

LA COUNTY COLLEGE PLANNING RESOURCES

Foster Youth Specific Academic Enrichment Programs

Bruin Guardian Scholars Academy (BGSA)

First Star BGSA is a four-year program that offers academic case management to ensure students complete high school. Students participate in an annual summer immersion program where they spend 3-4 weeks on the UCLA Campus, and during the school year, attend monthly Saturday Academies.

Eligibility: Los Angeles County Foster Youth (open case preferred), in 8th or 9th grade (LAUSD preferred) with a minimum 2.0 G.P.A.

Contact Information and Referral Process:

- Program Website: <https://www.bgsa.ucla.edu/>
- Student Application: <https://bgsa.ucla.edu/resources/forms>
- Adult Referral: <https://www.bgsa.ucla.edu/join/refer-a-student>

FosterEd

Located in the Antelope Valley region of LA County, FosterEd provides intensive educational coaching and advocacy to remove barriers to school engagement. Students participate in bi-weekly meetings with an Education Liaison and receive additional support related to high school completion and college planning.

Contact Information and Referrals: Students can be referred to FosterEd by emailing Joanne Rodriguez at jrodriguez@youthlaw.org or asking their school counselor for a referral at one of the following schools: New Vista Middle School, Piute Middle School, Amargosa Creek Middle School, Endeavor Middle School, Palmdale High School, Lancaster High School, Eastside High School, and Highland High School.

United Friends of the Children Scholar's Program

This program follows LA County foster youth from sixth grade through college completion. Core services include individualized academic counseling and mentorship and group workshops that focus on academic and socio-emotional skills-building. Youth also have access to tutoring and a variety of enrichment activities, including college tours.

Eligibility: Students can enroll in the Scholars Program at any point from sixth grade through the completion of a bachelor's degree. If a grade level is at capacity at the time of referral/application, students may be placed on a waitlist. For 6th to 12th graders, students must be an LA County foster youth with a DCFS case (including reunification and family maintenance) or those in Kinship or Legal Guardian placements at the time of enrollment.

Contact Information and Referral Process: Any questions or to refer a student: please contact: scholars@unitedfriends.org or access the referral form at www.unitedfriends.org

The Children Youth and Family Collaborative (CYFC)

The Academic Remediation, Intervention, Support Services & Education (A.R.I.S.S.E) program works closely with teachers, counselors, and other key stakeholders in a student's life. Each

student creates an Individualized Academic Service Plan which serves as the guide for providing personalized services such as tutoring, homework assistance, standardized test prep support, reinforcement of daily curriculum and credit recovery; educational case management; college knowledge and access; and the development of a Post-Emancipation Plan.

Eligibility: Open - Case Foster Youth in LA County in Kindergarten - 12th grade.

Referral Process: Referrals are to be emailed to FYservices21@gmail.com.

Website: www.cyfcla.org/programs/

Other Foster Youth Education Resources

Alliance for Children's Rights

Offers free legal advocacy for children and families involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems. Advocacy includes representation in early interventions (e.g. requesting assessments), special education (e.g. requesting assessments and attending IEP meetings), and general K-12 education matters (e.g. assistance enrolling children and youth in school, enforcing their school stability and partial credit rights, and assistance with graduation planning). Learn more here: allianceforchildrenrights.org

Independent Living Program (ILP)

The Independent Living Program is a voluntary program offered through the child welfare and probation department that provides training, services and benefits to assist current and former foster youth in achieving self-sufficiency. Youth who were suitably placed in foster care or Kin-Gap at any time between the ages of 16-18 can request an ILP Transition Coordinator to assist the youth until they are 21 through their social worker or probation officer, or by visiting: www.ilponline.org.

L.A. County District Foster Youth Liaisons (AB 490 Liaisons)

The Foster Youth Liaison can be found at each district in California and can help collect transcripts from different schools, help obtain partial credits to stay on track for graduation, identify tutoring resources at the district and in the community, and assist with graduation requirements for the youth. Contact information for each district in L.A. County can be found [here](#).

L.A. County Office of Education - Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (LACOE FYSCP)

LACOE FYSCP can provide linkages to tutoring, training to caregivers, educational case management, and transition to college and career services. LACOE FYSCP Counselors can also attend team meetings and advocate for students upon request. Caregivers can reach out to their LACOE FYSCP Counselor for resources and support by [clicking here](#).

L.A. Opportunity Youth Collaborative (OYC) Weekly News & Resources

This weekly newsletter provides information about a range of resources available to transition age foster youth throughout L.A. County, including job opportunities, and education opportunities and events. Sign Up for L.A. OYC Weekly Updates [here!](#)

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)- Specialized Student Services (SSS) & A-G Program

For students attending LAUSD, this program provides comprehensive, specialized support services to students at risk of not graduating and students in foster care, experiencing homelessness, involved in the juvenile justice system, and returning from probation camps and/or LACOE schools.

Referral Process: Please contact Denise Miranda, Ed. D., Director at denise.miranda@lausd.net
Website: <https://achieve.lausd.net/studentsupportprograms>