

Student Housing Assistance for Former Foster Children

The Act requires higher education institutions help eligible students locate temporary housing between academic terms upon the students' request. Students are eligible if they were under the conservatorship of the state department of family and protective services immediately before turning 18 or becoming a legal adult, lacked housing between academic terms, and were enrolled full-time before or registered full-time after the period when housing assistance was needed. It also allows an institution to provide temporary housing or a stipend for temporary housing to eligible students.

The Act permits an institution to use gifts, grants, donations, or legislative appropriations to help provide such housing to former foster care children and it requiring using grants and donations to fund such housing before using appropriated funds.

Submitted as:

Texas

[HB 452 \(Enrolled version\)](#)

Status: Enacted into law in 2011.

Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

1 Section 1. [*Short Title.*] An Act relating to temporary housing between academic terms for
2 certain postsecondary students who have been under the conservatorship of the state [insert child
3 welfare agency].
4

5 Section 2. [*Authorizations.*]

6 (a) In this section:

7 (1) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by [insert citation].

8 (2) "Academic term" includes a summer session.

9 (b) To be eligible to receive housing assistance from an institution of higher education under
10 Subsection (c), a student must:

11 (1) have been under the conservatorship of the [insert child welfare agency] or its
12 predecessor in function on the day preceding:

13 (A) the student 's 18th birthday; or

14 (B) the date the student 's disabilities of minority are removed by a court
15 under [insert citation];

16 (2) be enrolled full-time at the institution during the academic term immediately
17 preceding the period for which the student requests the housing assistance;

18 (3) be registered or otherwise have taken the actions required by the institution to
19 permit the student to enroll full-time at the institution during the academic term immediately
20 following the period for which the student requests the housing assistance; and

21 (4) lack other reasonable temporary housing alternatives between the academic terms
22 described by Subdivisions (2) and (3), as determined by the institution.

23 (c) On the student's request, each institution of higher education shall assist an eligible
24 student in locating temporary housing for any period beginning on the last day of an academic term

1 and ending on the first day of the immediately following academic term, according to the
2 institution's academic calendar.

3 (d) For each eligible student under Subsection (b) who also demonstrates financial need, the
4 institution may:

5 (1) provide a stipend to cover any reasonable costs of the temporary housing that are
6 not covered by other financial aid immediately available to the student for that purpose; or

7 (2) provide temporary housing directly to the student for the applicable period.

8 (e) The receipt of a stipend under Subsection (d) does not prohibit the student from receiving
9 additional stipends under that subsection in one or more subsequent periods, based on the student's
10 demonstrated financial need.

11 (f) An institution of higher education may use any available revenue, including legislative
12 appropriations, and may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of this
13 section. The institution shall use any gifts, grants, and donations received for the purposes of this
14 section before using other revenue.

15
16 Section 3. [*Severability.*] Insert severability clause.

17
18 Section 4. [*Repealer.*] Insert repealer clause.

19
20 Section 5. [*Effective Date.*] Insert effective date.