Askew <i>Barrett.Askew@dhs.ga.gov</i>	DeKalb	Kathleen Edwards <i>Kathleen.Edwards@dhs.ga.gov</i>	DeKalb

Accessing ETV Funding

Students will utilize the ETV Website to keep track and upload information as needed

<https://etv.embarkgeorgia.org/>

NOTICE: Login/Account credentials are only available by connecting with an ILS



The screenshot shows the login page for the ETV website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT THE NETWORK, NETWORK SUPPORTERS, RESOURCES, ETV, and CONTACT US. Below the navigation bar is a "Log in" section with a "Log in" button and a "Reset your password" link. There is a "Log in using CAS" link. The main login area contains a "Username*" field with the instruction "Enter your Fanning Embark/ETV username." and a "Password*" field with the instruction "Enter the password that accompanies your username." Below the password field is a "Log in" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a "Stay Connected" section with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn. The footer contains contact information for EMBARK (706-942-1108, EMBARK@fanning.org.edu) and ETV (ETV@fanning.org.edu), office information for J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership Development (1240 S. Lumpkin St., Athens, GA 30605), and a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT THE NETWORK, NETWORK SUPPORTERS, RESOURCES, ETV, and CONTACT US.

Students are expected to use the site to...

- Track ETV yearly spending progress
- Complete annual application
- Upload schedules and grade reports
- Upload Invoices

