

COMPARISON OF PERMANENCY OPTIONS

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Adults who agree to provide permanent care for a foster child who cannot be reunified with his/her family may have questions about what their options are and about what each status means. They may want to know how things will change for them and for the child if they are moving from foster care to permanent care. Below are some commonly asked questions and an opportunity to compare the answers in each category.

	ADOPTION (HRS §578)	LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP (HRS §560)	PERMANENT CUSTODY (HRS §587A)
<p>1. <i>What category of permanent care could I provide?</i></p>	<p>Adoption may be granted to an individual or married couple. <u>HRS §578-1</u>. Adoption to a step-parent of the child is not an option if the parent’s rights were terminated, and the step-parent remains married to that parent.</p>	<p>Legal guardianship may be awarded to an adult by the legal parents or the court. <u>HRS §560: 5-201; HRS §560: 1-201</u></p> <p>The court will appoint the person nominated by any minor, who is at least 14 years of age, unless the court finds the appointment will be contrary to the best interests of the minor.</p> <p>For good cause, the court may appoint a limited guardianship, except where parents’ rights were terminated, or the court may grant greater power to the appointed guardian or withdraw powers granted previously. <u>HRS §560: 5-206</u></p>	<p>Permanent custody may be awarded to DHS, a married couple, an unmarried couple, an individual, or an authorized agency.</p> <p>Authorized agency is defined as “the department, other public agency, or a person or organization that is licensed by the department or approved by the court to receive children for control, care, maintenance, or placement.” <u>HRS §587A-4</u>.</p> <p><i>However, authorized agencies other than DHS (e.g. an individual) are rarely granted permanent custody.</i></p>
<p>2. <i>What would be the legal status of the child?</i></p>	<p>The adoptive parents become the natural parents of the child. The child is considered a natural child of the adoptive parents. <u>HRS §578-16</u>.</p>	<p>The legal guardians have the rights of a parent, but the child is not considered to be the natural child. Legal guardian(s) cannot consent to name change, marriage, or adoption of the child.</p>	<p>Permanent custodians have the rights of the legal parent, but the child is not considered to be the legal child of the permanent custodian(s). The permanent custodian’s rights and responsibilities terminate when the child reaches age 18.</p>

<p>3. <i>Can the status be changed?</i></p>	<p>Adoption is irrevocable; it is a permanent parent/child relationship.</p>	<p>The guardianship continues until terminated. <u>HRS §560:5-201</u></p>	<p>Permanent Custody can be terminated by adoption or legal guardianship, or, upon approval by Family Court, can be revoked. In some cases, parental rights can be reinstated. See <u>HRS §587A-34</u></p>
<p>4. <i>Who must be notified that I am seeking to provide permanent care for the child(ren)?</i></p>	<p>If the parents' parental rights have been terminated, parents do not need to be notified or provide their consent. <u>HRS §578-2(c)</u>. In DHS cases, the parents' parental rights have been terminated prior to the adoption hearing.</p> <p>If the parents' parental rights have not been terminated, the child's parents must be notified and give written consent to the adoption. A child over 10 years of age must also consent unless the court, in the child's best interest, dispenses with the child's consent. <u>HRS §578-2(a)</u>.</p> <p>If DHS remains a party to the case, the Attorney General will send the required notices.</p>	<p>In cases where DHS remains a party to the case, the usual persons that must be notified include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The child, who is 14 or older; 2) Any person nominated by the child, who is 14 or older, to be appointed as legal guardian; 3) The current legal guardian, if any; and 4) The child's parents, if their parental rights have not been terminated. <p>If DHS remains a party to the case, the Attorney General will send the required notices.</p> <p>For a complete list of persons required to be notified, see <u>HRS §560:5-205</u>.</p>	<p>If the child is 14 years old or older, the child must consent to the proposed permanent plan, unless the court finds it is in the child's best interest to proceed without the child's consent. <u>HRS §587A-33(a)(4)</u>.</p>
<p>5. <i>Under each category of permanent care, what would be my responsibilities?</i></p>	<p>The responsibilities of an adoptive parent are the same as the responsibilities of a biological and legal parent, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the child is provided with adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological, physical, and medical care, supervision, and other necessities in a timely manner; 	<p>A legal guardian has the responsibilities of a parent regarding a child's care, custody, and property, except consenting to name change, adoption, and marriage. This includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the child is provided with adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological, physical, and medical care, supervision, and other necessities in a timely manner; • Arranging for and consenting to 	<p>A permanent custodian assumes the parental and custodial duties and rights of a legal custodian and family member, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that the child is provided with adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological, physical, and medical care, supervision, and other necessities in a timely manner; • Determining where and with whom

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranging for and consenting to medical, dental, psychiatric, or psychological care or treatment, educational, recreational, or social needs; and • Consenting to name change, marriage, and adoption. 	<p>medical, dental, psychiatric, or psychological care or treatment, educational, recreational, or social needs;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain personally acquainted with the child and maintain contact with the child to know of the child’s capacities, limitations, needs, opportunities, and physical and mental health; • Take care of the child’s personal effects and bring a protective proceeding if necessary to protect the child’s property; • Expend the child’s money that has been received by the guardian, for the child’s current needs for support, care, education, health, and welfare; • Conserve any of the child’s excess money for his/her future needs; • Report on the child’s condition and account for money and other assets in the guardian’s possession or subject to the guardian’s control, as ordered by the court or required by court rule; and • Inform the court of any changes in the child’s custodial dwelling or address. <p><u>HRS §560:5-207</u></p>	<p>the child shall live; provided that the child shall not be placed outside the State without prior order of the court;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing all required consents for the child’s medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological, educational, employment, recreational, or social needs; • Monitoring whether the child is being provided with an appropriate education; • Consenting to adoption, name change, marriage, and child’s application for driver’s permit, provisional driver’s license, and driver’s license. <p>See <u>HRS §587A-15(d)</u></p>
<p>6. <i>In what ways are DHS and Family Court still involved in each of these categories of permanent care?</i></p>	<p>Upon adoption of the child, the Family Court and DHS closes the FC-S case (a social worker is no longer assigned).</p> <p>If the adoptive parents receive adoption assistance payments, a DHS case is opened as a “payment-only” case and there is no case management.</p>	<p>Upon an award of legal guardianship, the Family Court and DHS closes the FC-S case (a social worker is no longer assigned).</p> <p>If the legal guardian receives permanency assistance payments, a DHS case is opened as a “payment-only” case and there is no case management.</p>	<p>Family Court keeps the FC-S case open, and a permanency hearing is held at least every six months. <u>HRS §587A-31(a)</u>. The permanent custodian must appear at every permanency hearing and must write a report to the court on the child’s progress. If DHS is a co-permanent custodian, DHS must also appear at the permanency hearings.</p>

		If ordered by the court, the guardian must file an annual report with Family Court on the status of the child. Annual reports are required by Family Courts in Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai counties.	In the unique circumstance where the court awards permanent custody to a non-DHS authorized agency, permanent custody to DHS is terminated. DHS closes its service case and a social worker is no longer assigned. If the child is eligible for permanency assistance payments, a DHS case is opened as a "payment – only" case.
7. <i>Will the Guardian ad Litem (GAL) still be involved?</i>	No, the GAL will be dismissed when the adoption is final.	No, the GAL will be dismissed when the legal guardianship is final.	Yes, the GAL will be retained. <u>HRS §587A-16.</u>
8. <i>What kind of financial assistance can I get?</i>	<p>Foster Board payments end. Adoptive parents are responsible for fully supporting the child, unless the child has special needs.</p> <p>The adoptive parents of an eligible child with special needs may receive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adoption assistance (AA). The amount is determined by the age and needs of the child; 2. If applicable, a supplemental payment depending on assessed need for additional care and supervision; 3. Medical coverage, if applicable; and 4. Title XX services. <p>A child may be eligible for AA if the child: 1) has or is at high risk of having a medical, physical, behavioral/emotional condition or handicap; 2) meets Social Security Income disability requirements; 3) was 4 years old or older when placed</p>	<p>Foster board payments end. Subject to income resources of the child, the legal guardian of an eligible child may receive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permanency assistance (PA). The amount is determined by the age of the child; 2. If applicable, a supplemental payment depending on assessed need for additional care and supervision; 3. Medical coverage; and 4. Clothing allowance and, if warranted, special circumstances costs.. <p>PA is available for children, who at the time the legal guardianship is granted, are: 1) under the placement responsibility of DHS (voluntary foster custody, temporary foster custody, foster custody or permanent custody); 2) placed with legal guardians; and 3) meet DHS eligibility requirements.</p> <p>The benefits will continue for the child up to the age of 18 or until the child</p>	<p>Foster board payments end. The permanent custodian of an eligible child may receive, subject to income resources of the child:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permanency Assistance (PA) payment. The amount is determined by the age of the child; 2. If applicable, a supplemental payment depending on assessed need for additional care and supervision; 3. Medical coverage; and 4. Clothing allowance and, if warranted, special circumstances costs. <p>PA is available for children, who at the time permanent custody is granted to the custodian, are: 1) under the permanent custody of DHS; 2) placed with permanent custodians; and 3) meet DHS eligibility requirements.</p> <p>The benefits will continue for the child up to the age of 18 or until the child</p>

	<p>with prospective adoptive parents; 4) was difficult to place due to race or ethnic background; 5) is part of a sibling group to be adopted or has a sibling previously adopted by this prospective adoptive parent.. <u>HAR § 17-1620-7.</u></p> <p>AA ends at age 18. However, it may extend past age 18 if the child: 1) is enrolled in high school; 2) is receiving special education; 3) has a physical or mental handicap that warrants continued assistance; or 4) was adopted on or after his/her 16th birthday and meets the eligibility requirements of the Extended Assistance Program. Documentation is required for eligibility.</p> <p><u>HAR § 17-1620-7.</u></p> <p><u>CWS Manual Part V, Section 8.</u></p> <p>For AA, the prospective adoptive parents must apply for and sign the AA agreement, and a DHS representative must approve it prior to the adoption hearing.</p> <p>Prospective adoptive parents should complete the forms below to apply for AA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS Form 1613 • DHS Form 1570 • DHS Form 1578 • DHS Form Documentation of Special Needs <p>Clothing allowance is not provided, unless the young adult participates in</p>	<p>completes high school, whichever occurs last.</p> <p>However, assistance may continue until the child's 21st birthday, if the legal guardianship was on or after the child's 16th birthday and the child meets the eligibility requirements of the Extended Assistance Program.</p> <p>The prospective legal guardians must apply for and sign the PA agreement, and a DHS representative must also approve the agreement before the guardianship hearing.</p> <p>Prospective legal guardians should complete the forms below to apply for PA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS Form 1662 • DHS Form 1663 • If the child requires difficulty of care, a separate DHS Form must be completed. <p>A child, who is under the legal guardianship of an individual(s) who later adopts the child, does not qualify for adoption assistance. DHS is unable to assist with the adoption.</p>	<p>completes high school, whichever occurs last.</p> <p>The prospective permanent custodians must apply for and sign the PA application, and a DHS representative must also approve the agreement.</p> <p>Prospective permanent custodians should complete the forms below to apply for PA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS Form 1662 • DHS Form 1663 • If the child requires difficulty of care, a separate DHS Form must be completed. <p>A child, who is under the permanent custody of an individual(s) who later adopts the child, does not qualify for adoption assistance. And DHS is unable to assist with the adoption.</p> <p>A child, who is under the co-permanent custody of the DHS and an individual at age 18, may qualify to receive extended foster care payments if eligibility requirements of the Imua Kākou program are met.</p> <p><u>HRS §346-395</u></p>
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	the higher education program.		
9. <i>What about medical insurance for the child?</i>	<p>The child is covered under the adoptive parent's medical insurance.</p> <p>If the family is receiving adoption assistance, DHS provides medical insurance as secondary coverage.</p> <p>If the child is residing out-of-state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title IV-E -- eligible child is entitled to receive medical coverage from his/her new state of residence. DHS staff needs to submit an Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance (ICAMA) referral. • State-funded -- eligible child will receive Hawaii Medicaid fee-for-service coverage. 	<p>The legal guardian may choose to include the child under the legal guardian's own medical plan and DHS would provide medical insurance as a secondary coverage.</p> <p>If the legal guardian chooses not to include the child under the legal guardian's plan, medical insurance is provided by DHS.</p> <p>If the child is residing out-of-state, he or she will receive Hawaii Medicaid fee-for-service coverage.</p>	<p>The permanent custodian may choose to include the child under the permanent custodian's own medical plan and DHS would provide medical insurance as a secondary coverage.</p> <p>If the permanent custodian chooses not to include the child under the permanent custodian's plan, medical insurance is provided by DHS.</p> <p>If the child is residing out-of-state, he or she will receive Hawaii Medicaid fee-for-service coverage.</p>
10. <i>What can I do when I can no longer care for my child?</i>	<p>The following options are possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private arrangement: Adoptive parents may arrange for the child to be cared for by another safe and appropriate family. DHS does not get involved with the family or with any aspect of this arrangement. Adoption assistance payments may continue as long as the adoptive parents are providing financial support to the child. • Independent placement for adoption. If an adoption of a child is unsuccessful, adoptive parents can identify others who are willing to adopt the child. DHS is unable to assist with this adoption. 	<p>The following options are possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private arrangement: Legal guardians may arrange for the child to be cared for by another safe and appropriate family. DHS does not get involved with the family or with any aspect of that arrangement. Permanency assistance payments may continue as long as the legal guardians are providing financial support to the child. • Independent placement for successor guardianship: If a legal guardianship is unsuccessful, the legal guardians may place the child with others who are willing to provide a safe family home for the child and petition the court to withdraw as 	<p>If the non-DHS permanent custodian is no longer able to care for the child, the permanent custodian or DHS can file a motion to establish DHS as the permanent custodian.</p>

	<p>In order for adoption assistance payments to continue to a new adoptive family: 1) the child must re-enter foster care; 2) the new home must be approved by DHS; 3) the new adoptive family must apply for adoption assistance; and 4) the application must be approved before the adoption hearing.</p>	<p>guardians and appoint successor guardians. DHS is unable to assist with the appointment of successor guardians.</p> <p>Permanency assistance will not continue to the successor guardian.</p>	
<p>11. What role will the birth parents play in the child's life once the child is in my permanent care?</p>	<p><i>Will birth parents be required to provide child support after adoption?</i> No.</p> <p><i>Must birth parents provide consent?</i> Not if parental rights are terminated. Legal/birth parents lose all parental rights including the right to give consent for medical or psychological care or treatment, (including surgery), adoption, and marriage.</p> <p><i>Will birth parents have visitation rights after the adoption?</i> No. However, adoptive parents may decide to allow communication and visits between the child and the birth parents, if it is in the best interest of the child.</p> <p><i>Can the child and his/her birth parents inherit from each other when they die?</i> Birth parents cease to have any rights or duties as to the child. The adopted child inherits from the adoptive parents.</p> <p><i>Can the adoptive parents return the child to the birth parents' home</i></p>	<p><i>Will birth parents be required to provide child support after the legal guardianship is granted?</i> Yes. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, parents continue to be responsible for supporting the child, including but not limited to repayment for the cost of any and all care, treatment, or any other service supplied or provided by the legal guardian. The Child Support Enforcement Agency will contact the birth parents for their contribution, which is based on their income.</p> <p><i>Must birth parents provide consents for anything after the legal guardianship is granted?</i> Legal/birth parents lose the right to give consent for medical or psychological care or treatment (including surgery), and marriage. If parental rights have not been terminated, parents must consent to adoption and name change.</p> <p><i>Will birth parents have visitation rights after the legal guardianship is granted?</i> No; however, legal guardians may decide to allow communication and visits between the child and the birth parents, if it is in the best interest of the child.</p>	<p><i>Will birth parents be required to provide child support after permanent custody is awarded?</i> Yes. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, parents continue to be responsible to support the child, including but not limited to repayment for the cost of any and all care, treatment, or any other service supplied or provided by the permanent custodian. The Child Support Enforcement Agency will contact the birth parents for their contribution which is based on their income.</p> <p><i>Will consents have to be obtained from them for anything after permanent custody is awarded?</i> Legal/birth parents lose the right to give consent for medical or psychological care or treatment, (including surgery), adoption, and marriage.</p> <p><i>Will birth parents have visitation rights after permanent custody is awarded?</i> No; however, communication and visits between the child and birth parents may be permitted at the discretion of the permanent custodian or the court and if it is in the best</p>

	<p><i>without court involvement?</i> No. The adoptive parents are responsible for the safety of the child. If the adoptive parents allow the child to visit or live with his/her birth parent(s) and the child is at harm and/or threat of harm resulting in CWS involvement, the adoptive parent(s), not the birth parent(s), may have an open CWS case and need to do services with CWS.</p>	<p><i>Can the child and his/her birth parents inherit from each other when they die?</i> Yes. Mutual rights of inheritance with birth parents remain in effect.</p> <p><i>Can the legal guardian return the child to the birth parents without court involvement?</i> The legal guardians are responsible for the safety of the child. If the guardians allow the child to visit or live with his/her birth parent(s) and the child is at harm and/or threat of harm resulting in CWS involvement, the legal guardian(s), not the birth parent(s), may have an open CWS case and need to do services with CWS.</p>	<p>interest of the child. <u>HRS §587A-15(c)(1).</u></p> <p><i>Can the child and his/her birth parents inherit from each other when they die?</i> Yes. Mutual rights of inheritance with parents remain in effect.</p>
<p>12. What would I have to pay for court and legal fees?</p>	<p>If DHS remains a party to the case, the Attorney General files a petition for adoption on behalf of DHS and there is no cost to the adoptive parents.</p> <p>If EPIC `Ohana Conferencing facilitates the adoption, the adoptive parents pay the \$215 court filing fee. EPIC does only uncontested adoptions in Voluntary Case Management cases prior to court involvement and with DHS Section Administrator approval.</p> <p>If a private attorney is retained or if the adoption petition is filed in another state, DHS may reimburse eligible families for one-time nonrecurring adoption expenses, which may include attorney's fees and an adoption home study, up to a maximum of \$2,000.</p>	<p>If DHS remains a party to the case, the Attorney General files a petition for legal guardianship on behalf of DHS and there is no cost to the legal guardians.</p> <p>If EPIC `Ohana Conferencing facilitates the legal guardianship, the legal guardians pay the \$215 court filing fee. EPIC handles only uncontested legal guardianships in Voluntary Case Management cases prior to court involvement and with DHS Section Administrator approval.</p> <p>If a private attorney is retained or if the legal guardianship petition is filed in another state, the legal guardians must pay for all court costs and legal fees.</p>	<p>Permanent custody is handled by the Attorney General and DHS at no cost to the permanent custodian.</p>

<p>13. Will the child be eligible for Imua Kākou when the child turns 18 years old?</p>	<p>Imua Kākou is only available to foster youth who are in voluntary foster custody, court-ordered temporary foster custody, foster custody or permanent custody when they turn 18; however, if the young adult was 16 or older at the time of the adoption, s/he may be eligible for Extended Assistance payments to age 21, if the young adult meets one of the following criteria and provides documentation to support continued eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing secondary education or equivalent program; • Enrolled in a post-secondary or vocational education institution; • Participating in an activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment; • Employed at least 80 hours per month; or • Incapable of doing any of the above due to a medical condition. <p>If the adoption permanently disrupts or fails as determined by CWS, the young adult may apply for Imua Kākou before age 21, under the same criteria as foster youth who exited foster care at age 18.</p> <p><u>HRS §346-395</u></p>	<p>Imua Kākou is only available to foster youth who are in voluntary foster custody, court-ordered temporary foster custody, foster custody or permanent custody when they turn 18; however, if the young adult was 16 or older at the time of the guardianship, s/he may be eligible for Extended Assistance payments to age 21, if the young adult meets one of the following criteria and provides documentation to support continued eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing secondary education or equivalent program; • Enrolled in a post-secondary or vocational education institution; • Participating in an activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment; • Employed at least 80 hours per month; or • Incapable of doing any of the above due to a medical condition. <p>If the guardianship permanently disrupts or fails as determined by CWS, the young adult may apply for Imua Kākou before age 21, under the same criteria as foster youth who exited foster care at age 18.</p> <p><u>HRS §346-395</u></p>	<p>Yes. Imua Kākou is available to foster youth who are in voluntary foster custody, court-ordered temporary foster custody, foster custody or permanent custody when they turn 18. In Imua Kākou, the young adult receives financial assistance and case management services until 21.</p> <p>To become eligible, the young adult must meet one of the following criteria, provide documentation to support continued eligibility, and fulfill program requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing secondary education or equivalent program; • Enrolled in a post-secondary or vocational education institution; • Participating in an activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment; • Employed at least 80 hours per month; or • Incapable of doing any of the above due to a medical condition. <p><u>HRS §346-395</u></p>
<p>14. Higher education</p>	<p>If the adoptive parents are not receiving extended adoption assistance, the child may receive higher education benefits, if the young</p>	<p>If the legal custodians are not receiving extended permanency assistance, the child may receive higher education</p>	<p>If the permanent custodians are not receiving extended permanency assistance, the child may receive higher</p>

	<p>adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is age 18 or older; • is attending an accredited institution of higher learning; and • meets DHS eligibility requirements. <p>Payments (equal to the amount of the current foster board rate) may be issued between the ages of 18 and 27 years, for a maximum of 60 months.</p> <p>The young adult may not receive adoption assistance and higher education benefits at the same time.</p>	<p>benefits, if the young adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is age 18 or older; • is attending an accredited institution of higher learning; and • meets DHS eligibility requirements. <p>Payments (equal to the amount of the current foster board rate) may be issued between the ages of 18 and 27 years, for a maximum of 60 months.</p> <p>The young adult may not receive permanency assistance and higher education benefits at the same time.</p>	<p>education benefits, if the young adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is age 18 or older; • is attending an accredited institution of higher learning; and • meets DHS eligibility requirements. <p>Payments (equal to the amount of the current foster board rate) may be issued between the ages of 18 and 27 years, for a maximum of 60 months.</p> <p>The young adult may not receive Imua Kakou and higher education benefits at the same time.</p>
<p>15. Education and Training Vouchers (ETV)</p>	<p>ETV benefits may be issued to a young adult, if the young adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • was adopted at age 16 years or older; • is under age 23; • Is attending an accredited institution of higher education; and • Meets program criteria. <p>ETV benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are issued to assist the young adult meet the Cost of Attendance (COA); • may not exceed the COA or \$5,000 per school year, whichever is less. <p>ETV benefits may be received concurrently with extended adoption assistance, Imua Kakou or higher education benefits.</p>	<p>ETV benefits may be issued to a young adult, if the young adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for whom legal guardianship was awarded to a relative at age 16 years or older; • is under age 23; • Is attending an accredited institution of higher education; and • Meets program criteria. <p>ETV benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are issued to assist the young adult meet the Cost of Attendance (COA); • may not exceed the COA or \$5,000 per school year, whichever is less. <p>ETV benefits may be received concurrently with extended permanency assistance, Imua Kakou or higher education benefits.</p>	<p>ETV benefits may be issued to a young adult, if the young adult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was the subject of a Permanent Custody order that was terminated at age 18 years or older; • is under age 23; • Is attending an accredited institution of higher education; and • Meets program criteria. <p>ETV benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are issued to assist the young adult meet the Cost of Attendance (COA); • may not exceed the COA or \$5,000 per school year, whichever is less. <p>ETV benefits may be received concurrently with extended permanency assistance, Imua Kakou or higher education benefits.</p>