



Independent Living Program / Self-Sufficiency Services Annual Report

SFY 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

The Independent Living (IL) program assists youth transitioning from foster care into adulthood, which can include self-advocacy, accessing community resources and supports, daily living skills, and efficiently managing financial resources. Kansas Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) provides for an array of services and supports to youth who are likely to "age out" of the foster care system. Kansas CFCIP services includes Basic Chafee, Subsidy, Start-Up Costs, Vehicle Repair and Maintenance, Transportation Costs, Education and Training Voucher (ETV), and Kansas Foster Child Educational Assistance Act, and Aged Out Medical.

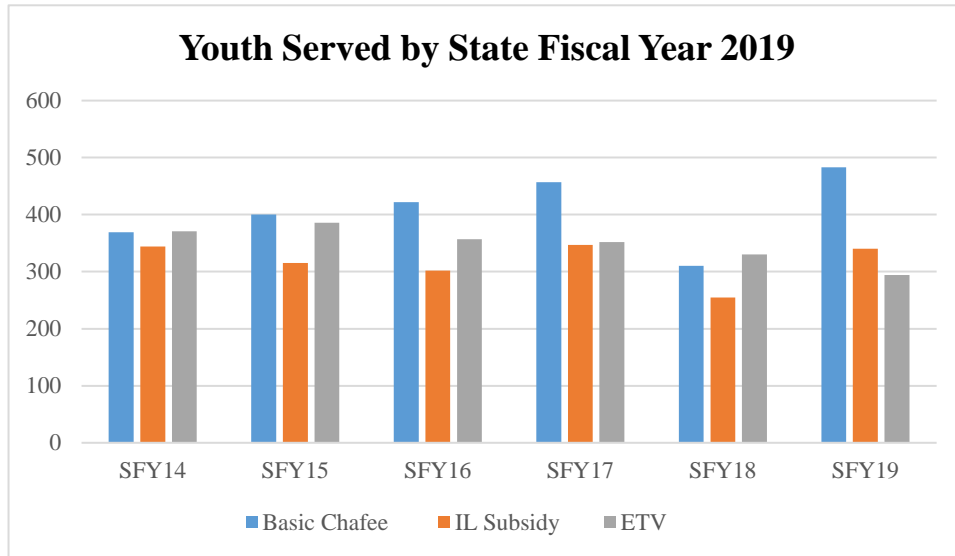
- ❖ Basic Chafee funds are used to help youth with education, employment, financial management, housing and emotional support. Youth must meet Chafee eligibility criteria of: 1) Youth who are in an eligible out of home placement in the custody of DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority for any length of time on or after the 14th birthday and 2) Chafee eligibility ends at age 21.
- ❖ Independent Living Subsidy (IL Subsidy) funds are used to assist youth working towards completion of secondary education and/or obtaining/maintaining stable employment. Young adults must meet Subsidy eligibility criteria of: 1) Released from an eligible out of home placement in the custody of DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority on or after their 18th birthday and 2) Subsidy eligibility ends at age 21.
- ❖ ETV are available to youth for post-secondary education or certified training program expenses. Youth must meet ETV eligibility criteria of: 1) Youth served by DCF, KDOC-JS, or Tribal Authority currently or previously in foster care for any length of time on or after the 14th birthday, 2) Youth earned a high school diploma or GED, 3) are enrolled in a post-secondary education that is a pre-accredited, accredited, or certified training program, and the youth meets one of many sub-criteria, and 4) Youth can receive ETV supports for a maximum of five years. ETV eligibility will end at age 26.

This report examines six years of data on youth who received Basic Chafee, IL Subsidy, ETV and/or Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance Act as part of Independent Living/Self-Sufficiency services through Department for Children and Families Prevention and Protection Services between SFY2014-2019.

Executive Summary:

- Independent Living Program served a total of 663 (unduplicated) young adults in SFY2019.
 - ◆ Of the 663 youth, a total of 396 received Basic Chafee funds, 274 received the IL Subsidy and 281 were provided post-secondary educational assistance through ETV. Youth may receive funding through multiple sources based on eligibility and Self-Sufficiency Plans.
- The majority of youth served by the IL Program within SFY2019 were female at 71.34% while 27.60% were male.
- There are 268 Kansas Tuition Waiver new applications in 2019.

Part I: Youth Served in Independent Living/Self-Sufficiency Program

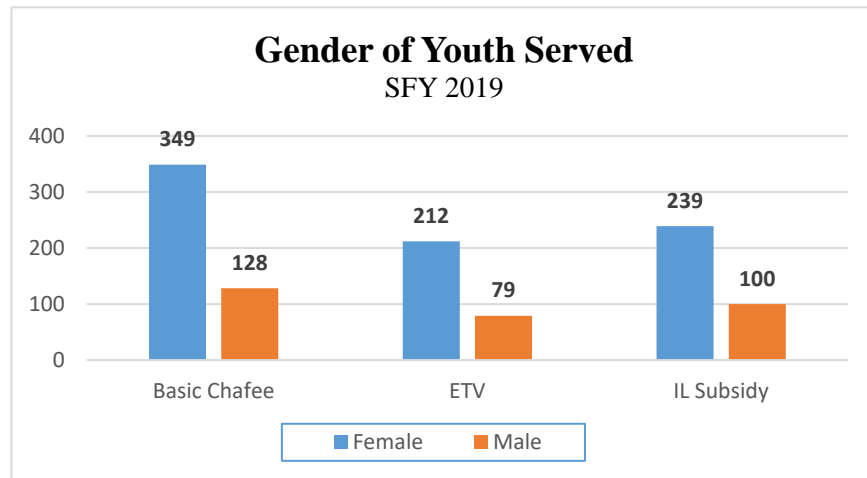
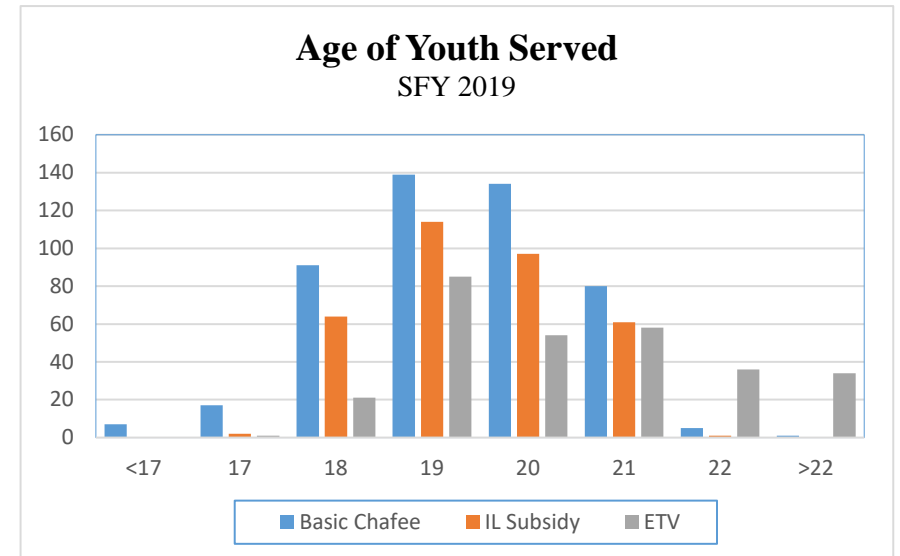


IL/Self-Sufficiency Program Trending over SFYs.

- Basic Chafee youth receiving Chafee funds is 483 through FY2019.
- IL Subsidy youth participation is 340 through FY2019.
- ETV youth participation is 294 through FY2019.

Twenty year olds represented the largest age group for all three programs: 1) Basic Chafee - 27.7%; 2) ETV - 18.4%; and 3) IL Subsidy - 28.5%.

The majority of youth receiving Basic Chafee funds (52.6%) and IL Subsidy (52.9%) were under the age of 20 while the majority of youth receiving ETV funding (61.9%) were 20 years or older.



Young adult gender breakdown by IL program include:

- Basic Chafee, 72.3% were female while 26.5% were male.
- ETV, 72.1% were female while 26.9% were male.
- IL Subsidy, 70.3% were female while 29.4% were male.

Part II: Basic Chafee Funds

Basic Chafee activities and programs include, but are not limited to, help with education, employment, financial management, housing, emotional support and assured connections to caring adults for older youth in foster care.

Table 1: Basic Chafee Funds Youth Served SFY2014 - 2019

	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016	SFY2017	SFY2018	SFY2019
Young Adults Served	369	400	422	457	310	483
Payment Totals	\$226,249	\$240,148	\$294,029	\$308,762	\$206,660	\$293,057
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$613.14	\$600.37	\$696.75	\$675.63	\$666.65	\$606.74

Table 2: Basic Chafee Funds Youth Served by Region SFY2014 - 2019

	SFY2014		SFY2015		SFY2016		SFY2017		SFY2018		SFY2019	
East	108	29.3%	119	29.8%	118	28.0%	108	23.6%	57	18.4%	139	28.8%
Kansas City	99	26.8%	80	20.0%	102	24.2%	84	18.4%	64	20.6%	99	20.5%
West	58	15.7%	84	21.0%	70	16.6%	105	23.0%	96	31.0%	73	15.1%
Wichita	104	28.2%	117	29.2%	132	31.3%	160	35.0%	93	30.0%	172	35.6%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	369	100%	400	100%	422	100%	457	100%	310	100%	483	100%

Part III: Independent Living Subsidy (IL Subsidy)

IL Subsidy is short-term assistance between the youth (ages 18 up to 21) and IL program. Youth shall be working towards completion of secondary education and/or obtaining/maintaining stable employment. The youth will be expected to work with his/her mentor (if assigned) and IL Coordinator to achieve the identified self-sufficiency goal. IL Subsidy is funded through the CFCIP. Youth's financial need and participation in the program are criteria for financial support which shall not exceed \$350.00 per month.

In SFY2018, IL program updated IL Subsidy policy to provided a tiered approach to target vulnerable youth transitioning from foster care towards independence.

Tier 1: Months 1-12 100% of subsidy based on need (PPS 7000A)

Tier 2: Months 13-18 90% of initial subsidy amount

Tier 3: Months 19-24 80% of initial subsidy amount

Tier 4: Months 25-36 70% of initial subsidy amount

Table 3: Independent Living Subsidy Youth Served SFY2014 - 2019

	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016	SFY2017	SFY2018	SFY2019
Young Adults Served	344	315	302	347	255	340
Payment Totals	\$546,088	\$477,439	\$510,808	\$551,284	\$406,034	\$543,966
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$1,587.46	\$1,515.68	\$1,691.42	\$1,588.71	\$1,592.29	\$1,599.90

Table 4: Independent Living Subsidy Youth Served by Region SFY2013 - 2019

	SFY2014		SFY2015		SFY2016		SFY2017		SFY2018		SFY2019	
East	124	36.0%	82	26.0%	82	27.2%	68	19.6%	42	16.5%	100	29.4%
Kansas City	80	23.3%	95	30.2%	97	32.1%	100	28.8%	75	29.4%	101	29.7%
West	78	22.7%	87	27.6%	69	22.8%	89	25.6%	65	25.5%	68	20.0%
Wichita	62	18.0%	51	16.2%	54	17.9%	90	25.9%	73	28.6%	71	20.9%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Statewide	344	100%	315	100%	302	100%	347	100%	255	100%	340	100%

Part IV: ETV

The ETV program provides youth who meet eligibility criteria with post secondary support. Criteria includes completion of Self-Sufficiency Plan, ETV Program Plan documenting all post secondary educational costs, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and successful submission of three scholarship applications. To receive financial support youth shall attend accredited public, private or non-profit post-secondary school or training programs in or out of state. ETV funds may be used to pay for education related costs including room and board, books, materials or tutoring. All ETV Plans shall begin July 1 and end June 30 of each year. Youth can continue to receive ETV supports until age 23 if a student is in good standing at age 21. ETV eligibility will end when youth reaches 23.

Table 5: ETV Youth Served SFY2014 – 2019

	SFY2014	SFY2015	SFY2016	SFY2017	SFY2018	SFY2019
Young Adults Served	371	397	357	352	330	294
Payment Totals	\$715,719	\$746,486	\$796,528	\$695,789	\$520,596	\$633,150
Annual Average per Young Adult	\$1,929.16	\$1,880.32	\$2,231.17	\$1,976.67	\$1,577.56	\$2,153.57

Table 6: ETV Youth Served by Region SFY2014 - 2019

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
East	106	28.6%	99	24.9%	95	26.6%	73	20.7%	62	18.8%	71	24.1%
Kansas City	100	26.9%	100	25.2%	84	23.5%	97	27.6%	95	28.8%	85	28.9%
West	76	20.5%	118	29.7%	93	26.1%	97	27.6%	86	26.1%	55	18.7%
Wichita	89	24.0%	80	20.2%	83	23.2%	85	24.1%	87	26.4%	79	26.9%
Out-of-State Education	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unable to Determine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	1.4%
Total	371	100%	397	100%	357	100%	352	100%	330	100%	294	100%

Part V: Kansas Foster Care Educational Assistance Act Program (Tuition Waiver)

The Kansas Tuition Waiver Program waives tuition and required fees at state educational institutions in Kansas, including vocational-technical schools, community colleges, and state universities. Youth who are eligible to apply for the Kansas Foster Child Educational Assistance Act are enrolled in a Kansas educational institution and meet one of the following:

- i. In the custody of DCF and in a foster care placement on the date the youth attained 18 years of age; or
- ii. Released from custody of DCF prior to attaining 18 years of age, after having graduated from high school or fulfilled the requirements for a GED while in foster care placement and the custody of DCF; or
- iii. Adopted from a foster care placement on or after the youth's 16th birthday; or
- iv. Left a foster care placement subject to a permanent custodianship or guardianship under chapter 38 or 59 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated on or after the youth's 16th birthday.

In order to remain eligible for participation in the program, youth shall remain in good standing at the Kansas educational institution where the youth is enrolled and shall make satisfactory progress toward completion of the requirements of the educational program.

Eligibility for Kansas Foster Child Education Assistance service component ends at the conclusion of the semester during which the youth attains 23 years of age

Table 7: Tuition Waiver data from 2014 - 2019

Initial Semester of Participation	# of Applications Approved for Tuition Waiver					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Spring	62	62	72	64	80	53
Summer	26	39	32	19	28	33
Fall	166	186	183	244	187	182
Total	254	287	287	327	295	268