



What is Needed?

Repeatedly, foster care alumni have told us what they need:

- A campus champion—someone on each college campus in Texas that knows the resources specific to former foster youth.
- Help walking through registration, paperwork, and fees.
- Housing, including plans for “break housing” in between semesters and holidays.
- Supportive relationships—family, friends, mentors, other foster care alumni—especially adults who are connected to the community and can help look for additional resources.

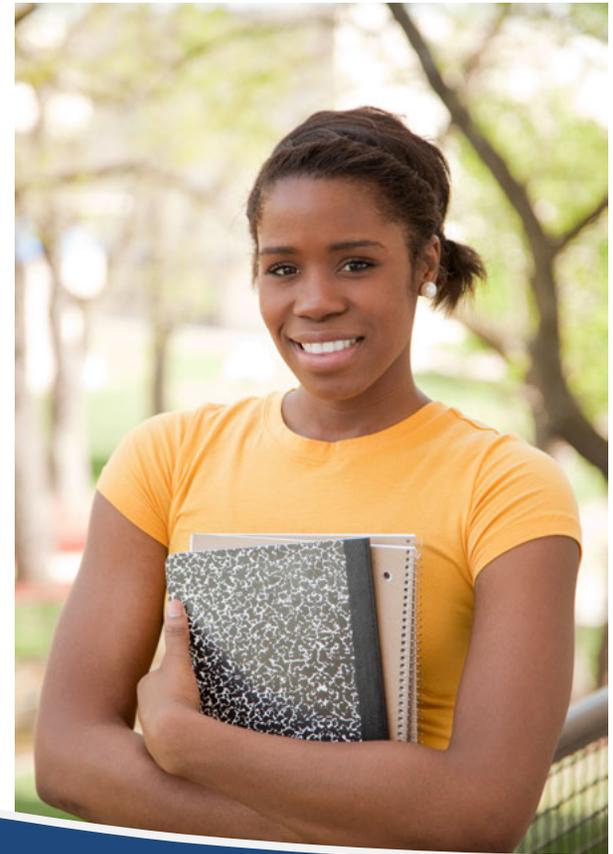
Learn More

Each year, **Education Reach for Texans** organizes an annual convening bringing together higher education and child welfare professionals from across Texas to learn and share new ideas for helping foster care alumni succeed in post-secondary education.

Education Reach for Texans 6th Annual Convening

Hosted by

Dallas County Community College District
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What is Education Reach for Texans?

Education Reach for Texans (ER4T) seeks to eliminate barriers to success and help build support programs for foster care alumni who attend Texas public colleges and universities. ER4T is one of a growing group of organizations across the nation seeking to improve the success of former foster youth in post-secondary education.

The Problem

Foster care alumni represent one of the most educationally vulnerable and at-risk populations in the U.S. Many without a high school diploma or GED when they age out of care.

These young adults often do not receive sufficient assistance before, during, or after transitioning from care to adulthood, which can hinder their ability to adequately plan for post-secondary training and education. Research tells us that campus-based supports can make all the difference in foster care alumni being able to succeed in and graduate from college.

Facts to Know

- Less than half (49%) of foster youth complete high school or receive a GED.
- Only a small percent (7-13%) of foster care alumni enroll in college or other higher education programs.
- 35% of foster care alumni who attend community college report that they plan to earn an Associate's degree. Of those, less than 10% actually do.
- Foster care alumni participating in campus support programs remain in college longer and at higher rates than other students.

