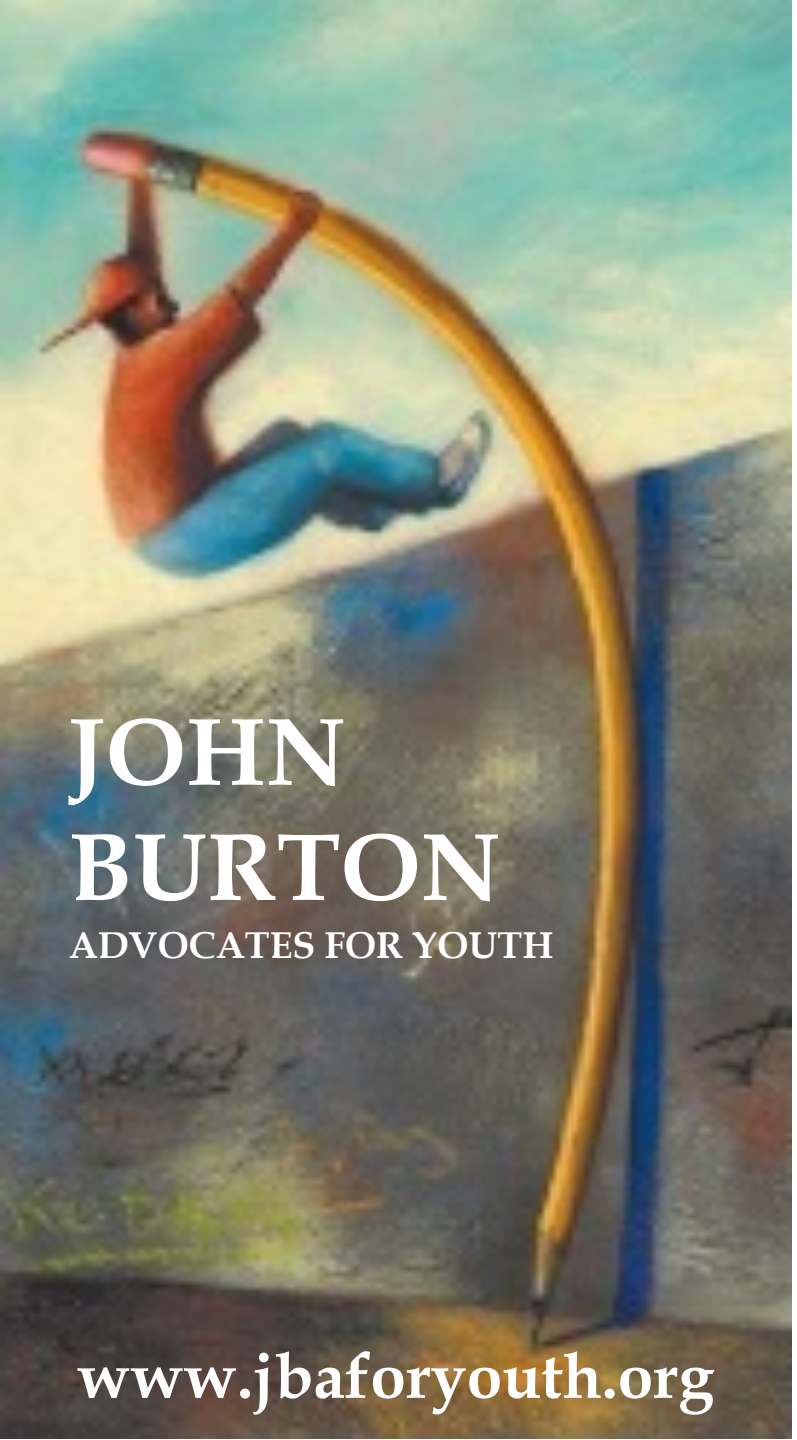


SET UP FOR SUCCESS

Supporting Foster Youth College Transition

Debbie Raucher and Kista Holani

December 11, 2019

Logistics

- Webinars are recorded and archived at http://kids-alliance.org/webinars/.
- If you experience technical difficulties email Ines Rosales at i.rosales@kids-alliance.org.
- Slides and certificate of participation will be posted at http://kids-alliance.org/webinars/.
- All attendees are muted during webinar.
- Please submit questions using the "Questions" function on your GotoWebinar dashboard.

Agenda

- Presenters
- Why College?
- Creating a College-Going Culture
- Applying to College
- Paying for College
- Succeeding in College
- Q & A

John Burton Advocates for Youth

Foster youth | **Homeless youth**

Education

Housing

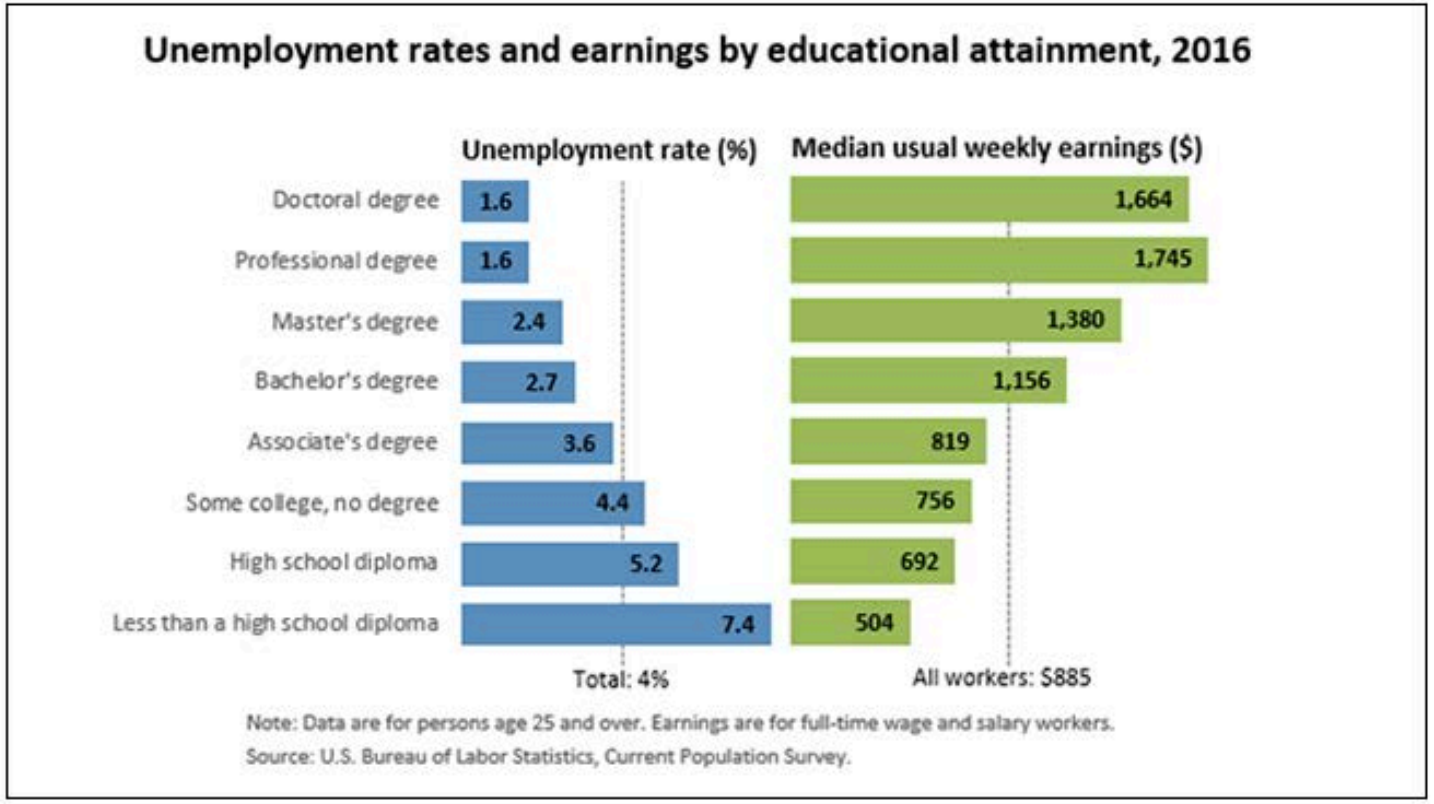
Health

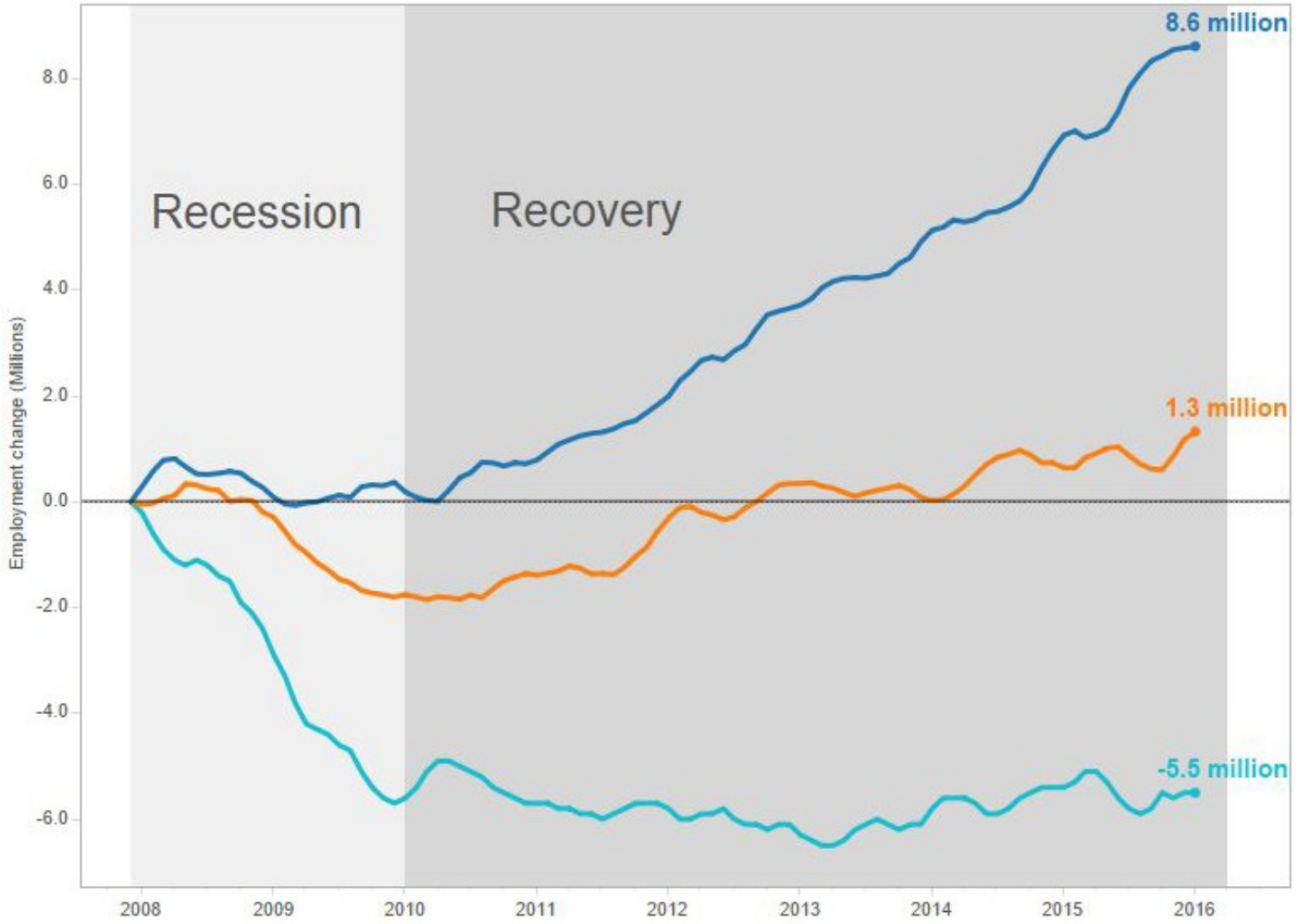
Textbook Fund ⟷ Technical Assistance & Training ⟷ Advocacy & Policy

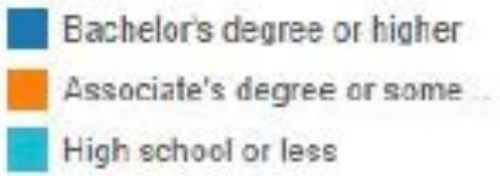
Why College?

Understanding what is at stake for our youth

Education Pays Off







99%

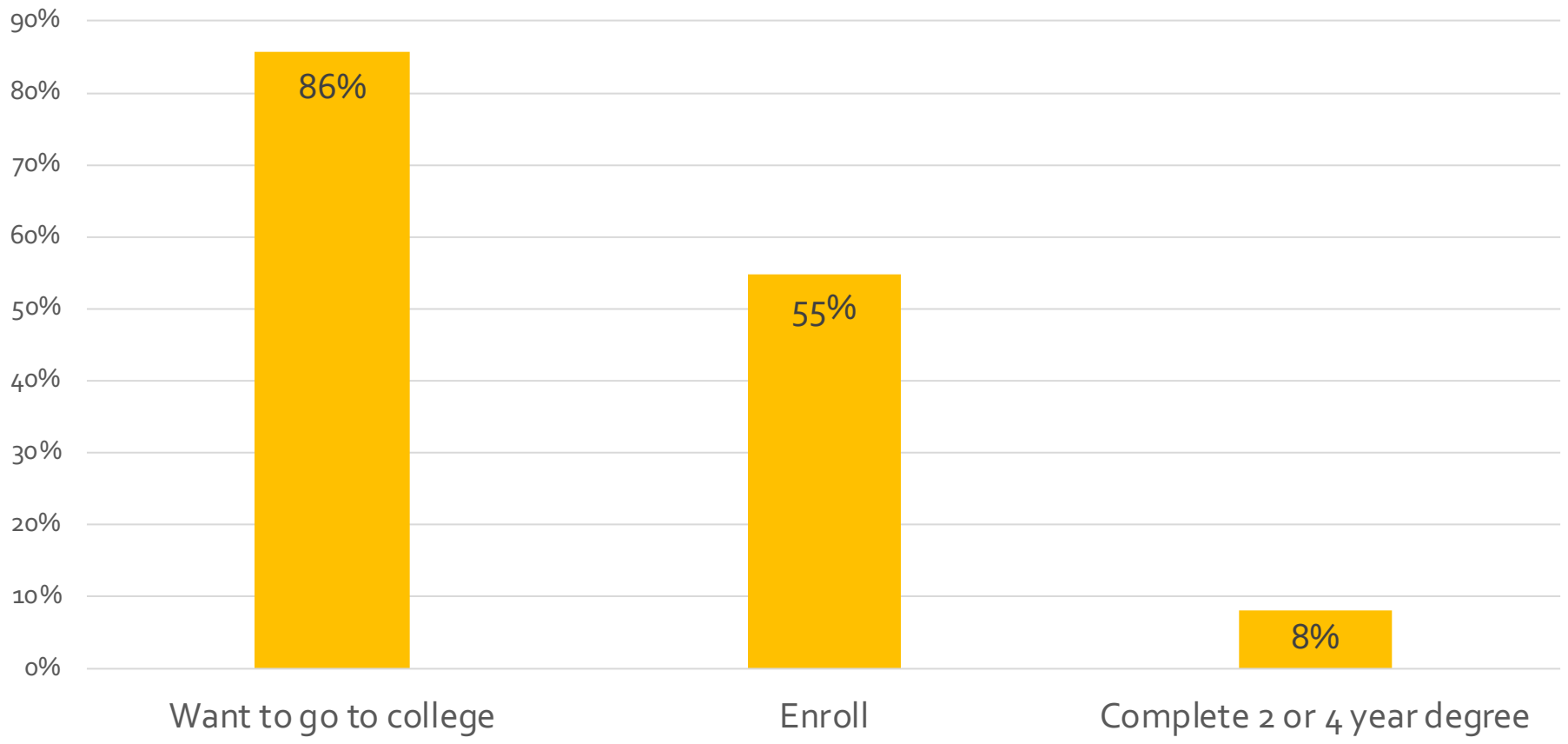
of jobs created since the Great Recession have gone to those with at least some college

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce analysis of *Current Population Survey* (CPS) data, 2007-2016.

Education Pays Off in Other Ways…

- Lower rates of incarceration
- Improved health outcomes
- Higher levels of civic participation, including voting
- Greater likelihood of one's children attending college
- Increased career satisfaction

College Aspirations vs. College Realities



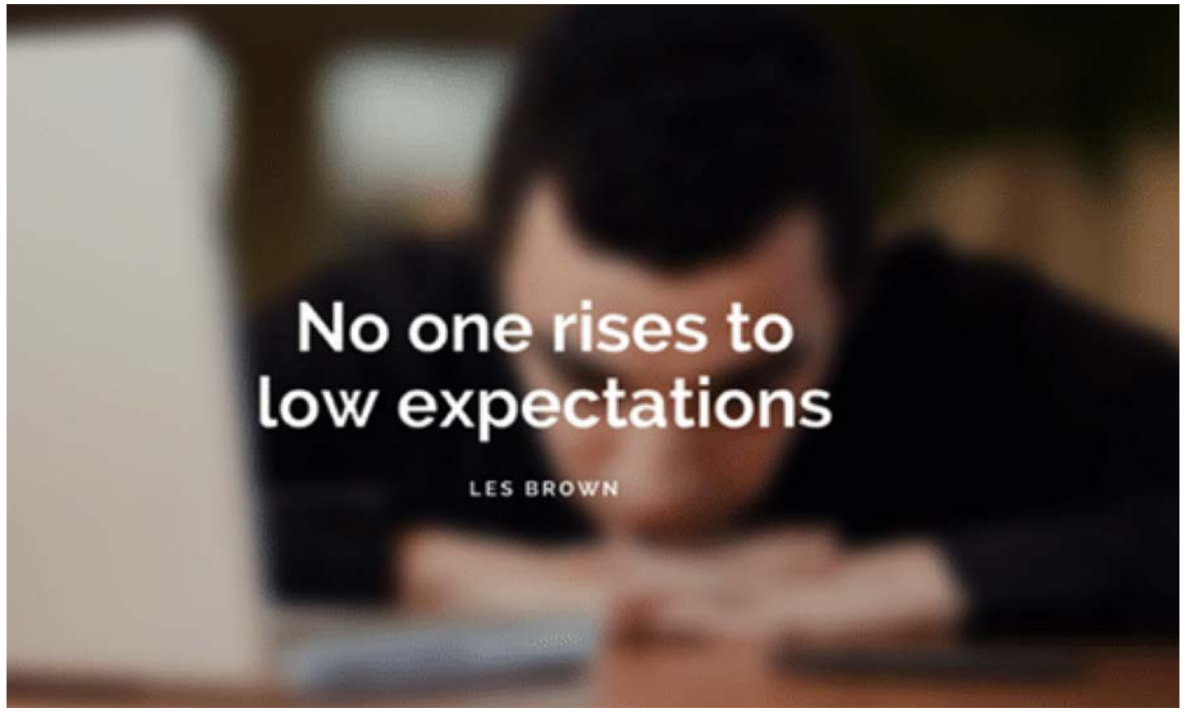
Creating a College-Going Culture

Early messaging is key

The single most important factor influencing a positive outcome for children and youth is a

lasting relationship with a caring, engaged adult.

Encouraging Foster Youth

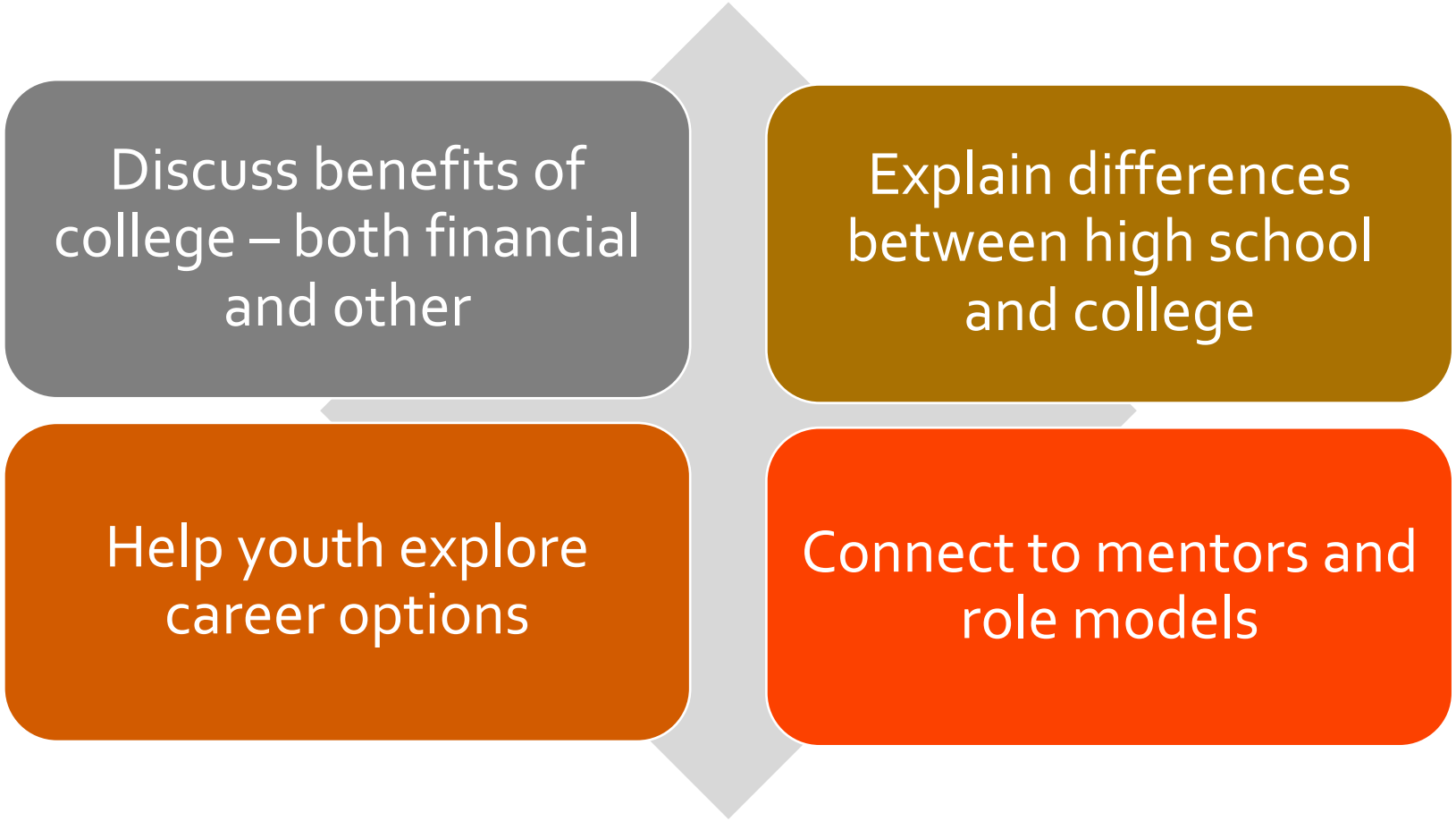


- Motivate from a young age
- Danger of the self-fulfilling prophecy
- Set high expectations – regardless of past academic performance
- Consistently express the expectation that the student will graduate from high school and go on to college
- Use such phrases as “When you go to college….” instead of “If…”

Tips for Making College Possible

- Start early
- Regularly ask youth how they are doing in school
- Praise their academic performance
- Visit college websites and look at photos with youth
- Take youth to local college for a tour
- Hold youth accountable

Inspire and Motivate Youth



Exploring Career Options

- Helping students find a career path
  - Begin in middle school
  - Increase motivation to stay in school
  - Save time and money

- Reality testing and money
  - *Living Wage Calculator*: livingwage.mit.edu
  - *Salary Surfer*: salarysurfer.cccco.edu
  - *CA Career Zone:* www.cacareerzone.org/budget

You are not signed in: Sign In
California CareerZone
powered by Headed2
Explore
Decide
Grow
Search
What's your plan?
Discover Possibilities
Explore Industry Sectors
Your Career Hub

Make Money Choices

Forming a budget is one of the most important parts of financial success. As you first enter the workforce, or even if you switch jobs, knowing how much money you will have available to spend on different aspects of your life will help you avoid debt and possibly even save some money for a rainy day.

To get started, select an option below

Choose Your Lifestyle

When you select this option, you will be asked a series of questions to help you determine the lifestyle you want to lead and how much it will cost you. When you are finished you can look at occupations that might support that lifestyle.

Budget how much money you'll need

Pick Your Salary

If you think you know how much money you are going to make, you can work backwards to see if that salary will support the lifestyle you want to lead. If it does not, you can search for alternative occupations that might.

Budget from a starting salary

MyPath

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

SIGN IN WITH OPENCCC

About the Colleges | Explore Careers | Choose a College | Apply for College | Pay for College

1. EXPLORE CAREERS

Find a career that motivates you.

- Take the Career Assessment
- Explore Careers
- View Potential Wages

2. CHOOSE A COLLEGE

Discover a college that will help you reach your goals.

- About the Community Colleges
- Find a College
- All Community Colleges

SEE ALL

3. APPLY FOR COLLEGE

Get your application started and learn about priority registration.

- Begin Application
- What is Priority Registration?
- Orientation

SEE ALL

4. PAY FOR COLLEGE

Apply for financial aid.

- Eligibility
- Get Ready to Apply
- Apply Now

SEE ALL

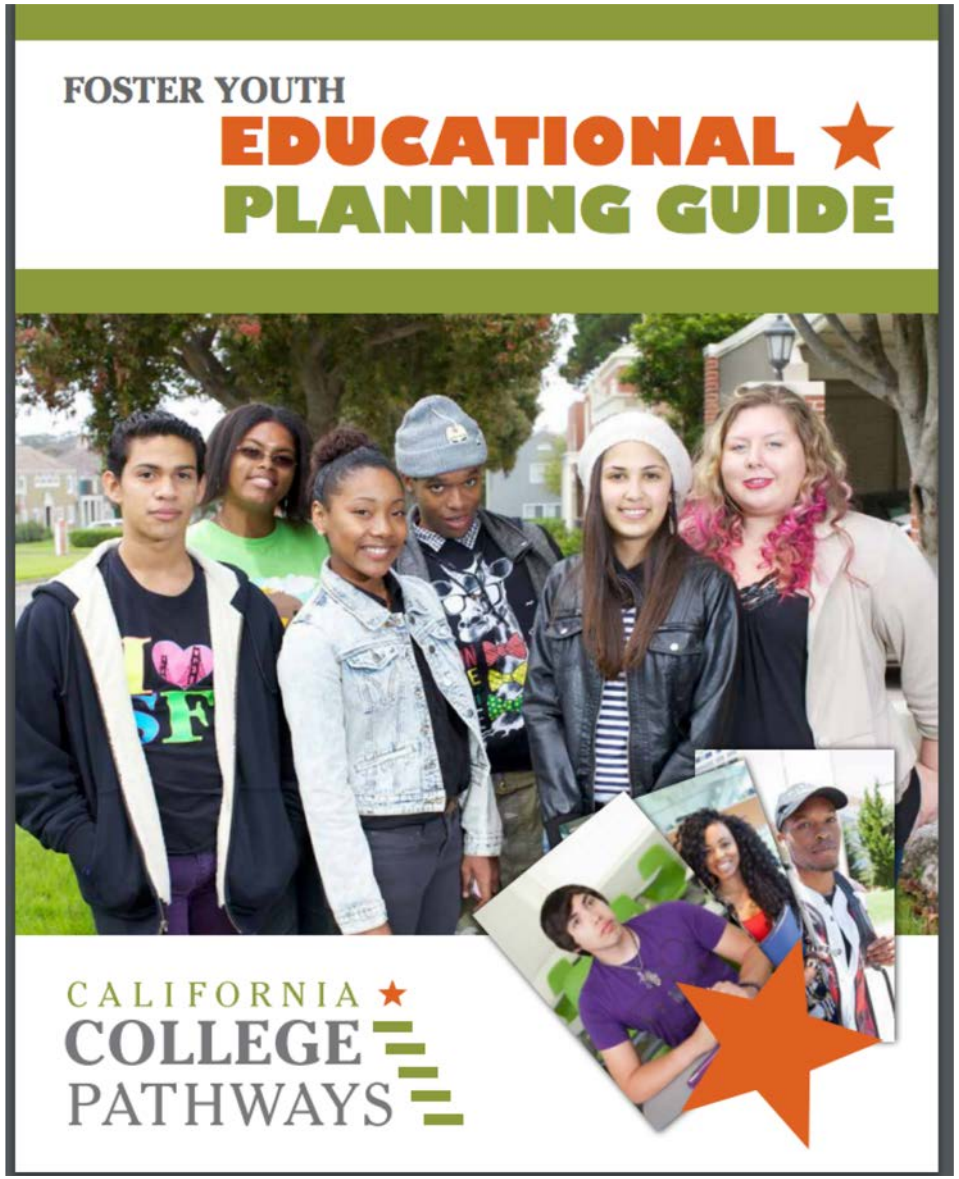
Salary surfer

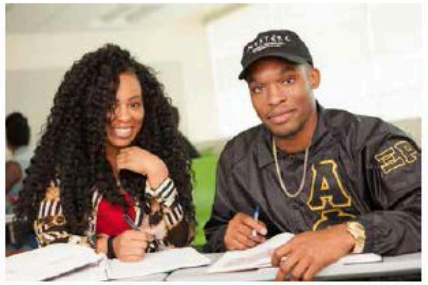
	Curriculum	Award Type	Median Annual Salary		
			2 Years Before	2 Years After	5 Years After
⊞	Administrative Medical Assisting	Degree	N/A	$27,193	N/A
⊞	Administrative Medical Assisting	Certificate	$20,140	$28,386	$31,211
⊞	Cardiovascular Technician	Degree	$20,134	$61,491	$73,479
⊞	Cardiovascular Technician	Certificate	$20,535	$63,780	$71,284
⊞	Clinical Medical Assisting	Degree	$8,126	$26,667	$23,506
⊞	Clinical Medical Assisting	Certificate	$13,485	$27,717	$32,992
⊞	Dental Assistant	Degree	$15,432	$29,845	$32,394
⊞	Dental Assistant	Certificate	$13,912	$28,253	$30,552
⊟	Dental Hygienist	Degree	$20,171	$69,118	$64,030

College	Program Title	Program Type
Cabrillo College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Cerritos College	Dental Hygienist	Degree
Cypress College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Diablo Valley College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Foothill College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Fresno City College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Moreno Valley College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Oxnard College	Dental Hygiene	Degree
Pasadena City College	DENTAL HYGIENE	Degree
Riverside City College	Dental Hygiene	Degree

Page 1 of 2 (16 items) < [1] 2 >

Foster Youth Educational Planning Guide





★ 8TH GRADE

Advising & Record-keeping

- ❑ Begin your High School Planner at www.csumentor.edu/planning/ or at www.californiacolleges.edu. The planner has information on courses and grades required for college admission. *Update your High School Planner every semester, and if you decide to apply to a CSU, your course information will automatically transfer to your application—making the application process much easier!*

Coursework

- ❑ Develop a tentative schedule of specific courses for grades 9-12 using the College Preparatory "a-g" course list and a list of CTE (Career Technical Education) course lists for high schools in your area.
- ❑ Take Pre-Algebra or Algebra I or another rigorous math course.
- ❑ Take a language other than English.
- ❑ Find programs to help you succeed in college prep courses on page 13.

Testing

- ❑ Take the 8th grade ACT Aspire assessment test (formerly ACT Explore and ACT Plan) to help you gauge progress towards college preparedness. *Ask your school counselor for information about how to sign up and about getting a fee waiver.*

Career Planning

- ❑ See your school counselor about taking a career interest and aptitude assessment.
- ❑ Participate in career awareness activities.

★ 9TH GRADE

Advising & Record-keeping

- ❑ Attend an orientation session at your new school.
- ❑ Meet with your high school counselor.
- ❑ Create a file for keeping track of everything related to education and career: include your grade reports and honors or awards you receive. Keep a record of extracurricular activities like paid employment, school clubs, sports, music, and volunteer work. If you transfer to a new school, get a copy of your school record and keep it in this file. *If you update this every semester it will make filling out the college application easy.*
- ❑ Begin or update your High School Planner at www.csumentor.edu/planning or www.californiacolleges.edu.

Coursework

- ❑ Take the required college preparatory "a-g" coursework including:
  - Algebra I or Geometry, college prep English, and a foreign language.
  - Elective courses that meet college admission standards: history, English, mathematics, science, visual and performing arts, and a foreign language.
  - Aim for As and Bs in all your classes; focus on developing good study habits.
- ❑ Register for AP (Advanced Placement) and honors courses for 10th grade, if available.
- ❑ Find programs to help you succeed in college prep courses on page 13.

Testing

- ❑ Optional: Take the 9th grade ACT Aspire assessment test.

Career Planning

- ❑ Participate in career exploration activities.
- ❑ Update your career interest and aptitude assessment (or take one if you have not already).
- ❑ Participate in a community project.

www.cacollegepathways.org/resources-reports/college-planning-resources

Student perspective: Kista Holani

- Were you exposed to the potential of college when you were younger and how did this help or hinder your educational journey?

- How essential was support from adult mentors to matriculate into college and what support was most helpful?

Applying to College

Supporting youth with application and enrollment

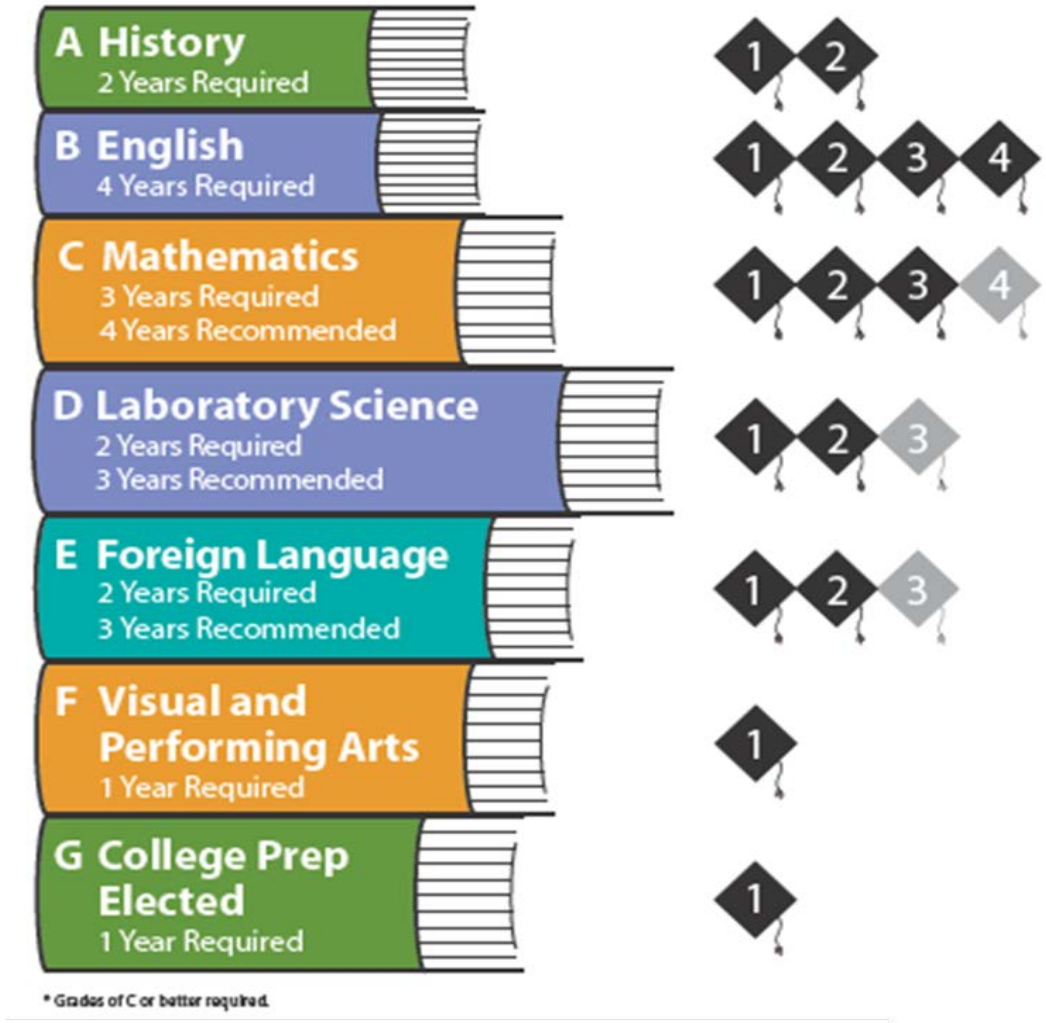
High School Graduation and College Enrollment

- A high school diploma or equivalent is not required to enroll in community college
  - ❖ Is required for most forms of federal and state financial aid
- Many community colleges offer high school diploma programs
- Foster youth are eligible for a fee waiver to take high school equivalency tests (CHSPE, GED, HiSET, TASC)
  - ❖ Submit verification to request waiver

College Options

Type	What to know
Community College	Open access, often takes longer than traditional 4-year path
Cal State University and University of California	Competitive application process, must take A-G classes
Private non-profit college/ university	Both in-state and out of state, many offer institutional scholarships
Private proprietary vocational or trade school	**BEWARE** of high cost programs with poor outcomes

A-G Courses



More than 4,000 high school career/technical classes are accepted as fulfilling one of the "a-g" course requirements.

See "a-g course lists" at ucop.edu/agguide

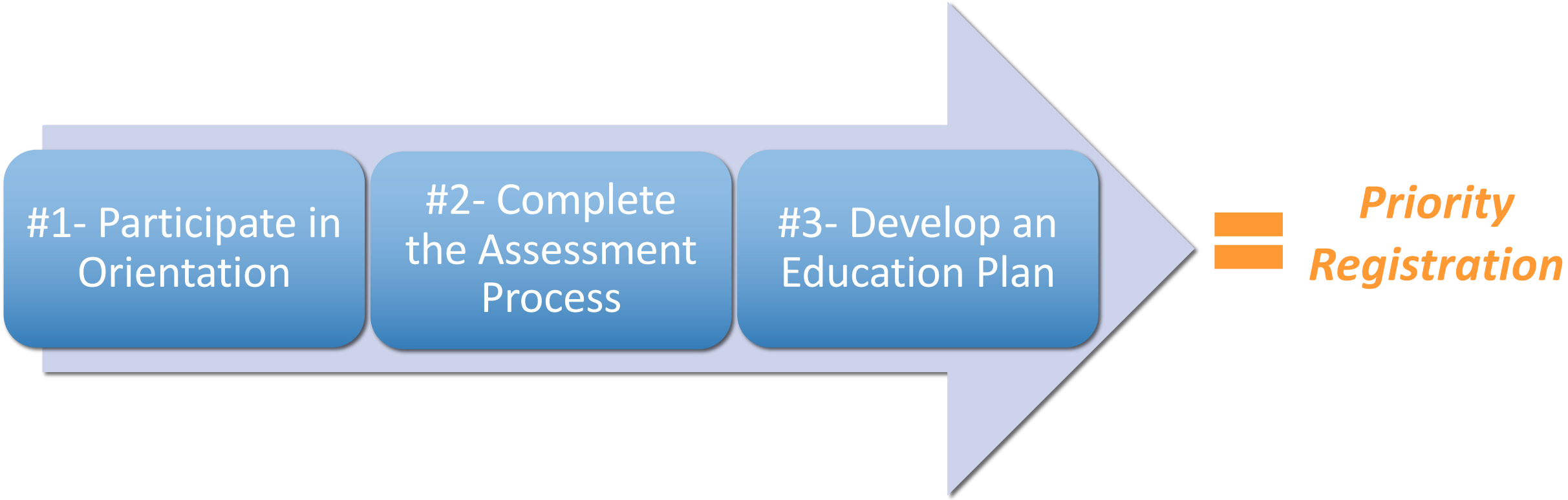
Career & Technical Education

Applying to Community College

Start the process early!

- ✓ Apply at www.cccapply.org
- ✓ Encourage youth to check off the "foster youth" box to get connected to resources
- ✓ Apply for support programs early, such as EOPS & NextUp (if applicable)
- ✓ Take advantage of Priority Registration (occurs in Spring)

3 Steps for Priority Registration



Contact your local college to learn more or go to www.stepforward.cccco.edu

Assessment & Remediation

- Remedial courses
  - Don’t provide college credit but cost money
  - Cost students more money
  - Increase time to finish school
  - Decreases likelihood of completion
- Rapidly changing landscape
  - Use of high school transcript data for placement
  - Co-requisite enrollment options
  - Accelerated courses

Applying to a UC or CSU

- Apply for CSU's and UC's by **November 30th**
- Requires personal essays
- Apply for on-campus housing – strict deadlines
- Apply for EOP - with application
- Fee waivers are available for SAT/ACT tests

csu The California State University

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Additional CSU & UC Benefits

Priority Access to On-Campus Housing

Priority Registration

Student perspective: Kista Holani

- How easy or hard did you find the application process? What help did you need?

- In what ways have you benefited from priority registration? How important do you think it is for foster youth make sure they get this?

Paying for College

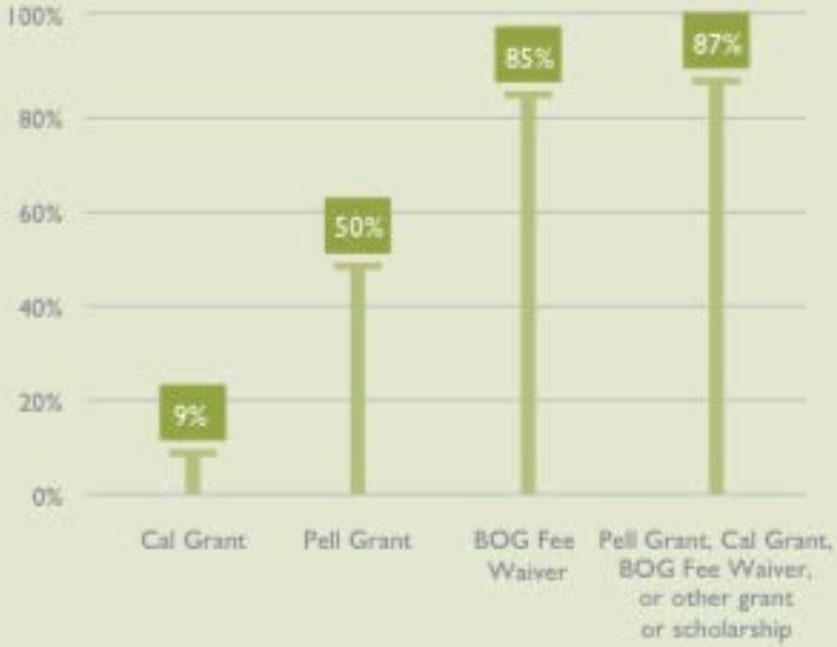
Understanding financial aid resources and processes

Financial Aid Makes a Difference

Students receiving at least $7,500 in financial aid	49% transferred or graduated
Students receiving $1,000 to $2,500	17% transferred or graduated

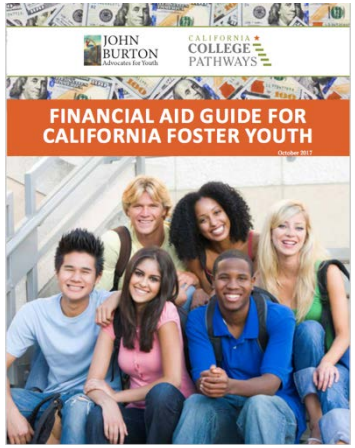
Are foster youth getting financial aid?

Figure 3: EQUIP – Foster youth receiving a Pell Grant, Cal Grant, BOG Fee Waiver, or other grant or scholarship-based financial aid: 2013-14

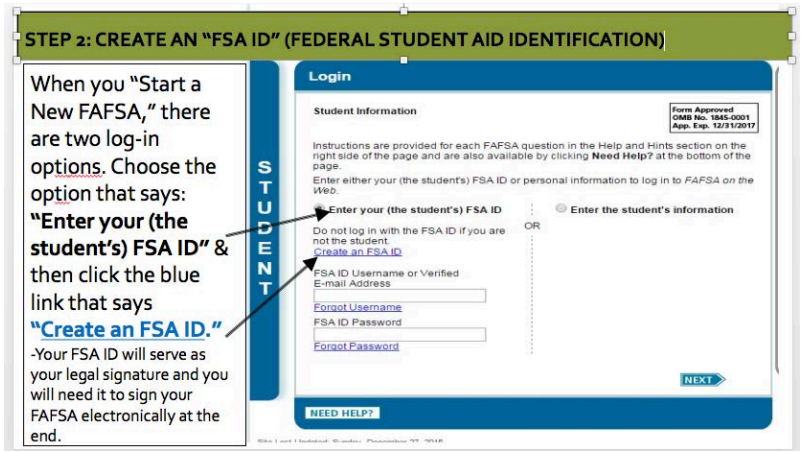


Note: Non-foster youth data were excluded from this indicator. Non-foster youth eligibility rates for financial aid may vary significantly from the rates for the foster youth population; therefore, a straight comparison of rates of receipt between the two groups would be of limited use here.

Resources



Financial Aid Guide



Online Visual Financial Aid Guide

Webinar recordings

www.cacollegepathways.org/ financial-aid

www.jbaforyouth.org/trainings-2

How to Apply for Financial Aid

If the applicant is a U.S. Citizen, a permanent resident or other eligible non-citizen:

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov

If the applicant is an undocumented immigrant:

Complete the CA Dreamers Act Application (CADAA) at dream.csac.ca.gov

FAFSA Phone App – My Student Aid

- Has IRS Data Retrieval Tool functionality
- Has an option to complete a renewal FAFSA and/or make corrections
- Requires an FSA ID in order to use the app

Application can be started on one device and completed on another with the Save Key

myStudentAid 4+
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Federal Student Aid
#200 in Finance
★★★★☆ 3.9, 27 Ratings
Free

When to Apply for Financial Aid

The priority application period for FAFSA and CADA is October 1– March 2nd

Students can apply after March 2nd, but may receive less financial aid

Students can apply for financial aid even after they've started school, but earlier means more aid

4 Year Considerations – Apply Early !

Housing deadlines come early: work with Foster Youth Program to get housing priority

Institutional grants unique to each campus: better chance of being awarded earlier

Scholarships: more available early

Deferment of enrollment and housing deposits

- FY Program coordinators can help with requests for deferment

What a Student Will Need to File FAFSA

- Name as it appears on their social security card
- Social security number
- Email address
- List of up to 10 schools students are interested applying to
- Self and parents' income information for the requested year*
- Youth in care after 13 or in guardianship are exempt from providing parental income information (independent status)

* prior-prior years tax information

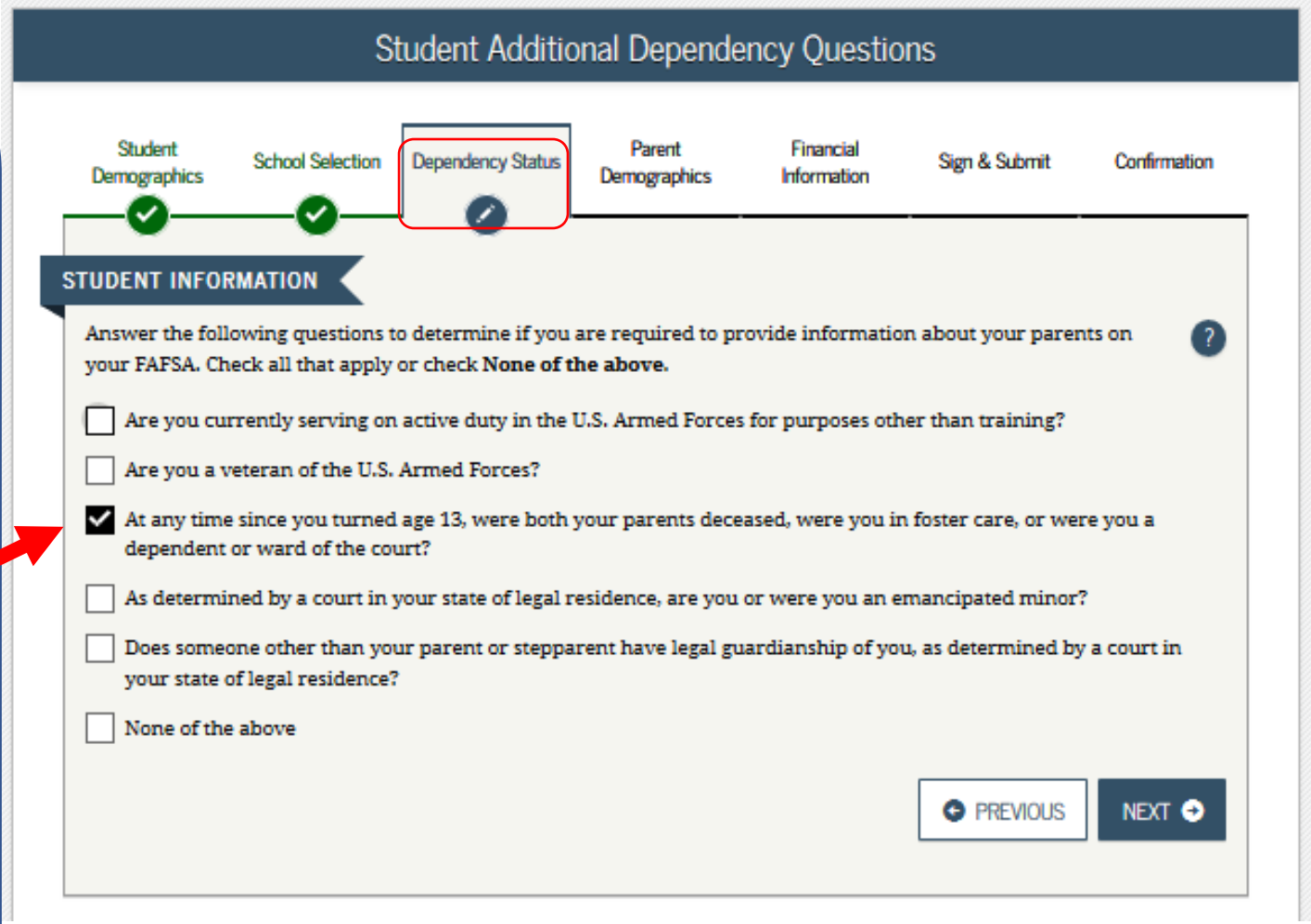
Dependency Status

Current or former foster youth qualify for "Independent Status" on the FAFSA if they can answer "Yes" to either of two questions:

"At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court?"

Or

"Does someone other than your parents or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of residence?"



Independent student = Financial need is determined based on student's income and not parents

FAFSA TIP

Financial Information

Foster youth DO NOT have to report the following information as income earned from working, or in the "Additional Financial Information" or "Untaxed Income" section:

Extended Foster Care (AB 12) benefits, including SILP payments or THP+ FC stipends

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Expanded CalGrant Access

CalGrant Eligibility	Foster Youth
Apply within one year of high school graduation	Any time up to age 26
March 2 deadline for all students	September 2 deadline for community college students
Max timeframe = 4 years	Max timeframe = 8 years

- Full tuition at CSUs and UCs!
- $1600 for non-tuition costs!
- $6000 for parenting students!

GPA MUST BE SUBMITTED BY HIGH SCHOOL AND MATCHED TO FAFSA/CADA

Apply for the Chafee Grant

After submitting the FAFSA or CADAA, *First time applicants only* must submit the California Chafee Grant Application online at www.chafee.csac.ca.gov

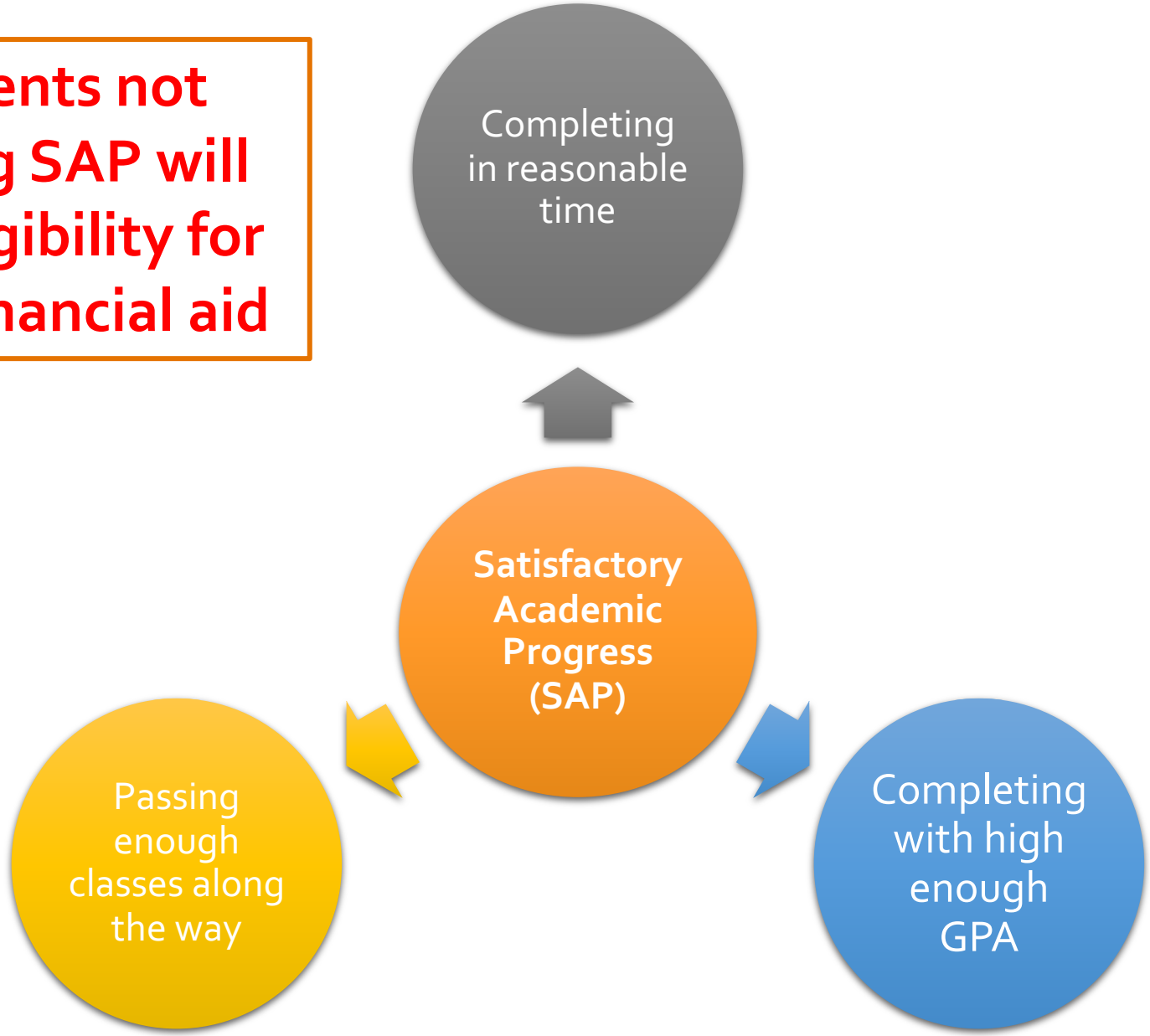
Up to $5,000 of free money for eligible current or former foster youth

After the FAFSA

- Create a WebGrants account at https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov (must use PC or laptop and must use Internet Explorer)
- Ensure GPA verification is sent by high school and matched to FAFSA/CADA (required for CalGrant)
- Check email and student portal regularly – respond to requests for additional information (including proof of IRS non-filing)
- Submit foster youth verification if required
- Watch for Student Aid Report (SAR)

Maintaining Financial Aid - Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Students not making SAP will lose eligibility for most financial aid



Student perspective: Kista Holani

- How easy or hard did you find the financial aid application process? What help did you need?
- What challenges have you faced maintaining financial aid?

Succeeding in College

Accessing Campus Resources for Foster Youth

Summer Melt

- Ten to twenty percent of students who enroll in college do not end up attending in the fall.
- These numbers are higher for low-income and first-generation students and community college bound students - **with attrition rates as high as 40 percent**.

Combating Summer Melt

- Ensure that all matriculation and enrollment steps are completed before high school graduation – including financial aid verification.
- Text them reminders over the summer
- Take students on campus visits
- Connect students to summer bridge programs at the campus
- Connect students to campus-based support programs before high school graduation.

Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI)

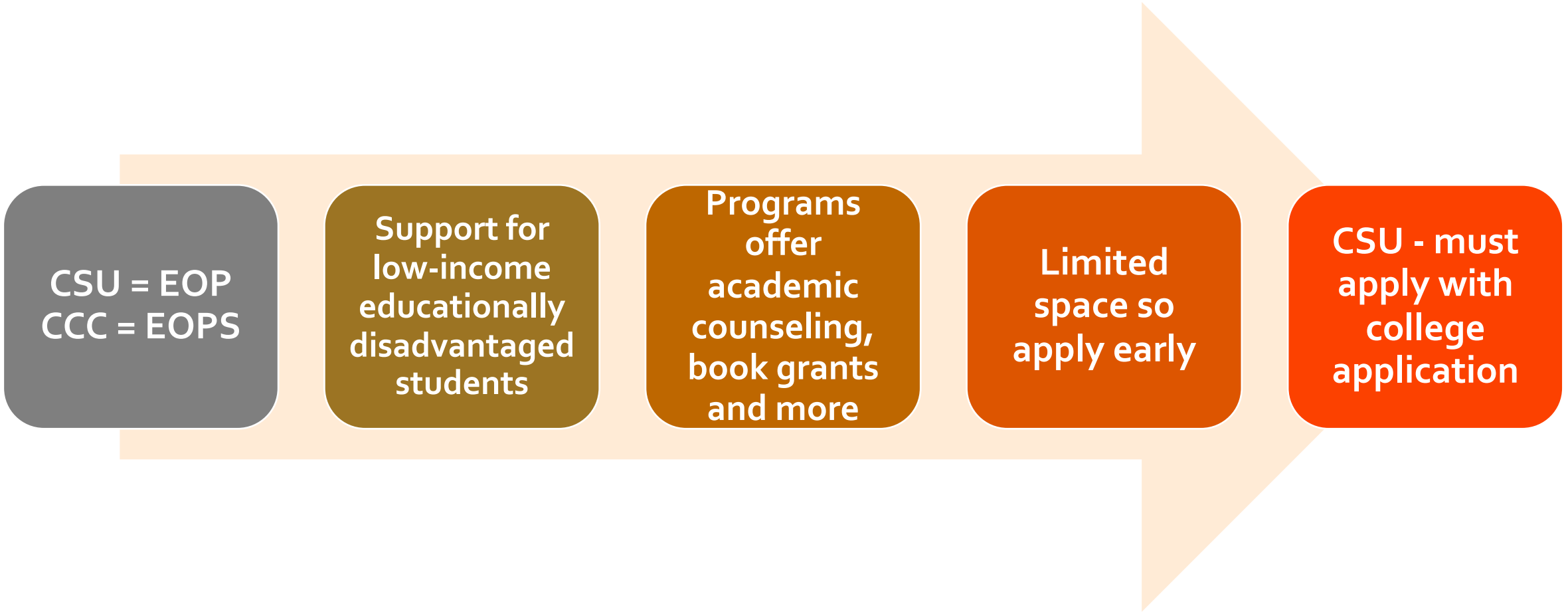
At least one FYSI Liaison for foster youth is at each of the 114 California community college campuses.

Often housed in the financial aid office

Foster Youth Campus Support Programs

- Various names: Guardian Scholars, Renaissance Scholars, etc.
- Program services & eligibility criteria can vary
- Found at most community colleges, CSU's, UC's and some private schools

EOP & EOPS


CSU = EOP
CCC = EOPS
Support for low-income educationally disadvantaged students
Programs offer academic counseling, book grants and more
Limited space so apply early
CSU - must apply with college application

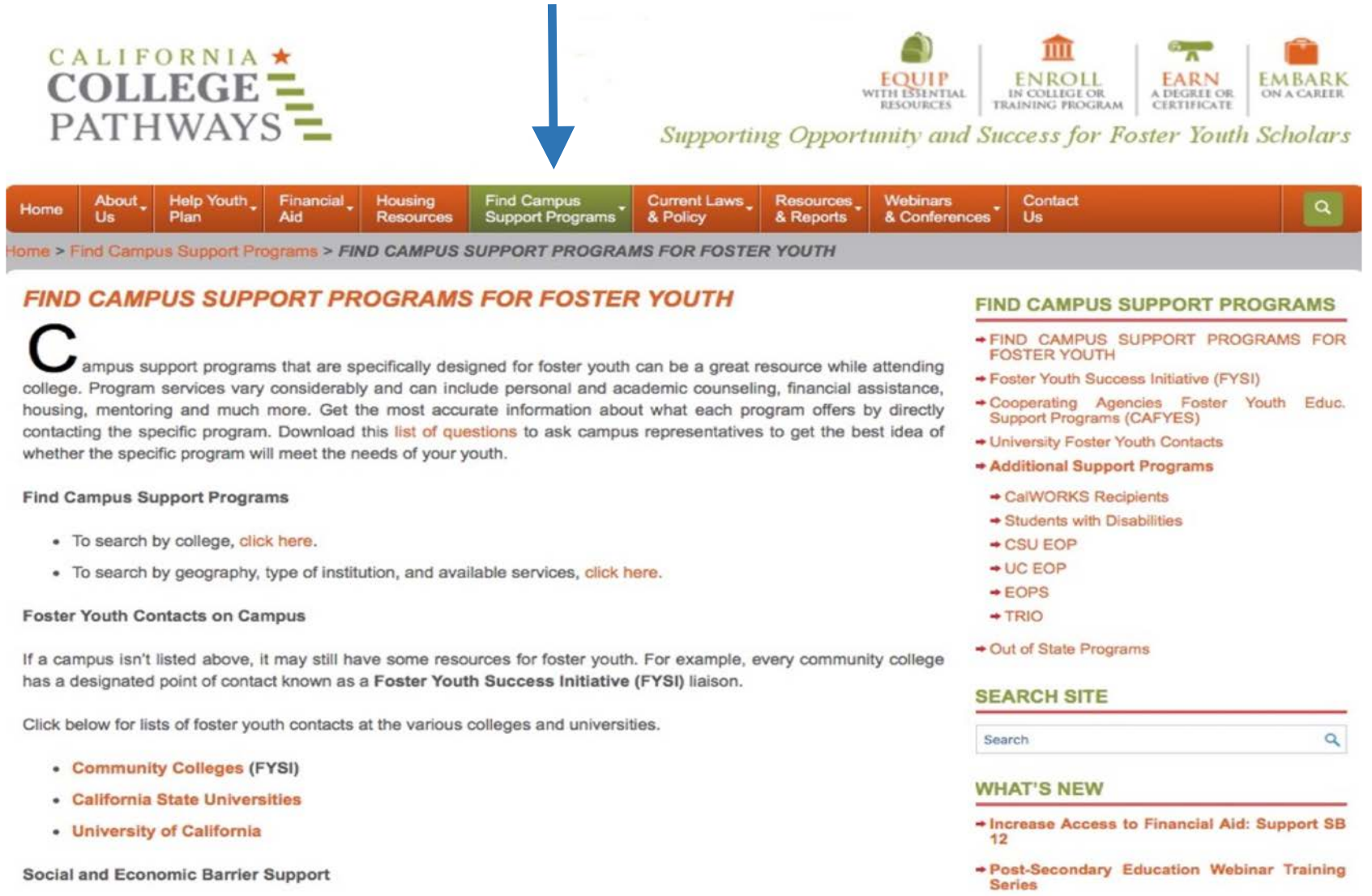
NextUp (Formerly CAFYES)

Students must be:

- Under age 26
- In foster care on or after their 16th birthday
- Enrolled in at least 9 units
- Also apply for EOPS

General Campus Resources & Supports

www.cacollegepathways.org



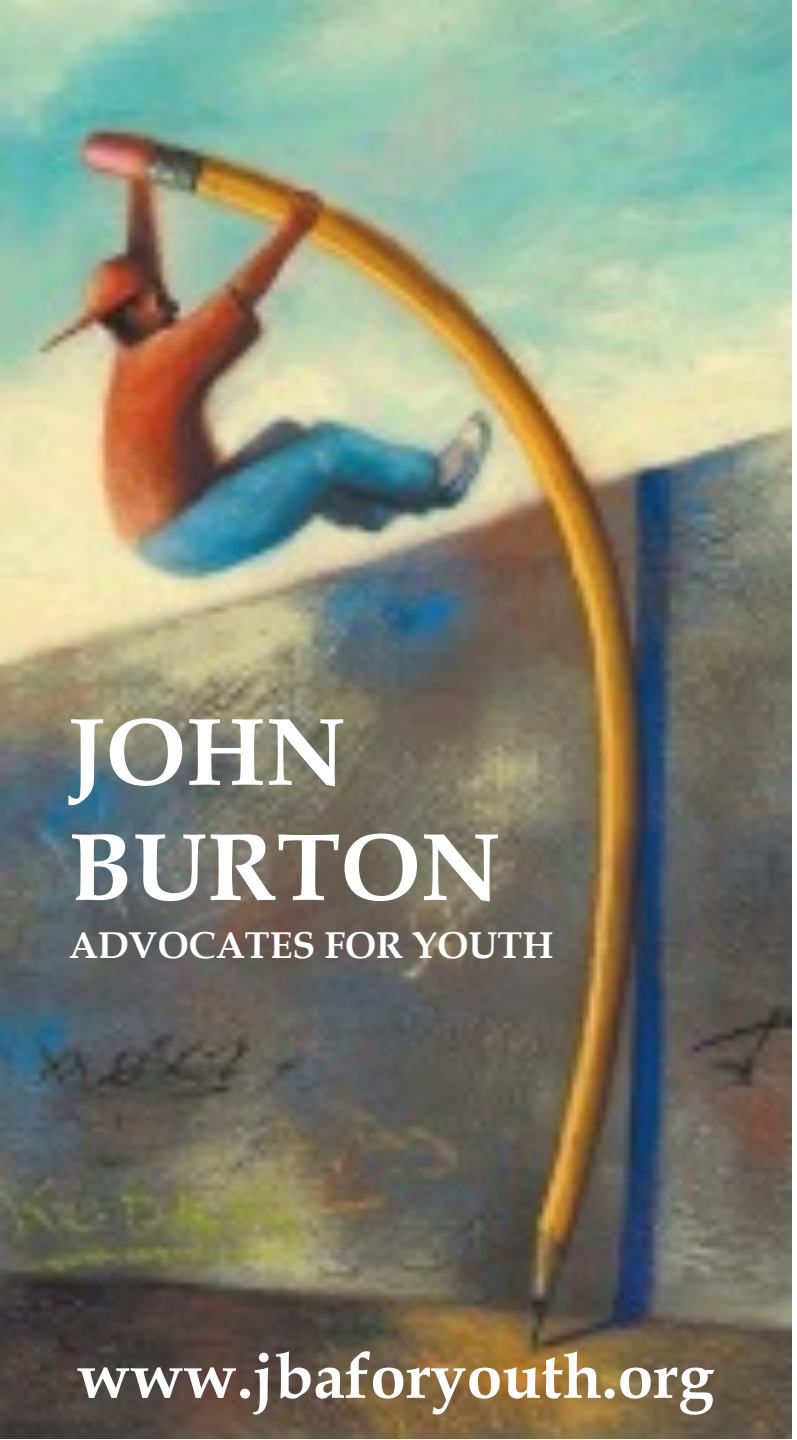
Find FYSI Liaisons, Foster Youth Campus Support Program, & NextUp contacts

www.student.cacollegepathways.org

STUDENT RESOURCE PORTAL

Thank you!

JOHN BURTON
Advocates for Youth



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