

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

September 19, 2011

M E M O R A N D U M

What's Inside:

Introduction of Tuition Waiver and Fee Program, "Missouri Reach"

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: CANDACE A. SHIVELY, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: "MISSOURI REACH" TUITION WAIVERS AND FEE PROGRAM

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memo is to introduce procedures for youth who are eligible for tuition fee waivers.

During the 2009 legislative session, the general assembly placed tuition and fee waivers into statute for certain foster care students per [173.270, RSMo.](#) In the 2010 and 2011 legislative sessions, appropriations were provided to support the legislation. This legislation and its provisions were introduced in [CD09-82.](#) Effective with this memo, tuition waivers and fees will be available to eligible youth on a tiered priority basis. Implementation of this program is in partnership with the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE). Initial funding will be for the fall semester.

Priority will be given to:

- Those youth not otherwise eligible for Educational Training Vouchers (ETV).
- Students adopted from Children's Division after the age of 14.
- Those youth who have at least 60 hours of college credit.

Foster Care to Success, formerly the Orphan Foundation of America, our ETV service provider, will provide administrative services for the tuition waiver program. The program is entitled "Missouri Reach". In order to apply, youth must go to www.statevoucher.org and complete the online application. Older Youth Transition Specialists will verify eligibility once application is made. The Missouri Department of Higher Education will approve applications based on the priority criteria. Youth eligible and accepted will be notified as funding is available on behalf of MDHE.

Foster Care to Success will process the applications once accepted by reviewing the applicants' transcripts to determine academic standing, confirming the applicants' tuition

and fees with the college or university, and working with students to develop a community service action plan that will be verifiable and outcome based.

Youth who meet the eligibility criteria are encouraged to make application. MDHE will establish the types of community service and public internships that youth may participate in to meet this requirement. Institutions of Higher Education the youth attends will monitor compliance and report it to MDHE. Once a youth is approved for the tuition waiver, continued participation in the program will be determined by academic standing, community service participation, and funding of the program.

NECESSARY ACTION	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff. 2. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to: 	
PDS CONTACT Sally A. Gaines 573-522-6279 Sally.A.Gaines@dss.mo.gov	PROGRAM MANAGER Dena D. Driver 573-751-3171 Dena.Driver@dss.mo.gov
CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS	
N/A	
FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS	
N/A	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES	
https://www.statevoucher.org/	
RELATED STATUTE	
H.B. 481, Chapter 173, Department of Higher Education, Section 173.270	
ADMINISTRATIVE RULE	
N/A	
COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS	
PA-FC9	
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)	
On-site Review Tool, Item 10, Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	
PROTECTIVE FACTORS (Link applicable factors and enter N/A if not applicable.)	
Parental Resilience: N/A	
Social Connections: N/A	
Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development: N/A	
Concrete Support in Times of Need:	
http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/info/cwmanual/philbase.pdf	
Social and Emotional Competence of Children: N/A	

FACES REQUIREMENTS

N/A