The Chafee Independent Living
Program provides foster care
youth a variety of resources.
One benefit is access to
necessary financial assistance.

Education & Training Vouchers,
Room and Board Flex Funds,
and General Flex Funds
are available to help Chafee
participants begin the journey
toward living independently.



# **Distributed By:**

This brochure was created by the ND Department of Human Services specifically for current and former foster care youth eligible to participate in the North Dakota Chafee Independent Living Program.

# If you have further questions, please contact:

Children and Family Services Division Independent Living Administrator 701-328-4934 www.nd.gov/ndyouth



# Chafee Independent Living Financial Resources



A guide for eligible foster care youth to access flex funding and the education and training voucher.

# General Flex Funds

# What are General Flex Funds?

Money used to provide non-housing related goods or services on behalf of a youth participant.

### **Examples:**

- Employment uniform
- Drivers education class
- Necessary auto repairs

# Who is Eligible?

- Foster care youth ages 16 to 21
- Youth participating in the Chafee Independent Living Program
- Youth who have a current Independent Living Plan

# How Much?

Up to \$250 per youth each year



# Education and Training Voucher



# What is an ETV?

Monetary support to meet the education and training needs of foster care youth.

# Who Is Eligible?

- Youth who have aged out of foster care,
- Youth who remain in care past age 18,
- Youth who have not reached age 21,
- Youth who were adopted from foster care or entered kinship guardianship after age 16 and who are not yet age 21,
- Youth who participate in this program on their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday remain eligible until they turn 23, as long as they are enrolled and making progress toward completing a postsecondary program,
- Preference will be given to youth in care for twelve months or greater.

Up to \$5,000 per year \$20,000 lifetime maximum

# Room and Board Flex Funds

# What are Room and Board Flex Funds?

Money used to assist youth with rent, deposits, and utilities. These funds are intended to help youth get moved into a permanent home and not to prolong dependency.

# Who is Eligible?

- Youth who have aged out of foster care
- Youth ages 18 to 21
- Youth participating in the Chafee Independent Living Program
- Youth who have a current Independent Living Plan

# How Much?

Up to \$1000 lifetime maximum.

