

## ADOPTION ASSISTANCE CONNECTIONS TO AGE TWENTY-ONE (AAC) POST ADOPTION ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

*A list of post adoption resources for adopted young adults to assist in transition to adulthood. This list includes assistance programs other than AAC to Age Twenty-One for which the adopted young adult MAY qualify, in areas of post-secondary education, mental health care, and ongoing support.*

### POST SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

#### ***Ohio Education and Training Voucher Program (ETV)***

Youth who are adopted from the foster care system at age 16 or older may be able to access Education and Training Voucher (ETV) assistance, which provides up to \$5,000 per year for youth who are in college or at an accredited vocational or technical training program. This program is administered at the state level using federal funds.

- To Apply: <http://www.fc2sprograms.org/ohio/>
- ETV Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.fc2sprograms.org/faqs/>

#### ***Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)***

Since July 2009, children who were adopted from foster care at age 13 or older are considered on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be an “independent student”, which means they do not have to count family income and are more likely to qualify for financial aid. Adoption subsidies do not count as income on the FAFSA.

- To Apply: <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

#### ***Federal Pell Grant***

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain post baccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Students may use their grants at any one of approximately 5,400 participating postsecondary institutions. Grant amounts are dependent on: the student's expected family contribution (EFC); the cost of attendance (as determined by the institution); the student's enrollment status (full-time or part-time); and whether the student attends for a full academic year or less. The Pell Grant is not a loan, and therefore does not need to be re-paid.

- *Applicants must fill out FAFSA form* (<https://fafsa.ed.gov/>) and meet certain requirements to qualify for a Pell Grant.
- For Additional Information: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html>

#### ***Foster Care to Success Scholarship***

The Foster Care to Success Scholarship may award \$2,500 - \$5,000 (based on need and merit) toward an undergraduate degree for a child who was adopted from foster care at age 16 or older, and has been accepted or expects to be accepted into an accredited Pell-eligible college or other postsecondary school. This scholarship may be renewable for up to five years.

- To Apply: <http://www.fc2success.org/our-programs/information-for-students/>

## MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE

### **Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services**

This resource provides a list of Ohio mental health counseling services by county.

- Provider Search: <http://mha.ohio.gov/Treatment/Where-to-Get-Help/Mental-Health-Provider-Search>

### **Ohio Post Adoption Special Services Subsidy (PASSS)**

Ohio offers a program known as Post Adoption Special Services Subsidy (PASSS). The adopted child must have a physical, developmental, mental or emotional condition considered a special need AND for adopted young adults age 18 up to 21, must be considered mentally or physically disabled.

PASSS is intended to pay for services not covered by other adoption subsidy programs, private insurance, or Medicaid. PASSS funds may be used to cover medical or psychological services deemed necessary to meet the needs of the child. Funding is only available when the assistance sought exceeds the adoptive family's private resources. Applications for assistance can be approved in whole or in part, and are based on the needs of the child, the circumstances of the adoptive family, and availability of state funds. PASSS applications must be submitted to the PCSA in the county where you live.

- Additional Program & Eligibility Information to Determine if You May Qualify Can be Accessed at: <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/num/JFS%2001985/pdf/>
- To Access Forms for Application: <http://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/>
- Search for: JFS 01050 Application and JFS 01050-I Instructions for Application

### **Psychology Today**

This resource provides a list of licensed counselors, therapists, or therapy centers, that identify a specialty in work regarding adoption. You can search via Ohio city or county.

- Individual Provider Search: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/adoption/ohio>
- Adoption Treatment Center Search: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/treatment-rehab/adoption/ohio>

## SUPPORT GROUPS

### **North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)**

This resource provides a list of Adoption Support Groups by state.

- Support Group Search: <https://www.nacac.org/connect/parent-group/region/Ohio/>

### **Adoptive Families Circle**

This resource provides a list of Adoption Support Groups by state.

- Support Group Search: [http://www.adoptivefamiliescircle.com/groups/index/all\\_groups/](http://www.adoptivefamiliescircle.com/groups/index/all_groups/)

*Disclaimer: This resource information is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement for any program or individual, nor intended to substitute as, or for, legal advice. It is a non-exhaustive list of potential resources for post adoption young adults age 18 to 21.*