

Example of Permissible Uses of Chafee Funds from the Program Instruction, ACYF-CB-PI-21-04, Pages 11-12

- Cost of implementing the provisions related to preventing aging out, re-entry and continuous obligations for youth who are not IV-E eligible.
- Cost of public awareness for the re-entry provisions.
- Provide unrestricted one-time or monthly direct financial assistance to youth/young adults to assist them in meeting their needs during the pandemic.
- Provide targeted payments and supports to allow youth/young adults to remain at home during the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency, when needed to ensure their health and well-being. Individuals requiring such assistance may include youth with medical conditions, pregnant or parenting youth, and youth who need to quarantine due to exposure to COVID-19.
- Assist youth in meeting living expenses, including rent, groceries, grocery or meal delivery, and utilities. Such assistance may include helping youth pay back payments and fees and/or paying for expenses for youth/young adults who need to stay home for extended periods of time.
- Purchase cell phones, tablets, laptops, internet service, cell phone plans or other technological tools for young people.
- Provide respite care services and additional support for parenting or pregnant youth.
- Help pay salaries of agency staff who administer and oversee emergency assistance for youth, including fiscal staff responsible for generating and issuing payments paid for the Chafee program.
- Partner with national and state organizations to assist young adults, including for activities relating to locating youth, outreach and marketing.
- Hire youth/ young adults with lived experience in child welfare to provide navigation services to fellow youth/young adults. Navigation services help to connect youth to services and support them as they apply for or engage in those services.
- Employ youth/young adults, at the agency level and/or as part of contractor staff, to provide outreach and support to fellow youth and young adults. This could include paid internships for youth/young adults to help prepare them to re-enter the job market.
- Assist youth in paying medical expenses, including COVID testing and treatment, if these expenses are not already covered by other health insurance or Medicaid.
- Purchase or reimburse youth for personal protective equipment (PPE), including cloth masks.
- Provide services and support to combat young peoples' social isolation during the pandemic. This could include sending gift boxes, cooking kits, puzzles, art and hobby supplies, or other interactive items to connect youth/ young adults.
- Provide outreach and offer any needed assistance to youth who experienced foster care after attaining age 14 and were subsequently reunified and to youth who exited foster care to adoption or guardianship after attaining age 16.
- In addition to conducting required public awareness campaign about the option for youth to re-enter foster care, use social media and other strategies to perform outreach to youth, young adults, and other community providers to make them aware of expanded Chafee funding and available supports.
- Expand contracts with service providers who are currently working with youth and young adults formerly in foster care to provide services through the agencies to which such youth are already connected (e.g., supportive housing providers and Runway and Homeless Youth (RHY) grantees).
- Establish websites, hotlines, and other mechanisms to track and provide information on assistance requests.
- Costs Related to Driving: From April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, Chafee funds to be used to provide driving and transportation assistance to otherwise eligible youth from ages 15- 26. These costs may be related to obtaining a driver's license, vehicle insurance, driver's education classes and testing fees, practice lessons, practice hours, license fees, roadside assistance, deductible assistance, and assistance in purchasing an automobile. There is a cap of \$4000 per youth per year.