



“There are times when I don’t have access to a homeless shelter. Rooftops are a safe bet in such a circumstance. They protect you from view, keep you away from bugs and animals, and allow for both privacy, and the peace of mind that is accompanied by privacy.”

This picture is from a few weeks ago, I woke up on the rooftop of a closed-down 7-11, with a helicopter flying overhead.”

-FHAR student, 2015



“I’m very thankful for the FHAR program providing bus passes along with other helpful hygienic provisions. It really makes me feel like someone is out there wanting me to succeed and not just leaving me to deal with my situation alone.”

-FHAR student, 2016



**Questions?
Contact us today!**

FHAR is located **inside** the Academic Advising Center at The University of Texas—El Paso

Physical Address: 2060 Hawthorne St.
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
Phone: 915-747-5290
Email: fhar@utep.edu
Website: www.utep.edu/fhar

No appointments necessary for FHAR students... ask the front desk staff to see a FHAR advisor!

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Foster. Homeless. Adopted. Resources



MISSION

To connect foster, homeless, and adopted students—through education and advocacy—with resources that will holistically assist with their UTEP experience.

Were you in the Texas Foster Care System, or Adopted in Texas?

The Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) determines eligibility for FREE tuition and fees the entire time you are at UTEP. You may qualify if:

- You aged out of foster care
- You were placed in foster care but later returned home
- You were adopted after age 14
- You were adopted in a group

How FHAR Helps

Department of Family Protective Services (DFPS) Tuition Waiver*

- If you were in the Texas foster care system and qualify, FHAR can work with DFPS and help you through the process of activating your free tuition and fees waiver at UTEP
- You MUST enroll before your 25th birthday** to activate your tuition waiver, and you can use the waiver through your Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees!

Independence Verification Waiver

- This waiver may also apply to foster or adopted students depending on their situation

Experiencing Homelessness?

Students who are homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act**:

"lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence."

You may qualify for help through FHAR if you are:

- Sharing housing due to economic hardship or loss of housing
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, camp grounds, colonias, or barrios
- Living in homeless shelters, emergency shelters, or transitional living facilities
- Sleeping or living in a car, park, public space (street, arroyo, under freeways, etc.), abandoned building, or bus/train station
- Waiting for foster placement

How FHAR Helps

Independence Verification Waiver

- Grants "Independent" status with Financial Aid
- This waiver must be re-verified through FHAR every year.

Services for FHAR Students

- Academic Advising
- School, Hygiene, and Household Supplies
- Bus Passes
- Food Pantry
- Access to Housing
 - We have a partnership with UTEP Housing and Residential Life
- Advocacy on your behalf, to Financial Aid and other departments
- Mentoring
- Case Management
- Referrals to on- and off-campus services:
 - Career Services, Counseling Center, CASS (for students with disabilities), Military Success Center, Campus Health Center, Student Life
- Workshops
- Community Involvement Opportunities



* https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Post_Secondary_Education/college_tuition_waiver.asp

** <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/03/17/2016-06073/mckinney-vento-education-for-homeless-children-and-youths-program>