

Name of LINKS Fund	Scholarship/Conference (\$500 maximum)	Trust Fund (\$500 maximum)	Funds for Extremely High Risk Youth (\$1500 maximum)	Transitional Housing Funds (\$1500 maximum)
Eligibility Requirements	<p><u>Scholarship</u> Must have completed high school or GED, or be using funds to pay fees to obtain high school diploma or GED.</p> <p><u>Conferences</u> Participation in state or national conferences for adolescents in foster care</p>	17 or older; must have been discharged from agency custody or be due to be discharged within 3 months. Youth on VPA with DSS are eligible for these funds.	Youth 13-21 is at exceptional risk due to current status (incarcerated, homeless, using drugs/alcohol, involved with gangs, etc.) or life circumstances <u>and</u> funds are likely to help reduce risk while increasing chances of youth achieving self-sufficiency.	Only available to adults 18 to 21 who were in foster care on their 18 <sup>th</sup> birthday.
Allowable Expenditures	<p><u>Scholarships:</u> Non housing expenses directly related to participation in a course of academic or vocational training.</p> <p><u>Conferences:</u> Expenses for youth and young adults to attend national or state conferences including transportation, food, lodging, registration. Does not include expenses for youth advisors or chaperones.</p>	Non-housing expenses only. May be used for any expense that is directly related to the barriers to youth achieving self-sufficiency. Can be used for purchase of services, worker time, incentives for follow-up, costs for participation in skills training. May be used for utility deposits	Non-housing expenses. Intended for critical, short-term needs that have been unmet because of the youth's or young adult's circumstances. May include expenses incurred to locate safe, appropriate housing, treatment services, mentors, contact with family and other kin, mediation, advocacy, etc. May be used for cost of utilities or utility deposits.	Housing expenses only: rent, rent deposits, boarding arrangements. Not to be used to prolong unnecessary dependency, but to help the young adult transition to full responsibility for expenses.
Procedures	Pre-registration and certification through LINKS Coordinator; reimbursement of county	Pre-registration and certification through LINKS coordinator; reimbursement of county.	Pre-registration and certification through LINKS coordinator; reimbursement of county.	Pre-registration and certification through LINKS coordinator; reimbursement of county.