

*Only 3% of young people in foster care receive a college degree. We look to beat those odds.*



**Since 2016, The Foundling – in partnership with New York City’s Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) – has supported students in foster care through the Fostering College Success Initiative model.**

Serving young people attending colleges and universities across New York and beyond, College Choice Support Services participants receive:

- Tutoring, advising, career counseling, and events led by trained Foundling staff
- Tuition costs and related fees (after financial aid) covered by ACS
- Student housing costs covered by ACS (on-campus, private dorm, or off-campus housing); a stipend for living expenses is also provided
- Connection to a community of peers

*In collaboration with:*



## **The New York Foundling**

Since our bold beginnings in 1869, The New York Foundling has supported hundreds of thousands of our neighbors on their own paths to stability, strength, and independence. With an internationally-recognized and interrelated set of research-backed services, The Foundling works in partnership with children, families, and adults in New York and in Puerto Rico who are working to create transformational change in their own lives.



### **College Choice Support Services**

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# **The New York Foundling’s College Choice Support Services**



**Providing financial,  
academic, and social  
supports to help young  
people in foster care  
succeed in college and  
beyond.**



## HOW IT WORKS

Students enroll in the program by completing an online application for the College Choice Program.

Eligible participants receive housing and tuition assistance, as well as a daily living stipend through the College Choice Program. If they indicate on the application that they would also like College Choice Support Services, they also receive specialized wraparound services through The Foundling, geared to the needs of those in foster care.

Coupled with the financial support, these services - coaching, tutoring, and career counseling - provide a full support system for students as they pursue their degrees and navigate the complexities of gaining a college education. Support is provided remotely or in-person, depending on location and each student's unique needs.

## COLLEGE CHOICE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The College Choice program will cover up to \$15,000 in tuition and fees each academic year. Additionally, the program will cover up to \$30,000 annually in on-campus or off-campus housing costs.

Students will also receive a stipend of \$60/day for food and other living expenses while enrolled in the program (and up to 6 months after graduation.)

## THE FOUNDLING'S COLLEGE SUPPORT SERVICES

Our support services help position young people in foster care for success in school and beyond:

### COLLEGE SUCCESS ADVISING

College Success Advisors serve as guides and mentors for students throughout their college experience. All students are assigned a dedicated coach, who provide a variety of supports including emotional guidance, conflict resolution assistance, pro-social and educational workshops, financial literacy training, and other forms of assistance.

### TUTORING

Tutors provide consistent academic guidance to students, honing their understanding of concepts and teaching them viable study habits. Students in the program receive weekly one-on-one tutoring sessions, which include instruction in all subject areas and long-term academic planning.

### CAREER COUNSELING

Career Counselors ensure that students are ready to enter the workforce once they graduate with a degree. With the goal of bridging the gap between graduation and unemployment, career counselors conduct aptitude assessments and career guidance, work with students to develop hard and soft job skills, and provide guidance on applying for jobs, writing resumes and cover letters, interviewing techniques, and more.

## QUALIFICATIONS

Students must:

- Be in foster care in New York City at the time they first enter the program  
(NYC Administration for Children's Services)
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Been accepted as a full-time student at a college or university (AA, BA, or BS program)
- Maintain a full-time courseload, and a 2.0 cumulative GPA (after the 1st semester)
- Apply and submit all required financial aid documentation



**"Without the support of my tutor and coach it would have been a lot harder to graduate."**

**— College Choice Support Services Student at Guttman Community College**