



General Assembly  
January Session, 2025

**Substitute Bill No. 6182**



**AN ACT EXTENDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE  
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION EXPENSES OF FOSTER YOUTH.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Department" means the Department of Children and Families;
- 3 (2) "Postsecondary education program" means any program that  
4 leads to an academic degree or certification in a vocation or employment  
5 training; and
- 6 (3) "Postsecondary education funding program" means the program  
7 set forth in department policy 28-1 under which it funds the  
8 postsecondary education of a youth who is committed to the  
9 department, remains committed at the age of eighteen and meets the  
10 requirements established by the department in its policies and  
11 regulations.
- 12 (b) The Commissioner of Children and Families shall amend the  
13 department policies and regulations regarding the postsecondary  
14 education funding program to (1) increase the age until which a youth  
15 can qualify for funding from the department under the postsecondary  
16 education funding program from twenty-one to twenty-six years of age,  
17 (2) increase the age until which a youth who is enrolled in a  
18 postsecondary education program and continues to meet the

19 requirements established by the department is eligible for funding to  
20 complete such postsecondary education program under the  
21 postsecondary education funding program from twenty-three to  
22 twenty-eight years of age, and (3) require any youth who is eligible for  
23 funding under the postsecondary education funding program to  
24 complete for each year such youth is enrolled in a postsecondary  
25 education program, as a condition to receiving such funding, the Free  
26 Application for Federal Student Aid and applications for any  
27 appropriate scholarships and grants, including, but not limited to,  
28 through any scholarship application portal administered by the  
29 provider of such postsecondary education program. Nothing in this  
30 section shall be construed to require the department to continue  
31 providing case management services for any youth who begins  
32 receiving funding under the postsecondary education funding program  
33 when such youth is older than twenty-one years of age.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section
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***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

The effective date was changed to 2025 for accuracy.

***KID***

***Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO C/R***

***APP***