**Chafee Education & Training Voucher Program**

**Program Services Description:** For details regarding Oregon’s Chafee Education and Training Grant (ETG) program and eligibility criteria, please see the DHS Procedure Manual, Chapter 4, Sections 29 at the website listed below. No significant changes in program services or eligibility are anticipated.

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/caf/safety_model/procedure_manual/index.html

Oregon will continue to provide Chafee ETG services for eligible foster youth. Former foster youth may be able to receive services between the ages of 16 to 20; or up to age 23 if enrolled and accessing Chafee ETG services on their 21st birthday. Services are available statewide. Oregon anticipates serving 325 youth through the Chafee Education and Training Grant (ETG) program during the 2011 – 2012 academic year.

A summary of accomplishments, progress made, as well as goals placed on hold are listed below. There have been a few revisions to the Chafee ETG Goals. The changes are listed in the Program Support Summary section. You will note the text being replaced is listed as strikethrough, and new text is listed in *italics*. The Post-Secondary Services workgroup recommended the changes to determine a baseline, from which the Department can determine if progress has been made.

- **Collaboration Summary:** DHS will continue to take advantage of the ILP State Advisory Committee members to help research, build collaborations, and implement strategies to accomplish the Chafee Goals set forth in the Five Year Plan. DHS’ partnership with the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) will also continue. Additional Chafee ETG collaborations are listed within the detailed goals listed below.

- **Program Support Summary:** Statewide ETG related trainings conducted over the past year included: Youth Transitions, Transition Planning/ILP NetLink, and ASPIRE Fall Conference. The ASPIRE
Foster Youth regional training continued during FFY2010. Details of specific training will be found in pertinent goal areas below.

The ILP Coordinator does not anticipate requesting technical assistance related to the Chafee ETG from the National Resource Centers.

- **Specific accomplishments achieved in FFY 2011 and planned activities for FFY 2012:**

  o **Chafee ETG Summary:** Reference the challenges listed in the CFCIP Summary section. The status of Oregon’s Chafee ETG goals are listed below; indicating whether the goals were achieved, forward progress made, or if goals have been placed on hold. Some goals have changed slightly and those changes are reflected below. Complete details of accomplishments, progress, and plans for next year are listed in the Chafee ETG Accomplishments and Planned Activities section of the report.

  - **Goal:** Increase Access national data base information regarding foster youth post-secondary education and training access, retention and completion rates. PROGRESS, completion date set for July 2012.
  - **Goal:** Increase Determine awareness and knowledge of post-secondary staffs regarding the barriers and needs facing foster youth. PROGRESS, completion date set for September 2012.
  - **Goal:** Conduct outreach to increase public awareness regarding the need for additional financial support for foster youth’s post-secondary education and training costs. PROGRESS, completion date September 2012.
  - **Goal:** Catalog individual campus processes and procedures for financial aid and other supportive services to minimize access delays for foster youth. PLACED ON HOLD, completion date revised to 2014.
  - **Goal:** Create programs on campus that allow a structure for older foster care alumni a place to meet to obtain up-to-date information on services and supportive programs available, and to become mentors for new alumni on campus.
PROGRESS, completion date revised, set for September 2013.

- **Goal:** Establish *Find resources to fund* an ETV Resource staff and/or primary contact for information and referral. PLACED ON HOLD, indefinitely.

- **Chafee ETG Accomplishments and Planned Activities:** This section of the State’s Annual Progress Report will detail the progress achieved on the goals set forth for Oregon’s Chafee ETG as outlined in the Five Year Plan. Details are listed below and Chafee ETG Attachment A contains the statistics of youth served over the past three academic years. The ILP State Advisory Committee’s Post-Secondary Education workgroup’s Goals & Objectives sheet contains additional details (see Chafee ETG Attachment B).

- **Goal:** Access national data base information regarding foster youth post-secondary education and training retention and completion rates.

ACHIEVED: As indicated by the chart below, this goal has been achieved. Oregon has continued to increase access to post-secondary education and training since the Chafee ETG was first implemented in 2003. It appears that completion rates are also on the rise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals*</th>
<th>07/08</th>
<th>08/09</th>
<th>09/10</th>
<th>% Change from prior year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post-secondary ed. &amp; training</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>+61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-secondary degree/certificate</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>+325%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtained own housing</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>-6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living without agency maintenance</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>-34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Statistics from ILP Providers Annual Report (Chafee Attachment C).
The above table and chart indicate a brief downturn in retention rates during academic year 07-08. However, it is unclear at this time why youth did not return; did they drop out or did they complete their education and obtain a degree or certificate?

PLANNED: DHS is working with the OSAC to obtain data on Chafee ETG students to determine how many have obtained a degree or certificate. This will help distinguish and clarify the retention rates. The Post-Secondary Education workgroup will continue its work to achieve the goals set forth for Oregon’s Chafee ETG. The revised completion date for this goal is July 2012.

- **Goal**: Determine awareness and knowledge of post-secondary staffs regarding the barriers and needs facing foster youth.

ACHIEVED: The Post-Secondary Services workgroup is currently working on this goal. The workgroup includes post-secondary staff, ILP Providers, retired DHS caseworkers, and youth.

PLANNED: The workgroup is crafting a survey that will be distributed to the community colleges, universities and vocational
training institutes to assess the level of awareness and knowledge regarding barriers and needs facing foster youth. Once a baseline is determined, plans and activities will be implemented to increase the awareness and knowledge of post-secondary staffs. Projected completion date set for September 2012.

- **Goal**: Conduct outreach to increase public awareness regarding the need for additional financial support for foster youth’s postsecondary education and training costs.

ACHIEVED: Some progress has been made toward achieving this goal. Portland Community College (Rock Creek campus) hosted a one day summit to raise awareness of foster youth needs. Plans are to make the summit an annual event and to eventually have a statewide representation.

HB3471 also raised awareness of the barriers and needs facing foster youth attempting to access post secondary education. The Oregon Foster Youth Connection (OFYC) and Children First For Oregon (CFFO) have provided a face and voice to the issues.

PLANNED: If House Bill 3471A passes, that will be a major accomplishment and catalyst for fully achieving this goal. How Oregon proceeds will depend on the outcome of HB3471A. Additional details of planned activities by the Post-secondary Education workgroup are listed in Chafee ETG Attachment B. The completion date has been revised to September 2012.

- **Goal**: Catalog individual campus processes and procedures for financial aid and other supportive services to minimize access delays for foster youth.

ACHIEVED: There has been no progress on this goal due to workload and time constraints of the ILP-ETG Fiscal Assistant, ILP Coordinator and Youth Transition Specialist.

PLANNED: This goal has been placed on hold until after the OR-Kids System is implemented and ILP Program Reviews have been
completed. The projected completion date has been postponed to September 2014.

- **Goal**: Create a structure foster care alumni to become mentors for new alumni on campus.

**ACHIEVED**: Progress has been made on this goal.
- Jamie Hinsz, a foster care alumni and graduating senior at the University of Oregon, has partnered with the University’s Pathways Program (mentoring program for low-income students). Plans are to create foster youth specific services.
- Portland Community College and the Inn-Home ILP Contractor received a grant to implement foster youth support services.

**PLANNED**: This is an area the Post-Secondary Services workgroup is currently researching. The completion date has been revised to September 2013.

- **Goal**: Establish an ETV Resource staff and/or primary contact for information and referral.

**ACHIEVED**: No progress has been made on this goal.

**PLANNED**: Due to budget impact, this goal has been placed on hold. At this time there are no plans to move forward with this goal.

- **Technical Assistance the State anticipates needing to meet the goals set forth in the five year plan:**
  - Broadening the scope of outreach methods to current and former foster youth, including improving the effectiveness of existing approaches (e-mail, FaceBook, text) may be warranted. DHS will determine needs and submit a request for technical assistance.
  - May be necessary to accomplish the goal to Increase hands-on, experiential life skills activities. The National Resource Center for Youth Development may be able to assist with research and creation of curricula to assist ILP Contractors and foster parents to provide experiential activities.