



# GROWING YOUR PROGRAM

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Tools for Outreach, Recruitment and Understanding Eligibility

*January 22, 2019*



# Today's Presenters

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Debbie Raucher

- John Burton Advocates for Youth



Colleen Ganley

- California Community College Chancellor's Office



Flo Charlie

- Sierra College



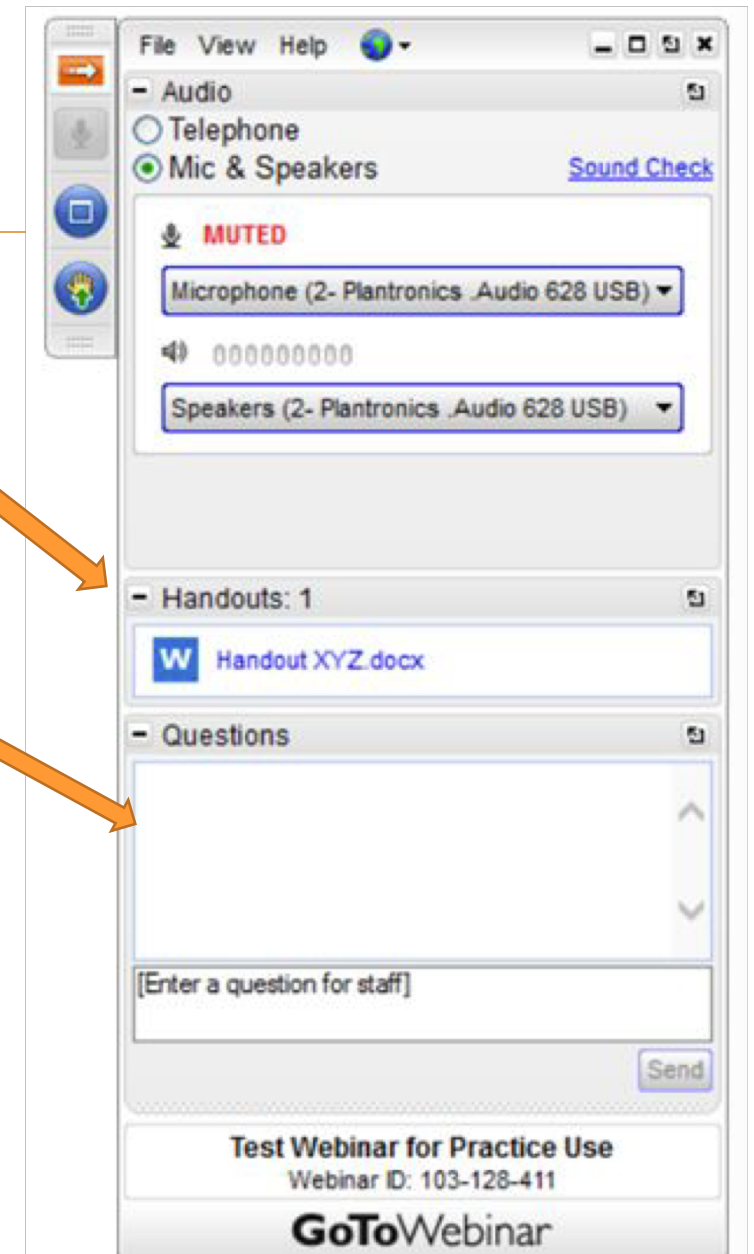
Veronica Salmeron

- Fresno City College



# Information to Participate

- Today's PowerPoint can be downloaded from the "handouts" section of your control panel
- To submit questions, click on the "Questions" panel, type your question, and click "send"
- Presentation materials and audio will also be posted at
  - [www.jbaforyouth.org](http://www.jbaforyouth.org)
  - [www.cacollegepathways.org/webinars-conferences/webinars](http://www.cacollegepathways.org/webinars-conferences/webinars)



Cooperating Agencies  
Foster Youth  
Educational Support  
(CAFYES)  
NextUp

January 22, 2019



## Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support (CAFYES) Program

- Senate Bill 1023: (Chaptered in 2013-14) allowed CCC Chancellor's Office to establish CAFYES programs at up to 10 California Community College districts
- Senate Bill 12: (Chaptered in 2017-18) allowed for the expansion of CAFYES to up to 20 CCC districts
- Legislatively established as the CAFYES program, was rebranded in 2016 as the NextUp program

# NextUp

NextUp is a supplemental program housed within EOPS

NextUp is designed to provide support services and other resources, including direct aid, to current and former foster youth who are enrolled in California's community colleges

- 2014: NextUp on 26 campuses
- 2018: NextUp expansion, now on 45 campuses

# NextUp Services and Resources

NextUp programs can provide a wide variety of supports including but not limited to:

- Books and Supplies
- Counseling and Career Guidance
- Educational Planning
- Assistance with basic needs resources
- Life Skill and Financial literacy
- Tutoring
- Health/mental health services

# Campus Continuum of Services



In an effort to provide a continuum of services to youth on campus, NextUp staff should collaborate with existing foster youth service programs including:

- Foster Youth Success Initiative
- Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success Independent Living Program (YESS-ILP)
- Guardian Scholars Programs
- Renaissance Scholars
- Other Equity sponsored Foster Youth support programs



# Campus Continuum of Services



Per NextUp regulations, it is an allowable use of funds to work with other programs to:

- Determine if students being served by other campus programs are eligible to participate in NextUp
- Refer non-eligible students to available resources

# Collaboration



CAFYES colleges should collaborate with other agencies and organizations that provide supports to youth including but not limited to:

- County child welfare departments
- Independent Living Programs
- County probation departments
- K-12 Foster Youth Coordinating Programs
- Other organizations that serve foster youth

Goal is to maximize the resources available for youth and to make sure that efforts to serve the students are not being duplicated

# Student Eligibility

- CA resident for more than 1 year, or eligible for a non-resident tuition waiver
  - A&R has authority to grant residency to youth under 19, living in CA
- Qualify to receive the California College Promise Grant (BOG fee waiver) with a calculated Expected Family Contribution of \$0
  - Work with financial aid department if EFC is not \$0

# Student Eligibility

- In foster care on or after their 16th birthday
- Under age 26 at the beginning of the academic year
- Enrolled in at least 9 units, or three-quarters time (as defined by the college) at the time of acceptance
  - Exception if DSPS plan requires student to enroll in fewer than 9 units
- Youth who were under the jurisdiction of the juvenile probation system with an order for out of home placement are considered eligible

# Student Eligibility & Verification

Foster Youth Status Verification (utilize one of the following):

- Chafee grant eligibility confirmation with college Financial Aid office
- Priority enrollment based on foster youth status with college A&R
- Confirmation from county of placement
  - Letter from county social worker, ILP program, probation officer
- Confirmation from CA foster youth ombudsperson's office
  - Only for students no longer in care
  - Toll free # 1-877-846-1602 [fosteryouthhelp@dss.ca.gov](mailto:fosteryouthhelp@dss.ca.gov)

# Suggestions About Verification

- The verification process should create the LEAST burden on the student as possible
- If the student has already verified foster youth status for purposes of financial aid or for admissions and records, that should be used for NextUp
- Overly scrutinizing verification and/or making the student go through the verification process multiple times is unnecessary and increases the likelihood that the youth will get frustrated, feel re-stigmatized and potentially give up on going to college

# Application Process and Orientation

- Applying and being oriented to NextUp should also be as streamlined as possible
  - Ideally youth will apply to both the EOPS and NextUp programs through a single application
  - Similarly, youth should not be required to participate in separate orientations for participation in EOPS and NextUp
- The goal is to get youth into the program and excessive “processes” may discourage youth from participating

# Continued Eligibility

- If, due to life circumstances, the youth needs to drop below 9 units, they are eligible to remain in the program
- Youth also receive special consideration if they are not achieving Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), and should not be disqualified from program participation based on unmet SAP
- NextUp staff should work with the youth to identify what additional supports they may need to increase course enrollment and/or to maintain SAP



# Outreach & Recruitment Strategies



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Flo Charlie, MSW

Guardian Scholars/NextUp

# Programs Serving Foster Youth at Sierra College

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GUARDIAN SCHOLARS (GSP)	NEXTUP
Foster Care Placement (No Age limit)	Foster Care Placement after 16 and under age 26
No Income Requirement	Income Requirement
.5-No Max Units	Minimum 9 units

# 1. Grassroots-Foster Youth Success Initiative Kick-Off

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- ❖ Identify key players & partners on campus

What does a first-time student path look like on campus?

- ❖ Host and invite stakeholders and community partners to a conference/meeting

- ❖ Identify stakeholders and community agencies that potentially serve your student population

- ❖ Identify current/former students and invite them to the conference/meeting

# Build & Create Your Community

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Sierra College hosts monthly Guardian Scholars and NextUp advisory meetings with our on-campus and off-campus partners.

- Department of Equity & Student Engagement
- Guardian Scholars/NextUP Program Coordinator, Counselor, NextUp Counselor Assistant, Financial Aid Technician
- EOPS Coordinator
- On-Campus Housing Representative
- Sierra College Foster and Kinship Care
- College Foundation Office
- Admissions and Records





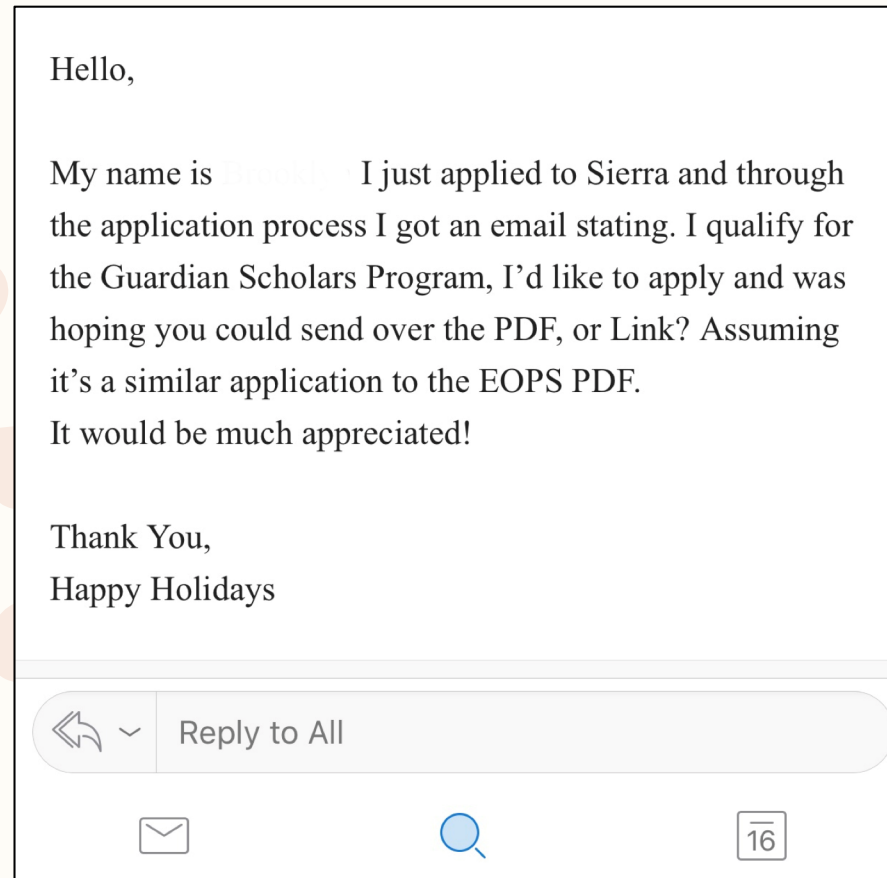
# Build & Create Your Community

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- County Independent Living Program
- Nevada County Foster Youth Services
- Transitional Housing Placement
- Placer County Office of Education: Foster Youth Services
- Youth Empowerment Service
- Pride Industries Youth Services
- Golden Sierra Job Training Agencies
- Placer County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- Placer County Probation
- Child Advocate Attorney

## 2. Outreach Via Self-Identification on CCCApply: Automated Email

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Met with Admissions and Records and Information & Instructional Technology (IIT) to create and set up an automated email to be sent to every student who identified as FFY through CCCApply.

### 3. Outreach Via Self-Identification Through FAFSA/Chafee Application

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- Financial Aid Technician receive information for student who self identify through FAFSA and/or Chafee Application.
- Financial Aid Technician contact student by phone and email with Guardian Scholars/NextUp Program Information.
- Financial Aid Office clears students for priority registration under foster youth status
- Financial Aid Technician outreach during high school outreach events



## 4. Active In-Reach & Outreach Presentations

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- Full-Time & Part-Time Counselors Training/Meeting
- County Office of Education
- Foster & Kinship Care Services
- Local Foster Care Placements
- Local Independent Living Programs
- CASA Orientation Events
- Various Community spaces such as Church, Soroptimist, City Council



## 5. GSP/NextUP Info Session

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- Scheduled information sessions throughout the academic year held on campus
- Open to all (students, providers, supporters, parents, etc.)
- Conducted by Program Technician
- Information about program and services such as Financial Aid, first-year college programs, GSP, NEXTUP, EOPS, DSPS, on-campus housing
- Campus tour



## 6. One Program Application

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- Common program application for EOPS, TRiO, and Guardian Scholars
- Program application invites for self-identification of foster care status



# 7. High School Liaison/Transition Counselors

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- Sierra College Guided Pathways allowed for a “Transition Counselor” position
- Transition Counselor is based on high school campuses
- Dual role as High School Counselor and Sierra College Counselor
- Helps students with the process of enrollment
- An assigned transition counselor is placed in local non-traditional high schools

# Recap of 7 Strategies for Outreach & Recruitment

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1. Build Your Community
2. Send out automated email to students who self-identify on CCCApply
3. Work with Financial Aid to identify students who self-identify on FAFSA and/or Chafee application
4. Give presentations on-campus and off-campus
5. Host ongoing on-campus information sessions about your program
6. Collaborate with similar student support programs
7. Collaborate with high school liaisons such as counselors



thank you!

Flo Charlie

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# Recruitment Strategies for the Fresno City College NextUp program

Veronica Salmeron-Sosa, MSW  
Coordinator/Counselor

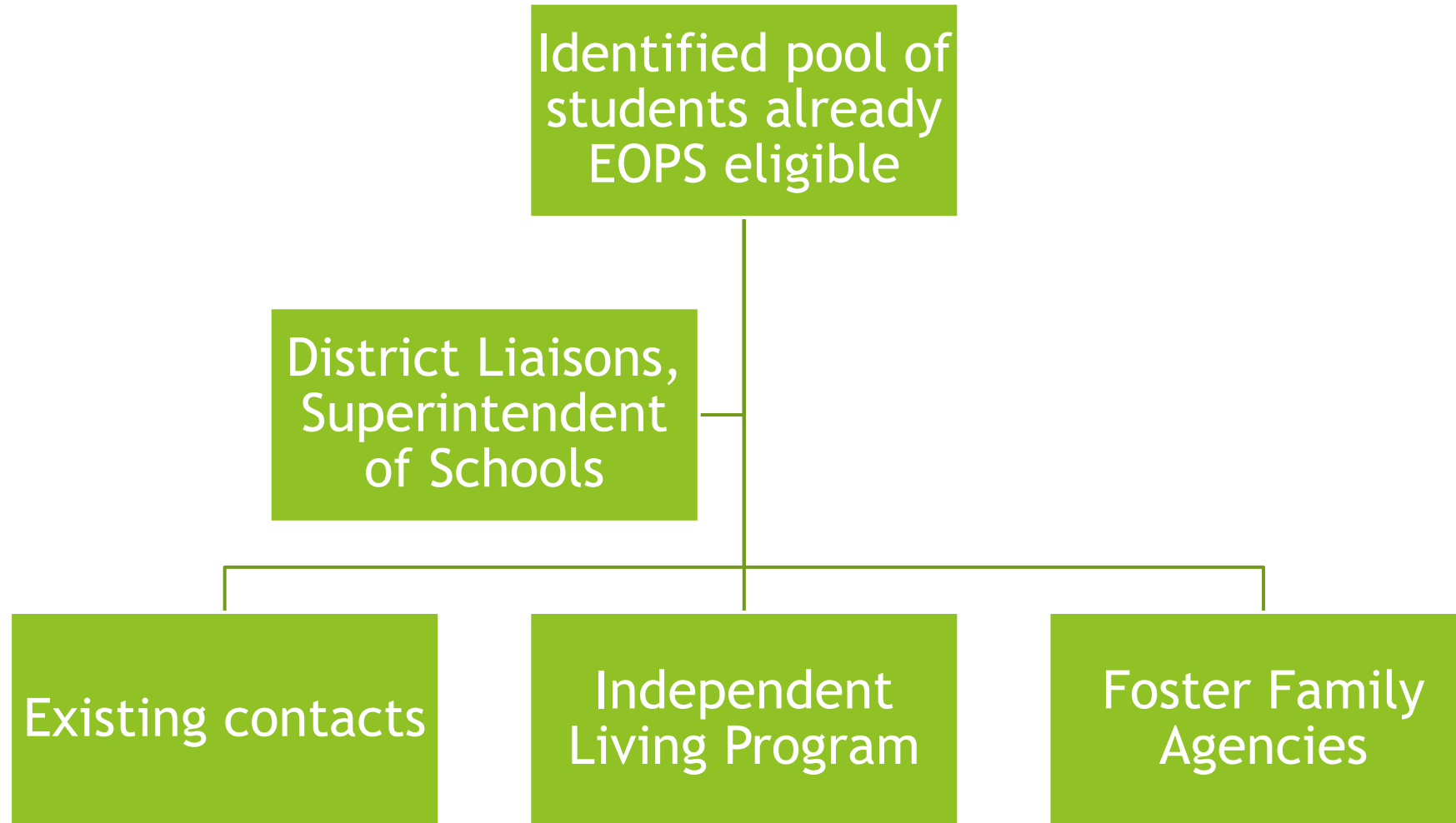
# EOPS Orientation

## ► Why orientation?

- ❖ Consistent information
- ❖ Clear expectations or program and student
- ❖ Necessary for size of group



# EOPS Orientation



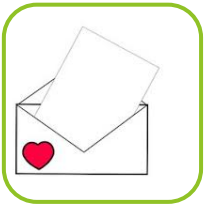


# EOPS Orientation

Contact began in high school



\*\* Most in need



\*\* Personal invitation

# EOPS Orientation

Information on EOPS/NextUp presented during orientation and each application reviewed again to capture more students.

If possible, one on-one meeting with potential NextUp youth on the day of on-campus open enrollment for EOPS. Orientation for NextUp scheduled.

# High School Outreach

NextUp staff meet with  
students in person at  
high school



# Access to Higher Education-High School

## Collaboration

### And Planning

- Fresno County Superintendent of Schools
- High School Foster Youth liaisons
- Fresno County Independent Living Program
- Fresno County Education liaisons
- County Probation
- SCCCD District Staff



# Access to Higher Education-High School

## Event Schedule

Key note speaker

Highlight department

College Express Workshop

Social Emotional lunch  
time

Peer mentors

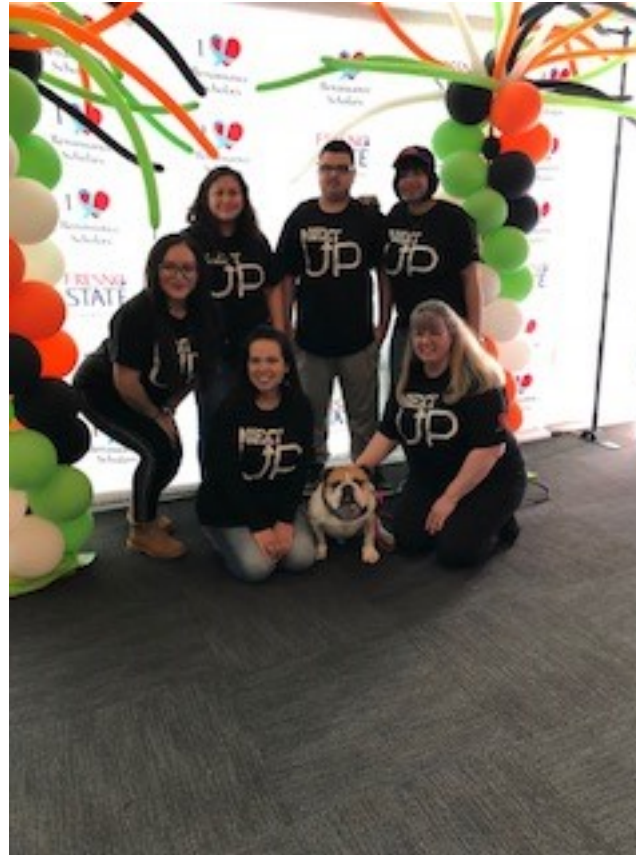
Campus Tour



# Access to Higher Education - High School

## Future NextUp student?

- Exposure to campus
- Exposure to NextUp staff and program
- Repeated for 4 yrs.





# A2HE- Extreme Registration



- ▶ All high school foster youth invited
- ▶ Many already familiar with NextUp staff
- ▶ Fully matriculated by the time they leave
  - ❖ Enrolled in classes
  - ❖ Financial aid taken care of (mostly)
  - ❖ NextUp application
  - ❖ Retreat (2019)

# Peer Mentor



## Identification

- Volunteer
- Follow through



## Preparation

- NEXTUP Budget, not FWS
- Training
- Learning Agreement
- Check-in



## Mentor Role

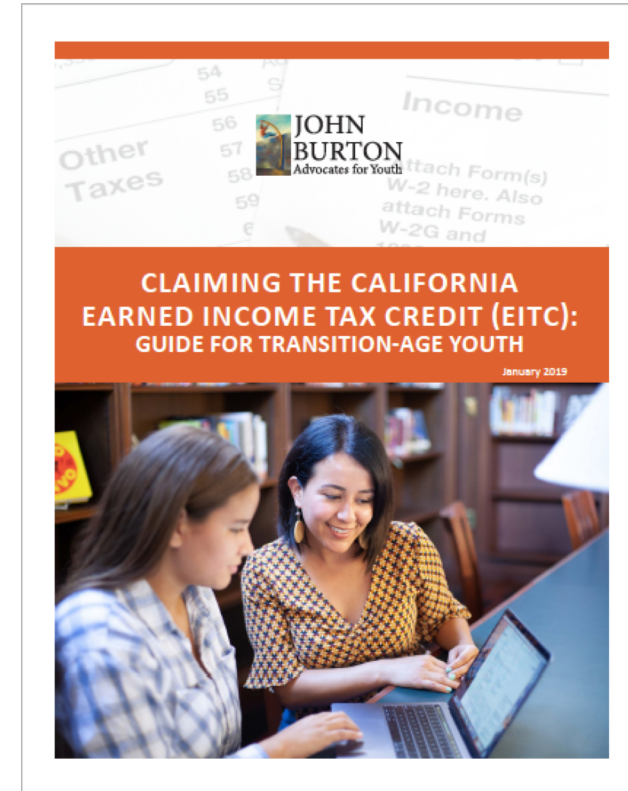
- Visible
- Reminders
- Workshops
- Feedback
- Youth Voice
- Prepare others



# Upcoming Webinars

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- **January 23, 10:00:** State Tax Credit Puts Cash into the Pockets of California's Most Vulnerable Transition-Age Youth
- **January 31, 10:00:** Bridging the Gap: Connecting College Campuses to the Youth Homelessness Response System
- **February 7, 14 and 21:** JBAY 2019 Policy Series



<https://www.jbaforyouth.org/upcoming-events-trainings>

# Question & Answer

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Enter your questions on your control panel by clicking the “questions” arrow, typing your question, and clicking “send.”

For more info:



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