

ASSISTING YOUTH PURSUING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION: KEY DATES & DEADLINES FOR APPLYING & ATTENDING

This document is intended to provide social workers and probation officers with information about key dates and deadlines associated with applying to and attending post-secondary education. Note that some dates and deadlines may vary by institution so ensure students are aware of the academic calendar at the school they are planning on attending. For more in-depth planning information, and for student-friendly materials, visit www.cacollegepathways.org.

Fall Semester Prior to Attending College:

- **Coursework:** If a high school senior, ensure the youth is completing final “a-g” course requirements if planning on attending a four-year university. Determine if youth is eligible for partial credits to assist with on-time high school graduation.
- **Testing:** If a high school senior planning on applying to four-year universities, youth should register for the October American College Test (ACT) or Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) in early September. If retaking the exam, youth should register for the December ACT or SAT in early November. Foster youth may request a fee waiver for these exams.
- **Four-Year University Applications:** For foster youth, applying to up to four UC and four CSU campuses is free. Youth will need assistance with their personal essay, gathering letters of recommendation, submitting transcripts and scholarship applications in addition to the college application. They should also apply for on-campus housing for each college they are applying to that has on campus housing. Foster youth have priority access to on-campus housing at most institutions.

California State University (CSU):

- The priority application deadline for fall admission is generally November 30th prior to the year of attendance, however some extended deadlines vary by school.
- Find out more information and apply for CSUs at calstate.edu/apply.
- Make sure youth apply for the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) when they submit their application; this is the only opportunity to apply for EOP.
- Specific high school (“a-g”) courses required for admission; ACT or SAT required unless student has a GPA above 3.0 and is a California resident.

University of California (UC):

- The application deadline for fall admission is generally November 30th prior to the year of attendance.
- Find out more information and apply for UCs at admission.universityofcalifornia.edu
- Specific high school (“a-g”) courses required for admission; GPA of 3.0 or higher in “a-g” courses, with no grade lower than a C; ACT Plus Writing or SAT Reasoning Test required no later than December of senior year; SAT Subject Tests not required but recommended for certain programs.

Private and/or vocational schools:

See the school’s individual website for information about application deadlines and process.