

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE
California Community Colleges
NextUp Foster Youth Support Program
Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Commitment Letter

Overview

In an effort to increase access to critical support services for current and former foster youth, the Budget Act of 2022-23 increased ongoing funding for the NextUp Program (formally known as the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program) by \$30M. The annual appropriation for this program is now \$50M. The Chancellor's Office plans to leverage this funding increase to scale the NextUp Program to every college across the System.

The Chancellor's Office will allocate the program funds to all colleges based on the established funding formula. The ongoing funds are distributed annually through the apportionment process. Please see attached for allocations to all colleges that do not currently operate the NextUp program. This information will also be included in the California Community Colleges Compendium of Allocations and Resources, January Edition.

Commitment Letter

The Chancellor's Office intentionally allocates the NextUp Program funding to every college across the System because serving current and former foster youth is not optional. By signing this Commitment Letter, colleges certify that they will comply with all the statutory and regulatory requirements that are associated with the NextUp Program and commit to creating a student-centered support ecosystem to strengthen sense of unconditional belonging and advance educational outcomes for the NextUp students.

Because an ecosystem approach relies on cross functional collaboration within institutions, when completing the Commitment Letter, please engage in internal planning and conversations with all relevant/impacted offices to ensure that every institution understands its obligations regarding the NextUp program. Please obtain all the necessary signatures, as indicated below, and submit ONE form per college. All California community colleges that do not currently operate a NextUp program shall review and submit this Commitment Letter to the Chancellor's Office by 5:00 p.m. PST on December 31, 2022.

Questions

Questions regarding the Letter of Commitment form or participation in the NextUp program can be directed to Mackenzie Grass at MGrass@CCCCO.edu.

About NextUp

The NextUp program seeks to provide a combination of support services and direct aid to ensure that current and former foster youth are successful in their academic, career and personal pursuits. In addition to the \$30M increase to program allocation, there are several recent legislative changes aiming to serve more current and former foster youth and serve them better. The Chancellor's Office will soon be releasing a guidance memo that provides details regarding the legislative changes that expand student eligibility for

NextUp Foster Youth Support Program

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

the NextUp program.

The Chancellor's Office also strongly encourage that institutions take an ecosystem approach to support current and former foster youth and maximize impact of the NextUp program by aligning efforts with other adjacent student services and support programs, including the Foster Youth Success Initiative, Foster Kinship Care and Education program, Guardian Scholars, Basic Needs Support, and Homeless and Housing Insecurity Pilot program. For additional information regarding intercampus collaboration, please watch Item 6.5 during the November Board of Governors meeting.

Additional information regarding the NextUp program can be found in the [California Community Colleges Compendium of Allocations and Resources, in Education Code 79222-79229](#) and at the Chancellor's Office NextUP. website.

Commitments

By completing this form, your college agrees to the following commitments.

- College acknowledges that the purpose of the NextUp program is to reduce the persistent equity gaps for former and current foster youth in enrollment, persistent and completion outcomes.
- College commits to manage funds to operate a NextUp program in alignment with established Education Code and regulations and deliver services to students in ways that reduce and eliminate student burden.
- College commits to integrating newly established NextUp program services with existing campus foster youth support programs to ensure that all students receive equitable services.
- College commits to intercampus collaboration between a newly established NextUp program and existing student support programs and ecosystem to improve unconditional belonging and educational outcomes for former and current foster youth on campus.

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE
California Community Colleges
NextUp Foster Youth Support Program
Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Letter of Commitment: Signatures

DISTRICT/COLLEGE INFORMATION	
District:	
College(s):	
COLLEGE SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT (OR AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE)	
Name:	
Title:	
Email Address:	
Electronic Signature:	
PRIMARY EOPS CONTACT/EOPS PROJECT DIRECTOR	
Name:	
Title:	
Email Address:	
Electronic Signature:	
PRIMARY CONTACT/PROJECT DIRECTOR	
Name:	
Title:	
Email Address:	
Electronic Signature:	