

Program Purpose

FES is an educational support program offered to middle and high school youths and their families during the transition from foster care to permanency.

Program Goals

Goals of FES include improving school connectedness, academic engagement, family communication, home-school relationships, and school success.

Benefits of Participation

- School and emotional support through transition
- Help with home-school communication
- Individualized caregiver support
- Assistance with building life skills



To Learn More

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Academy for Child and Family Well Being



We all need connection.



Fostering Educational Success (FES) is a collaboration between researchers at the Academy for Child and Family Well-Being (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), KVC Nebraska, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The contents of FES were developed under a grant from the Department of Education (U411C190009). However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.



Empowering Students, Engaging Families

*An educational support program
for youths in grades 6-12
departing foster care to permanency*



Scope of the Problem

Middle and high school youths departing foster care to permanency often face poor educational outcomes due to ongoing difficulties with adult and peer relationships, poor school connectedness, and limited academic support. As a result, many youths experience school failure or dropout. Although programs exist to target other aspects of the transition to permanency, none focus specifically on improving educational outcomes.



Fostering Educational Success (FES)

FES is an educational support program that aims to improve the educational outcomes and experiences of youths and their caregivers during the transition to permanency. Supports are provided in three primary areas (school connectedness, academic engagement, and family cohesion) by a trained Family Coach.

Fostering Educational Success Core Components

SCHOOL CONNECTEDNESS

To promote school connectedness, it is critical to build trusting relationships between schools, youths, and families. The Family Coach and an identified school contact will monitor the youth's school behaviors daily to track educational progress to promote short and long-term school success.

ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

The Family Coach will work with the family to establish routines that will promote positive academic engagement. This will include creating homework routines and schoolwork completion expectations for monitoring youth progress, developing organizational skills and self-monitoring behaviors, and establishing home environments to promote academic success.

FAMILY COHESION

Family support is offered to help establish rules and expectations and improve family communication and relationships. Youths and caregivers will work with the Family Coach through the Strengthening Families Program (SFP 7-17). Target skills will include areas most critical to the transition such as establishing home rules, social skills, problem solving, decision making, coping skills, and child home and school behavior.

Eligibility

The following criteria are necessary for admission into FES:

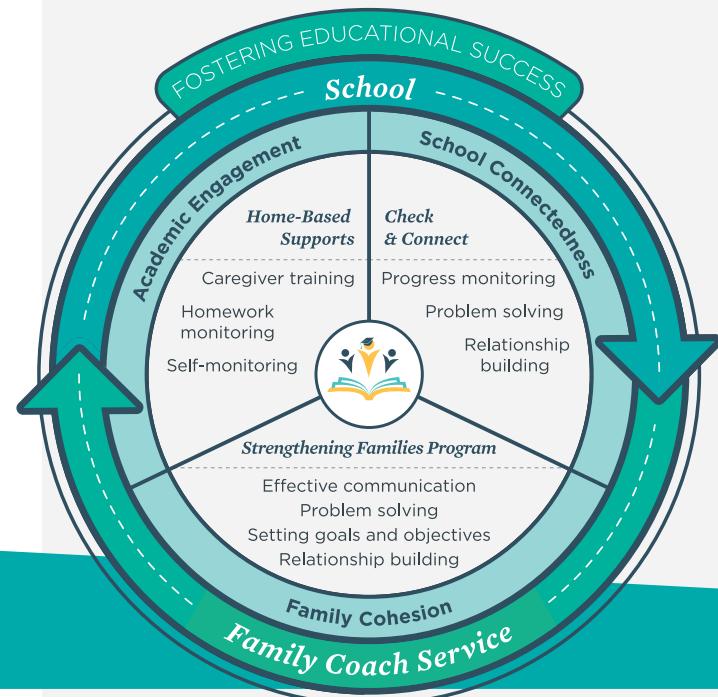
- Youth is currently or has historically been placed in foster care
- Permanency via guardianship, independent living, or adoption is the primary permanency objective occurring within the most recent 3 months OR Reunification is likely to occur in the next 30 days
- Caregiver is committed to the youth's graduation and is willing to participate in FES

For additional information on eligibility visit:

nebraska.kvc.org/services/fostering-educational-success/

Length of Services

Services begin just prior to or immediately following departure from foster care and are available for up to 6 months. Families may discontinue services at any time.



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**EVERY CHILD
DESERVES A CHAMPION**

– Rita Pierson, Educator

