

2024-25 California State Budget: Investments Related to Child Welfare & Youth Homelessness

Child Welfare		
Program Name	Description	Funding Amount & Action
Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) Housing Supplement	The SILP Housing Supplement was established in 2023 and would have increased monthly payments that nonminor dependents placed in SILPs receive based on local cost of housing starting in 2025. In lieu of preserving this investment, SILP payments are increased in the new foster care rate structure (see next row)	Eliminates program (\$195K in 2024-25 & \$18.8M annually)
Automation of Foster Care Permanent Rate Structure	A new rate system for foster care placements will take effect July 1, 2027, pending automation in the state’s payment system. This sweeping reform makes several changes, including increasing the monthly SILP payment for youth to \$2,288. Funding beyond automation will be adopted in future years.	Allocates \$13.3M in 2024-25
Family Urgent Response System (FURS)	FURS is a coordinated statewide, regional, and county-level system providing 24/7 state-level phone-based response and county-level in-home, in-person mobile response during situations of instability, to preserve the relationship of the caregiver and the youth or child.	Rejects elimination; program remains at \$30M annually
Resource Family Approval (RFA) Program	RFA is a unified approval process for all foster caregivers, regardless of the child’s case plan, and includes a comprehensive psychosocial assessment, home environment check, and training for all families, including relatives.	Rejects elimination; program remains at \$50M annually
Emergency Childcare Bridge Program	Child Care Bridge Provides childcare vouchers, childcare navigation and training for childcare providers to alleviate lack of childcare as an obstacle to placing foster children in a timely manner with resource families or relatives, and to ensure foster youth with dependent children have access to childcare.	Rejects ongoing reduction of \$34.8M and instead appropriates \$47M from 2023-24 into 2024-25; program remains at \$83.4M annually
Los Angeles County Child Welfare Public Health Nursing Early Intervention Program	This pilot was established in 2019 as an early intervention program providing preventative services to children and families at imminent risk of entering or re-entering foster care, but currently not served by other public health nurse programs. Implementation was delayed; services were set to launch in 2024.	Eliminates program (reduction of \$8.3M in 2024-25 & annually) and reverts \$7.25M of unspent funds from 2023-24 to GF
Child Welfare Services-California Automated Response & Engagement System (CWS-CARES) Project	The funding appropriated in this budget supports continued project development and implementation costs.	Allocates \$88.1M in 2024-25 and add'l \$26M in one-time provisional authority

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Housing		
Program Name	Description	Funding Amount & Action
Housing Navigation & Maintenance Program (HNMP)	HNMP is administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development to county child welfare agencies to provide housing navigators to help youth ages 18 to 24 inclusive, secure and maintain housing with priority given to current and former foster youth.	Rejects elimination; program remains at \$13.7M annually
Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program	HHAP provides one-time grant funds to homeless Continuums of Care, counties and California’s 13 largest cities to support a variety of homelessness interventions. Jurisdictions are required to <u>dedicate a minimum of 10% of their HHAP allocation to addressing homelessness among youth.</u>	<u>Total HHAP Appropriation:</u> \$1B in 2024-25 <u>Total Allocated to Local Jurisdictions:</u> \$788.5M in 2024-25 <u>10% Youth Set-Aside:</u> \$78.85M in 2024-25
Bringing Families Home	BFH was established in 2016 to provide financial assistance and housing support to families in the child welfare system experiencing or at risk of homelessness to increase family reunification and to prevent foster care placement.	Delays \$80M, moving \$40M of it to 2025-26, and \$40M to 2026-27; adopts extension of local match exemption through 2027
Education		
Program Name	Description	Funding Amount & Action
Cal Grant Reform	The Cal Grant Reform Act was enacted in 2022-23 with the goal of making the Cal Grant (California’s largest financial aid program for low-income students) more accessible, understandable, and equitable. The estimated cost of this expansion is \$195M, with smaller one-time costs per year until 2029. The reform is estimated to result in an additional 137K students receiving an award.	No funding provided for Cal Grant reform implementation in 2024-25.
Middle Class Scholarship Program	The Middle Class Scholarship Program provides a scholarship to low and moderate income UC and CSU students. The maximum award amount for each student is based on each student’s unmet need and the total amount of funding available. Foster youth receive 100% of unmet need after accounting for a \$7,898 self-help contribution.	Rejects reduction; program remains at \$289M in 2024-25 and \$637M annually. Assumes reduction of \$110M annually in 2025-26 subject to decisions made in the 2025 Budget Act.

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Homeless Education Technical Assistance Centers (HETAC)	First established through the American Rescue Plan Act's, Homeless Children and Youth Program, these centers provide support and technical assistance to county offices of education (COEs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and other interested stakeholders to ensure educational access and success for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The HETAC network is operated by the Contra Costa COE, Los Angeles COE, and San Diego COE.	Allocates \$2.5M annually. This is an increase of \$1 million, however funding is only currently authorized for the duration of the availability of funds from the American Rescue Plan, estimated to end March 2026.
Juvenile Justice		
Program Name	Description	Funding Amount & Action
Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Warm Shutdown	Reduces funding for the DJJ Warm Shutdown costs to align with actual needs. DJJ facilities were closed pursuant to SB 823 (2020) and intake ceased in 2023.	Reduces by \$900K in 2024-25
Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant (JJRBG)	The JJRBG was established by SB 823 (2020) to support realigned youth from the DJJ to local care.	Allocates \$210M in 2024-25