

Turning Dreams into Degrees

Education Course 2:

Supporting Successful Transitions from High School to College

Education Course 2 Trainer's Notes

- Target audience: Caregivers in California with foster youth in their care in 11th and 12th grade.
- Caregivers: Resource Families, FFA staff or STRTP staff
- Delivery: In-Person or Virtually

Turning Dreams into Degrees - Education Course 1 (grades 6-10): jbay.org/resources/education-course-1/

Education Course 2 Materials

- Available at: jbay.org/resources/education-course-2/
 - PowerPoint slides (English and Spanish) and detailed trainer notes with embedded engagement opportunity instructions.
 - Trainer's Guides and Special Considerations for Facilitating in Spanish
 - 1-hour train-the-trainer for <u>returning</u> facilitators that highlight 2024 updates.
 - Caregiver supporting materials

Current Caregiver Supporting Materials (April 2024)

- Foster Youth Postsecondary Educational Planning Guide (adult & youth versions available!)
- Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth
- Foster Youth Education Law Fact Sheet (new!)
- Foster Youth Benefits Eligibility Chart (updated!)
- Youth and Supporting Adults Career Planning Guide
- Student Vignettes
- Other handouts have been archived.

Training Breakdown and Timing

Education Course 2: Supporting Successful Transitions from High School to College				
Presentation Section	Slides #s	Timing for Content Delivery	Timing for Optional Interactive Activities	
Section I: Welcome & Introduction	1-6	6 mins	N/A	
Section II: Why College?	6 -15	10 mins	Slide 10 (poll) = 3 minutes Slide 15 (reflection) = 5 minutes	
Section III: A College Path for Everyone	16 – 28	18 mins	Slide 27(quiz) =7 minutes	
Section IV: Resources on College and Career Exploration	29 – 33	8 mins	Slide 33 (activity)= 2-10 minutes	
Section V: 11 th & 12 th Grade Educational Planning Milestones	35 – 41	18 mins	N/A	
Break [One 10-minute or two 5-minute breaks]	42	10 mins	N/A	
Section VI: Reflection and Applying to College	43 – 50	14 mins	Slide 41 (reflection) = 5 minutes Slide 48 (quiz) = 7 minutes	
Section VII: Paying for College	51 – 68	22 mins	Slide 65 (quiz) = 8 minutes	
Section VIII: Setting Up Foster Youth for College Success	69 – 79	15 mins	Slide 75 (quiz) = 7 minutes	
Section IX: Closing- handouts, vignette, and reflection	80 – 82	2 mins	Slide 77 (vignette) = 15 mins Slide 78 (reflection) = 6 mins	
Q & A [Either throughout the training or at the end]	83	10 mins	N/A	
TOTAL		133 mins		

Local and Statewide Content

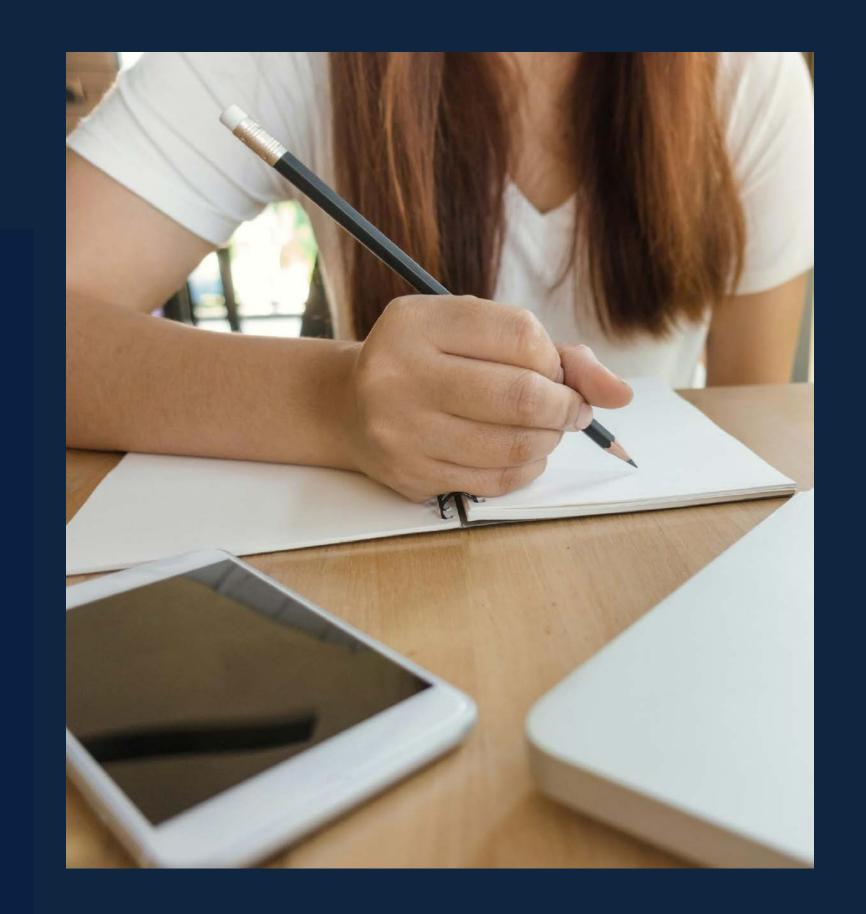
The following slides should be updated with local resources and contact information:

- COE Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (Ed. Course 2, slide 76)
- For LA County facilitators, there is also a "LA County College Planning Resources" document. (Ed. Course 2, slide 76)
- Independent Living Program (Ed. Course 2, Slide 77)

John Burton Advocates for Youth

Training Tips

- Practice in advance.
- Put trainer's notes in your own words.
- Have more than one trainer.
- Pre-load videos in advance.



Foster Parent College Updates

- Preparing Teens for Postsecondary Education Part 1 available in English and Spanish.
- Coming Soon: Foster Parent College: Preparing Teens for Postsecondary Education Part 2

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JOHN BURTON Advocates for Youth





This presentation was created by John Burton' Advocates for Youth (JBAY), with support from UNITE-LA, the Foster and Kinship Care Education Programs of LA County, the LA County Department of Children and Family Services, Foster Parent College and the LA Opportunity Youth Collaborative (OYC).

This curriculum is part of an overall strategy within the LA OYC's Foster Youth College Advancement Project initiative, led by JBAY, to increase postsecondary attainment for foster youth.



Foster and Kinship Care Education



Today's Learning Objectives

- Explain the benefits of postsecondary education
- Identify resources to help students explore their career interests and higher education options.
- Describe key educational planning milestones between
 11th -12th grade
- Explain key steps and resources for applying for college and financial aid
- Describe specific resources, benefits and supports available to help foster youth achieve their postsecondary educational goals



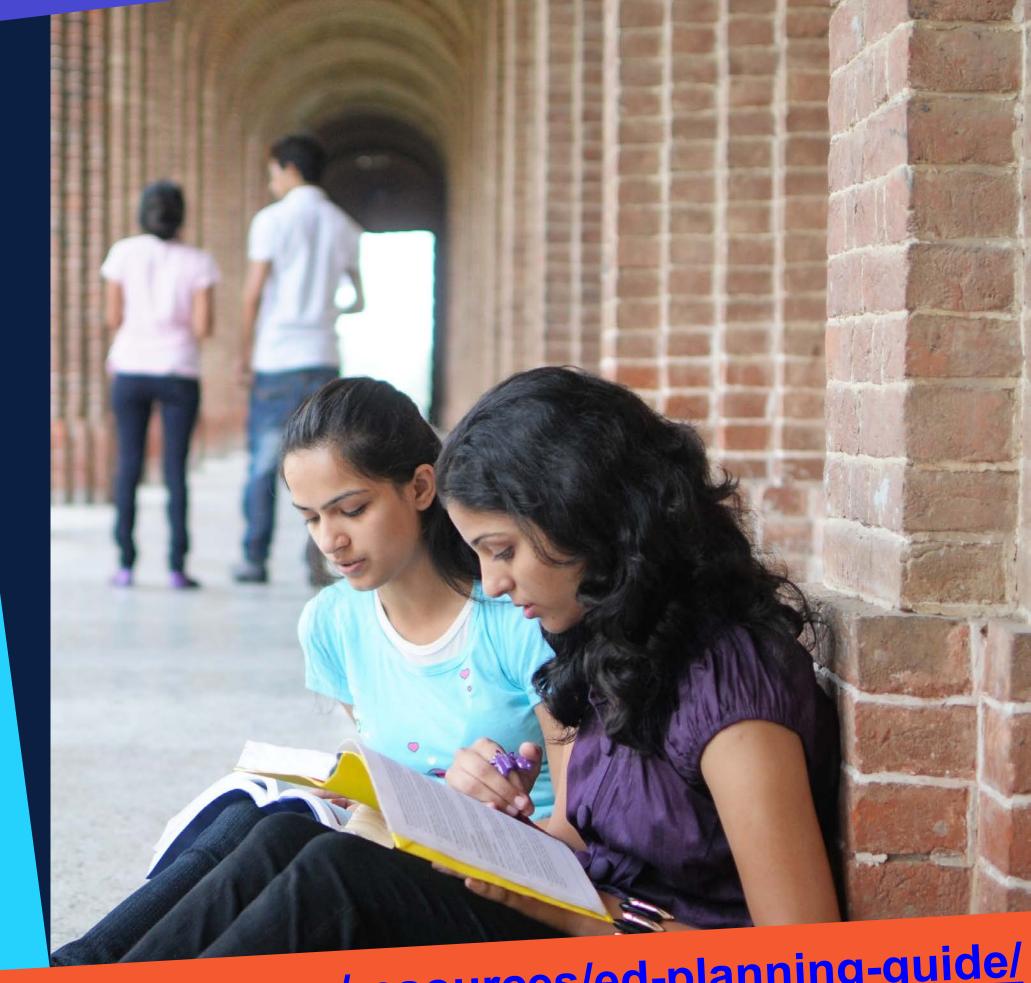


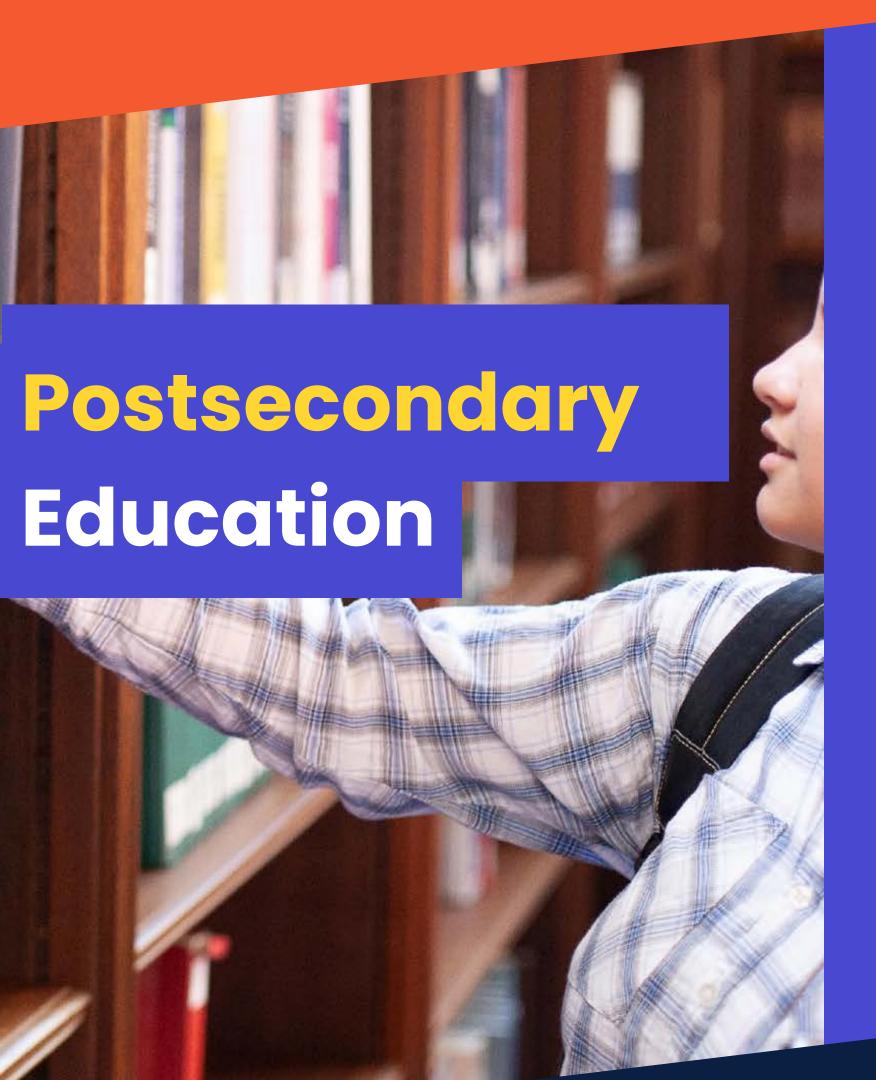
Found here:

www.jbay.org/resources/edcourse2-materials/

Postsecondary
Education Planning
Guide for Adults
Supporting
California's Foster
Youth

Use the Postsecondary
 Education Planning Guide
 For Foster Youth for step-by step information on how to
 prepare and apply to college





Any formal education after high school

Understanding what is at stake for our youth colleces

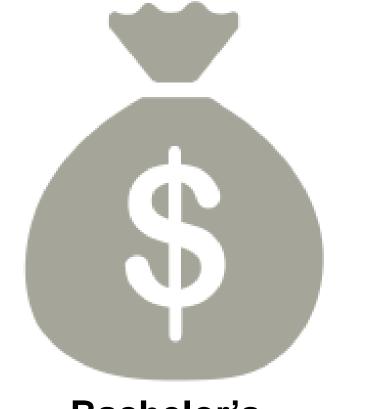
Median Annual Salaries, by Education Level

\$52,260





Associate Degree (2-year degree)



\$74,464

Bachelor's Degree (4-year degree)

Education Pays Off

This translates to \$1 MILLION more over your lifetime!

Source: College Board, "Education Pays 2023"

Education Pays Off in Other Ways...



Lower unemployment rates



Improved health outcomes



Increased volunteering, voting and lower rates of incarceration



Greater
likelihood of
one's children
attending college



Increased career satisfaction

What percentage of foster youth in California...

Question 01

Want to go to college?

Answer 01

91%

Question 02

Enroll in college?

Answer 02

52%

Question 03

Earn a 2-year or 4-year degree?

Answer 03

10%

Let's hear from several former foster youth who have experienced postsecondary education.



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



lasting relationship with a caring, engaged adult.

Encouraging a Growth Mindset

Help youth reframe perceptions of their academic abilities

Encourage patience with the learning process

Reflect back to the youth their strengths and positive traits you have observed

Patience is key — many youth are in "survival mode"

If you are hearing this from a youth	Try one of the following responses to help develop and maintain a growth mindset.
I am not smart enough to do this.	Being smart does not mean learning comes easy or you can do things by yourself all the time. Being smart means you use the tools and resources available to you for learning. That may mean asking for help sometimes.
This is too hard. I can't do this.	When something feels hard, it means we are challenging ourselves and our thought process to grow in new ways. I know with time and practice you will be successful. How can I help?
I will never be able to get this.	Remember to be patient with yourself. Just because you do not understand this yet does not mean you will never understand it. Who can we ask for help?
I totally failed. I am so dumb.	Learning from our mistakes can lead to future success. Let's see what we can learn from this experience to help us be successful next time.

Reflection

How often are you talking to the youth in your care about college?

- a. Daily
- b. Every Week
- c. Monthly
- d. Once a Year
- e. Never



A college Path for Everyone Understanding available higher education options



Difference Across Colleges and Universities

	University of California (UC) or California State University (CSU)	Private University	Out-of-State Universities	California Community College (CCC)
Admissions Requirements	 Selective admissions: A-G Requirements Academic GPA Personal Statement (UC Only) SAT/ACT no longer required 	 Selective admissions: A-G Requirements Academic GPA Personal Statement May require SAT/ACT May request Letters of Recommendation 	 Selective admissions: A-G Requirements Academic GPA May request a Personal Statement May require SAT/ACT May request Letters of Recommendation 	 Open access colleges: HS Diploma not required No minimum GPA No personal statement No SAT/ACT required

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Room & Board	Priority access to campus housingAccess to meal plans	Access to campus housingAccess to meal plans	Access to campus housingAccess to meal plans	Campus housing and meal plans are not typically available

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Degrees Offered	 Bachelors (Arts or Sciences) Masters Doctorate 	 Bachelors (Arts or Sciences) Masters Doctorate 	 Bachelors (Arts or Sciences) Masters Doctorate 	Certificate Associate Degree Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) Limited bachelor programs

Out-of-State Colleges and Universities

- Typically, more expensive than in-state public universities (i.e., CSU or UC)
- Financial aid and interstate tuition savings programs, such as the Western University Exchange (WUE), may be available
- Can provide a new environment or be culture shock without a safety net
- Admissions processes, housing options, classes sizes and resources for foster youth vary



Career & Technical Education (CTE)

- Can be shorter programs (ex: 12-18 months)
- High-quality, career-focused programs leading to good-paying jobs
- Financial aid is available
- Many are offered at community colleges, which foster youth can often attend for free



Earn a Plumbing Technology Certificate at L.A. Trade Tech
Community College and make \$60,000!

Adult Education Programs

- Offers a wide variety of accredited career education programs
- Units do not transfer towards a college degree
- Eligible for federal financial aid

Job Corp

- Free career education with housing and basic living allowance.
- No minimum GPA or high school diploma/equivalent required
- Age, income, and citizenship restrictions.

Military Service

- Access to housing resources, basic living allowance, and educational benefits.
- Is a full-time job with a multiyear commitment

Apprenticeship Programs

- Most apprentices retain employment after completing the apprenticeship
- Students earn an income while learning a trade
- Participants receive industry recognized credentials and can work towards a degree
- Students connect with mentors in a chosen industry
- Some programs may require an aptitude test and most require English proficiency





WARNING! Drawiotowy or For-F

Proprietary or For-Profit (Private) Vocational Schools

- Use extreme caution before enrolling and ensure the school is accredited
- Cost significantly more than similar community college programs
- High rates of student debt
- Poor job outcomes
- Some are under federal investigation

Let's hear from several former foster youth about how they chose their postsecondary institution.

Encourage direct college thool enrollment from high school enrollment from high school QUIZ!

Let's Practice what we have learned!

Resources on college and careerexploration

Build rapport with a PACE Attitude

Attitude is Everything



Engaging Youth in Career Exploration

Career Conversation Starters:

- Do you find it easy or difficult to think about yourself in the future? What might make it easier?
- What are some of your talents/skills/strengths (try to think of 3-5)?
- How would your best friend describe you?
- What is one thing that makes you excited about your future? Makes you worry about your future?
- What careers or jobs have you heard about? Which ones would you like to know more about?
- What are some activities you enjoy doing in your down time?

LA Opportunity Youth Collaborative

 Youth Career Guide & Caregiver Companion Guide at laoyc.org/guides

Career Activities:

- www.cccmypath.org
- www.myplan.org
- www.cacareerzone.org
- www.gladeo.org



When engaging in Career Exploration, youth must consider the following:

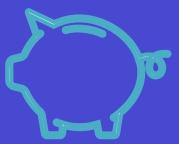
- Earnings vs. cost of living and lifestyle needs
- Education requirements and costs
- Projected industry growth





<u>livingwage.mit.edu</u>

Learn what the cost of living is in your community & what you need to earn using the Living Wage Calculator.



www.cacareerzone.org/budget/

Customize your lifestyle to determine how much you will need to earn based on your preferences.



salarysurfer.ccco.edu

Explore the real earnings of California Community College graduates by program type



Use storytelling or personal anecdotes

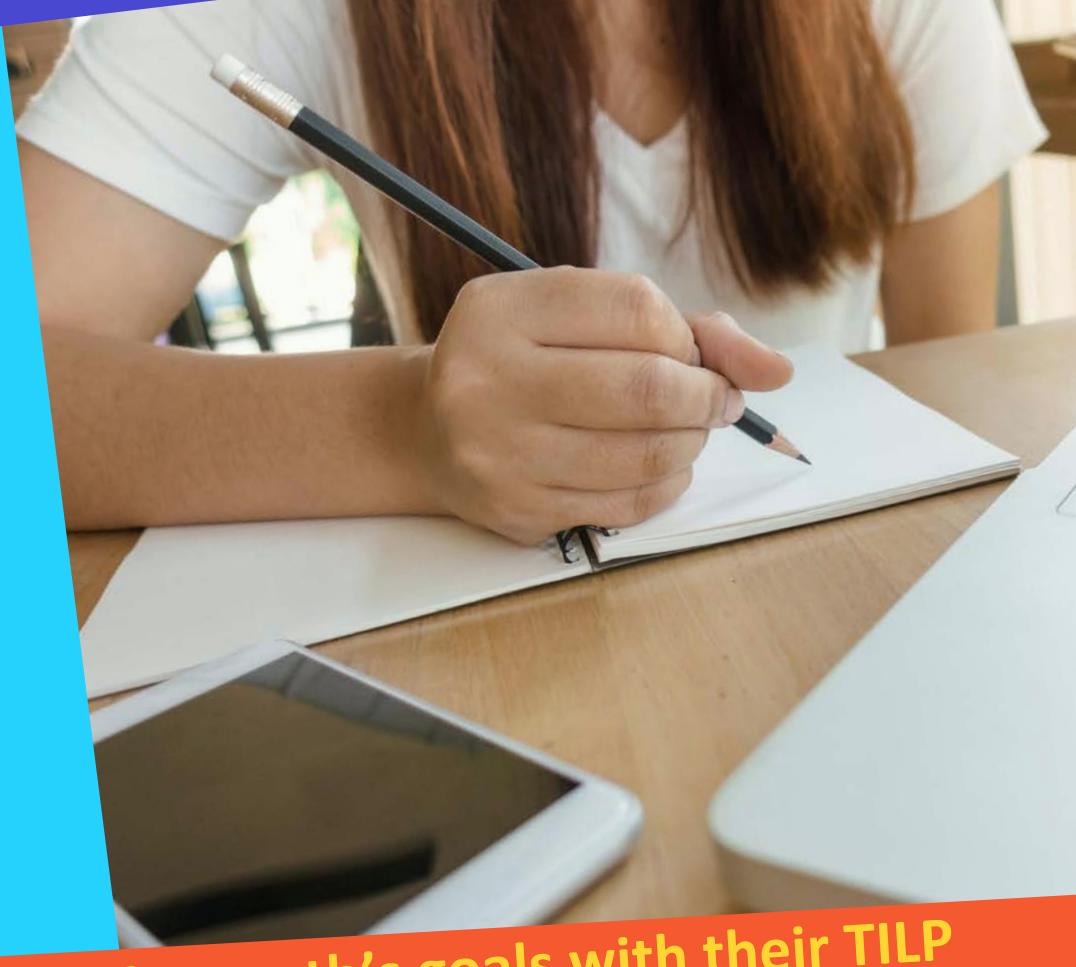
Stick to the facts

Question vs. Advice



Goal Setting

- Include short- and long-term goals
- Explore potential barriers
- Discuss what will motivate youth to keep going
- Identifying supports at each stage
- Youth may be in survival mode



Tip: Coordinate the youth's goals with their TILP

Education Planning Milestones Helping toster youth chart a course to their college pathway. Every youth is different.

Meet youth where they are at.

Educational Planning Milestones: Grade 11

Career Exploration and Readiness:

Take career assessments

Sign up for electives, extracurriculars or volunteer

Gather Right to Work documents

Get a summer job or paid internship

Building College Knowledge and Readiness:

Enroll in dual enrollment courses

Visit a college campus

Take the SAT or ACT & get a Fee Waiver

Join an academic enrichment program

Academics:

Meet with an academic counselor

Enroll in "A-G" courses

Maintain regular attendance

Seek tutoring as needed

Educational Planning Milestones: Grade 12

Make sure the student is on track to graduate & explore "AB 167/216" requirements

AB 167/216 exempts foster youth who transfer schools any time after completing their second year of high school from local graduation requirements if they would not be able to reasonably meet these additional local requirements.

Students receive the same graduation diploma, but do not fulfill the "A-G" requirements.

Educational Planning Additional HS Graduation Pathways

Enroll in Summer School Student can take courses to recover units or to improve grades for postsecondary eligibility.

Continuation School Students work at their own pace to make up units and complete graduation requirements.

5th year of high school

Students can remain at their school to complete their diploma even after turning 19 years old

High School Equivalency Test

Students 18 years or older can enroll in a test preparation course through adult education or community college

Let's hear from several former foster youth about how they navigated challenges in high school.

Educational PlanningMilestones: Grade 12

Build upon the milestones in 11th grade:

Take or Retake the SAT or ACT & get a Fee Waiver (Optional)
Narrow down list of majors and potential colleges to apply to
Apply to college
Apply for financial aid
Connect with campus-based support programs and other resources

rime for a break!

Reflection

How do you feel about supporting youth with the college matriculation process? (i.e. college applications, financial aid applications, etc.?)



Identify a postsecondary support person

- Students may be scared, overwhelmed, confused or anxious about this process.
- Senate Bill 12 requires social workers and probation officers to identify a postsecondary support person to assist youth ages 16 or older with their college and financial aid applications.

That person could be you!

APPIVING to college

Tips for Applying to a CSU or UC

UC Application admission.universityofcalifornia.edu
Aug. 1 – Nov. 30th

CSU Application
www.calstate.edu/apply
Oct. 1 – Nov. 30^{th*}

Start preparing the summer before your senior year & review essays

Apply to up to 4 CSUs & 4 UCs for free with a fee waiver

Pay attention to college application deadlines

Self-identify as a foster youth on the application

Indicate if you want on-campus housing at each campus

Apply for EOP within the application



After Admission to a UC or CSU

- Consider costs and financial aid packages at campuses
- Submit Statement of Intent to Register (SIR).
- Take advantage of on-campus priority housing for foster youth.
- Utilize priority registration for foster youth.
- Connect with campus-based support programs and other community resources.

Tips for Applying to Private College and Universities

Deadlines Vary
Often January 1st

Many colleges utilize the "Common App."

www.commonapp.org

Admission requirements vary by college

Private schools are typically more expensive, but students may qualify for private institutional aid based on financial need and personal statements/essays.

Tips for Applying to CA Community Colleges

Deadlines Vary By College Open-access applications

Apply for free at www.cccapply.org in the Spring.

Self-identify as a foster youth on the application.

Connect to NextUp foster youth support program.

Most qualify for an enrollment fee waiver via the CA College Promise Grant. Foster youth can maintain this waiver regardless of academic performance!

Complete orientation, assessment and education planning to access priority registration.

QUIZ!

Let's Practice what we have learned!

Understanding financial aid resources and orderstanding financial aid resources are also are also and orderstanding financial aid resources are also are also and orderstanding financial aid resources are also are also and orderstanding financial aid resources are also are Palingfor College processes

Financial Aid Makes A Difference

High School seniors that complete the FAFSA are 63% more likely to enroll in higher education

Students receiving at least

\$7,500 in financial aid



49% transferred or graduated

Students receiving

\$1,000-\$2,000



17% transferred or graduated

What do you mean by "Financial Aid"?

Gift Aid (Free)



Grants = *FREE Money! Scholarships = *FREE Money! Fee Waiver = FREE Classes!

Work (Earn)



Work-Study = EARN a paycheck

Loans (Pay Back)



Loans = PAY BACK with interest



There is a lot of money available!

Examples of common financial aid award packages from 2023-24 for full-time students:

	CSU	UC	California Community College
Federal Pell Grant	Up to \$7,395	Up to \$7,395	Up to \$7,395
Cal Grant Foster Youth Access Award (non-tuition)	Up to \$6,000	Up to \$6,000	Up to \$6,000
Cal Grant Tuition & fees	Up to \$5,742 (Full Tuition & Fees)	Up to \$16,236 (Full Tuition and Fees)	
CA College Promise Grant tuition waiver			Approx. \$1,458 in value.
Chafee Grant	Up to \$5,000	Up to \$5,000	Up to \$5,000
Student Success Completion Grant (12+ units)			\$5,250 per semester
Total:	\$24,937	\$34,631	\$30,753

Does not include AB12/SILP stipends students may be eligible to receive!

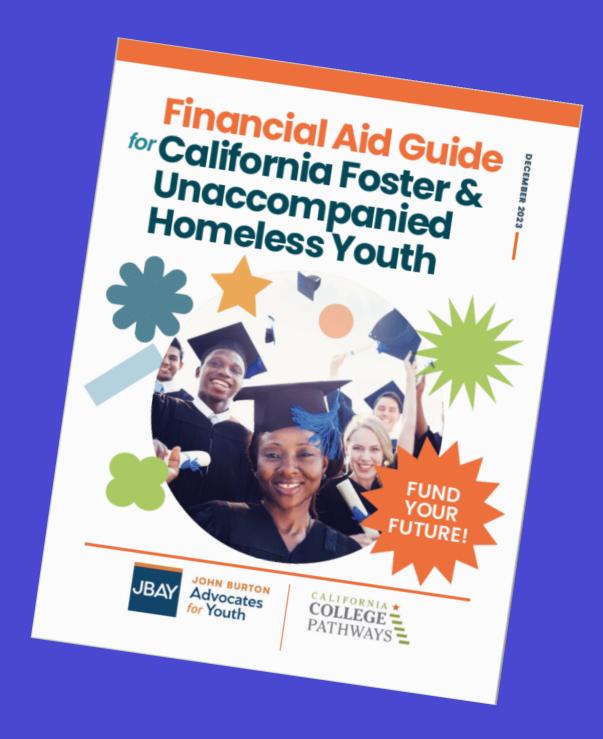
Let's hear from several former foster youth who received financial aid to attend college.

How to Apply: Financial Aid Resources

Financial Aid Guide for California Foster and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

FAFSA and CADAA Visual Step-by-Step Guides

Completing the FAFSA/CADAA: A How-To for Adult Supporters Webinar



www.jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide/

How to Apply for Financial Aid

If an applicant is:

A U.S. Citizen, a permanent resident or other eligible non-citizen

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

An eligible undocumented immigrant

Determine eligibility and complete the CA Dream Act Application (CADAA) at https://dream.csac.ca.gov/.

Definition of Need

Cost of Attendance

Student Aid Index (SAI) Eligibility for Need-Based Aid

When to Apply for FAFSA or CADAA

Priority application period is October 1 – March 2nd before the start of the school year that you will begin college (or September 2 if attending community college)

Students can apply before they submit college applications

Some colleges may have earlier priority deadlines



Creating an FSA ID (FAFSA)

- Required to complete FAFSA
- Must be done in advance (at least 3 days)

Students Will Need:

- 1. Social Security Number
- 2. Name (as it appears on their social security card
- 3. Email Address
- 4. Phone Number (recommended)

What to Bring to Apply for Financial Aid

1. FSA ID and Password [FAFSA]

Students must create an FSA ID in advance (3 days) prior to starting the FAFSA application.

4. List of up to 20 colleges

Student can update this, if needed.

2. Statewide Student Identifier number (SSID) and Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) [CADAA]

Recommended for CADAA applicants only

5. Student's Assets

Students should bring the total amounts in their checking and saving accounts. Their prior-prior year tax return may be needed in certain limited cases.

3. Email Address

Use an email address that students check often. Avoid high school emails that expire.

Independent Student Status on the FAFSA

Current or former foster youth may qualify for "Independent Student Status" on the FAFSA or CADAA if they can answer "Yes" to any of these three questions:

At any time since the student turned 13, they were in foster care.

OR

At any time since the student turned 13, they were a ward of the court.

OR

The student is or was in a legal guardianship with someone other than their parent or stepparent as determined by a court in their state of residence.

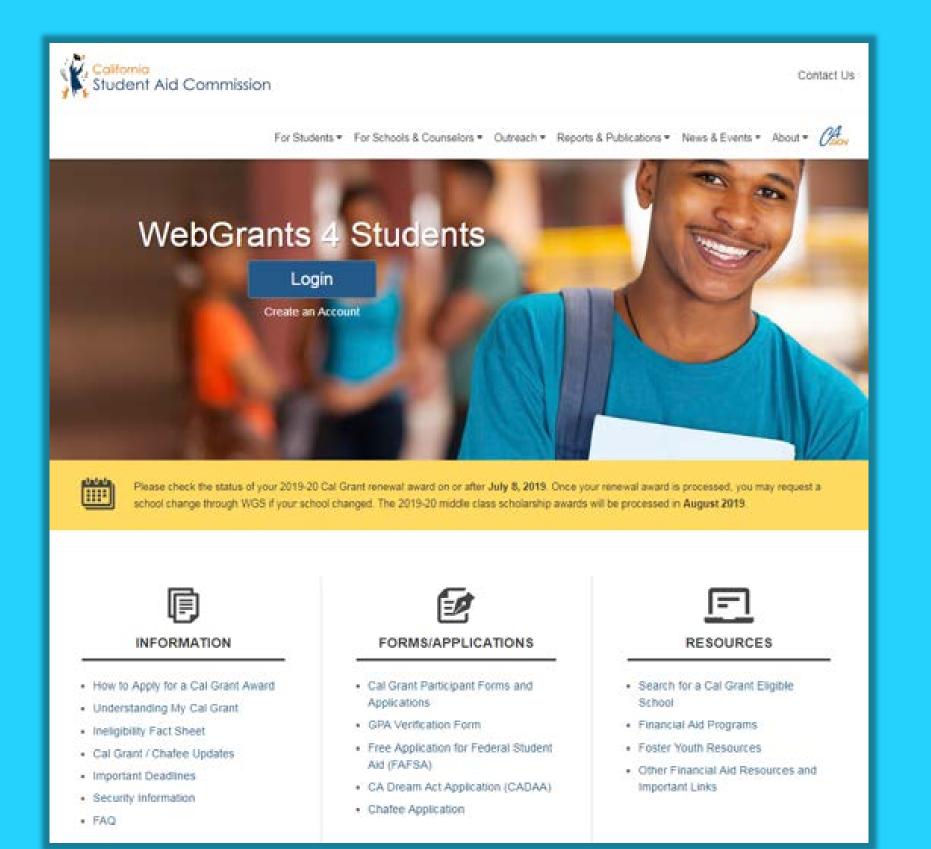


Apply for the Chafee Grant:

- After submitting the FAFSA or CADAA, first time applicants only must submit a separate Chafee Grant Application online at <u>chafee.csac.ca.gov</u>
- May receive up to \$5,000 for up to 5 years (whether or not consecutive) until the age of 26
- Can be used in-state and out-of-state
- Can be used for CTE, 2-year or 4-year degree programs
- Must be a dependent or ward of the court at least one day between the ages of 16-18.

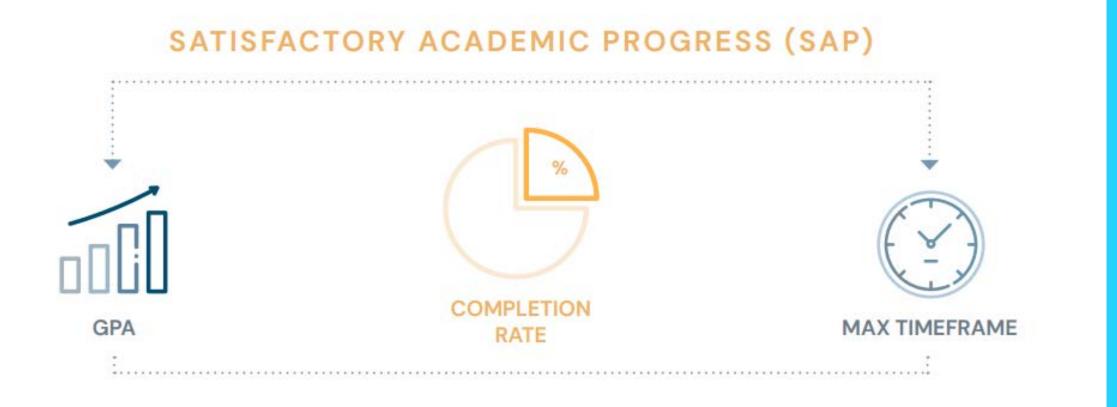
Create a Webgrants 4 Students Account

- Create an account at mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov after the FAFSA or CADAA is processed (up to 2 weeks)
- Manage your California state financial aid (i.e., Chafee Grant and Cal Grant)
- Verify that your GPA has been received
- Verify that CDSS match has occurred for Chafee Grant



Maintaining Financial Aid:
Satisfactory Academic
Progress (SAP)

Students who fail to meet their institution's SAP standards for two consecutive terms will lose eligibility for most financial aid.



Maintaining Financial Aid: Unit Load

Course Units	Instructional Time	Study Time	Total Time Commitment
1 unit	1 hour	2-3 hours	3-4 hours
3 units	3 hours	6-9 hours	9-12 hours
12 units Full Time	12 hours	24-36 hours	36-48 hours

Students should meet with an academic counselor to discuss their unit load before enrolling in classes.

"When I first started college, I didn't understand financial aid. I was told it's 'free money', but it comes with conditions. Now I owe \$993."

Why SAP matters?

- > Over 3 of foster youth fail to make SAP within their first year of college.
- For Black students, that rate rose to 42%!

Caregivers can:

- ☐ Educate students about these policies
- Connect students to resources early on, such as tutoring and support programs.
- Advise that students talk to a counselor before dropping any classes.

Let's Practice what we have learned!

seiting up Foster Youth Resources and supports for toster youth For College Success



Prevent Summer Melt & Encourage College Persistence

Be proactive not reactive

Connect to resources before high school graduation

Ensure a warm-handoff

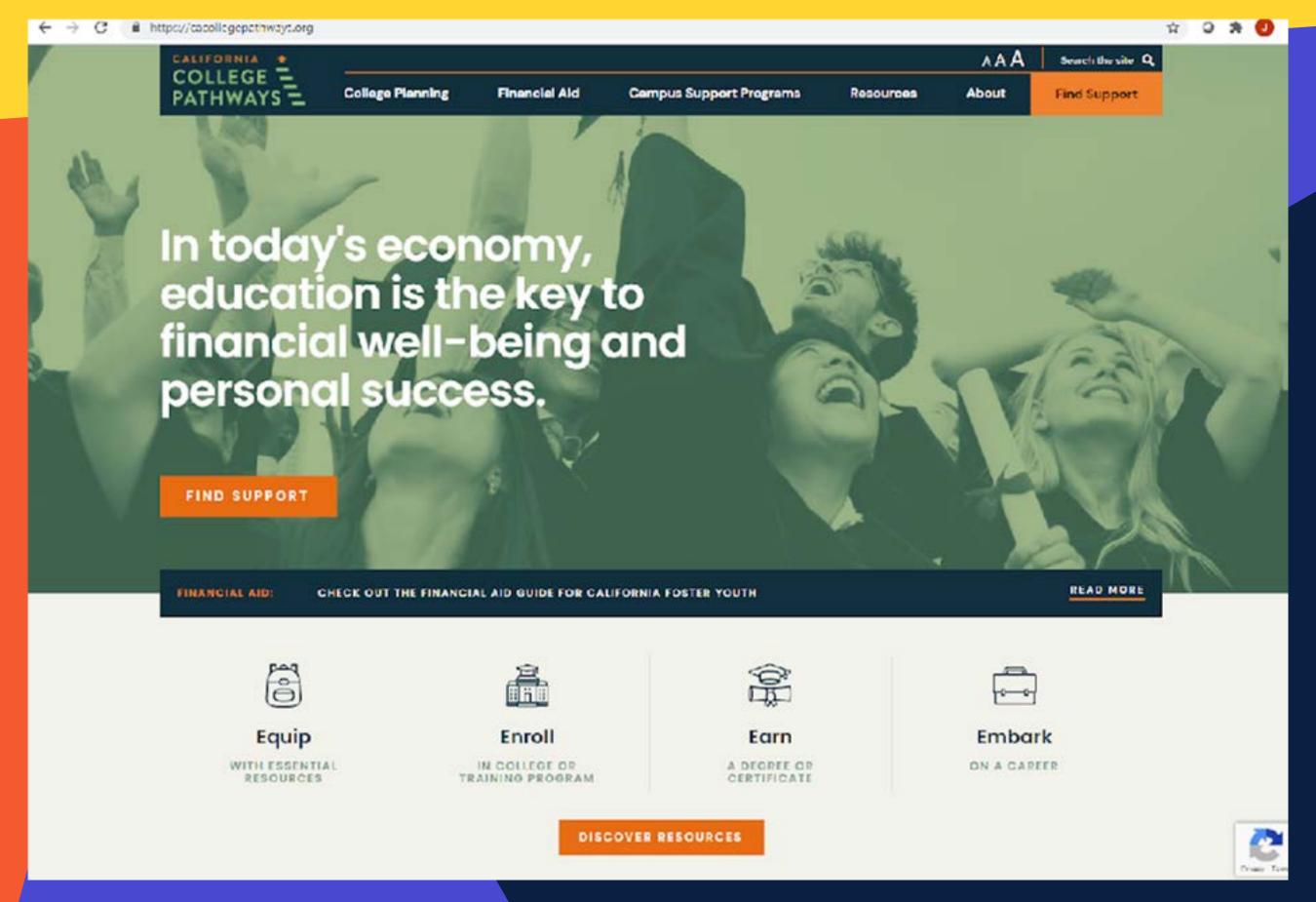
Foster Youth Campus Based Support Programs

NextUp

- Available at <u>all</u> community colleges statewide.
- Must be in foster care on or after their 13th birthday, and under the age of 26
- Housed within EOPS, but provides services above and beyond, such as grants, academic counseling, tutoring, community events and more!

Foster youth campus support programs

- Found at all CSUs and UCs, students can participate if they have been in foster care at ANY time.
- Often go by Guardian Scholars, but names vary across campuses.
- Many, but not all, community colleges also offer these programs to students who don't meet NextUp eligibility.
- Found at some private colleges too.



www.cacollegepathways.org

General Campus Resources & Supports

EOP and EOPS

CalWorks & CARE

Counseling and psychological services

Student Disability Services

Basic Needs Centers

Tutoring

Cultural
Programming
and Student
Clubs

Rising Scholars

Dream Center

College Promise

Let's hear from foster youth who received support from campus support programs.

Help is Available for careaivers



Help is Available at the K-12 Districts

- Academic Counselors
- Foster Youth District Liaison (AB 490 Liaison)
- County Office of Education Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP)

Independent Living Program (ILP)

Youth suitably placed in foster care or Kin-Gap between the ages of 16-18 may be eligible to receive ILP services. Please contact an ILP Transition Coordinator to determine eligibility.

ILP provides services related to postsecondary education, workforce development and housing.

Contact an ILP Transition Coordinator to learn more regarding resources and services available.

Visit jbay.org/resources/ilp-roster/ for ILP contact information by county.



Child and Family Team Meeting (CFTM)

The CFTM can be used to make a plan to support foster youth in reaching their college and career goals and get connected to supports and resources. Let's practice what we have learned!

Resources

- Postsecondary Education Planning Guide for Adults Support
 California's Foster Youth
- Financial Aid Guide for California Foster and Unaccompan Homeless Youth
- Foster Youth Benefits Eligibility Chart
- L.A. OYC's Supportive Adults Guide for Career Readiness
- L.A. OYC's Youth Career Guide
- CFYETF Foster Youth Education Law Fact Sheets

www.jbay.org/res ources/edcourse2 -materials





Discuss as a group how you would handle the student scenarios. Identify one person to report-out to the larger group.

Reflection

What is at least one thing that you will do differently with your youth within the next 30 days?



Thank

