Resources

This checklist references sections found in College and Career Bound: A Planning Guide for 12th Grade Students in Foster Care. Visit **jbay. org/resources/ed-planning-guide** to access the complete guide.

K-12 Resources

- **CaliforniaColleges.edu |** Provides information on the college application process, financial aid, and career pathways. Learn more at **californiacolleges.edu.**

- **County Office of Education (COE) Foster Youth Services Coordinating Program (FYSCP) |** FYSCPs can help students get their health and school records, and can coordinate services such as tutoring, financial aid application assistance, and college and career planning. Contact information for each county can be found at **cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy.**

- **Foster Youth District Liaison (AB 490 Liaison) |** Found in each school district, the foster youth liaison can help collect transcripts from schools, help obtain partial credits to stay on track for graduation, identify tutoring resources, and assist with graduation requirements. Contact information for these liaisons can be found at **cde. ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/ab490contacts.asp.**

- **Learn to Be Tutoring |** Provides free one-on-one, online tutoring to underserved youth. **Learntobe.org**

- **UPchieve Tutoring |** Provides free online tutoring and college counseling: **upchieve.org/students**

Students With Learning Needs

- **California Department of Education Special Needs Section |** Provides information and resources to serve the educational needs of persons with disabilities. **cde.ca.gov/sp/se/**

- **Department of Rehabilitation (DoR) |** Offers student support services for 16- to 21-year-olds enrolled in school. Students must have a 504 Plan, IEP, or believe to have a disability (even if not formally diagnosed) to receive services. Go to **dor.ca.gov** and search for Student Services.

Child Welfare and Probation Department Resources

- **California Family Urgent Response System (FURS) |** A safe, judgment-free 24/7 hotline for current and former foster youth and their caregivers to get immediate help for any issues, big or small. **Cal-FURS.org**

- **California Foster Youth Ombudsperson's Office |** A neutral office that provides information about the rights of foster youth and helps resolve complaints about the care they receive. This office can also provide former foster youth with a dependency/ward of the court verification letter which is often required to access benefits in college such as priority registration or campus support programs. Go to **fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov** or call **877-846-1602.**

■ **Independent Living Program (ILSP or ILP) |** A voluntary program for students who were in care at least one day after their 16th birthday offered through the child welfare and probation departments that provides services and benefits to assist foster youth until their 21st birthday in achieving self-sufficiency. Some Kin-GAP youth are also eligible. Contact your social worker/probation officer for more information and/or view this ILP roster: **jbay.org/resources/ilp-roster/**.

Other Resources

■ **CalFresh |** California's food stamps (SNAP) program, provides free money for low-income individuals. **Getcalfresh.org**

■ **iFoster |** Provides free resources to foster youth such as cell phones, tutoring services, and a digital locker to safely store important documents. Become a member for free at: **ifoster.org**

■ **Medi-Cal Health Insurance |** Available for young people in care on or after their 18th birthday through age 26. Insurance includes coverage for mental health services. **Coveredtil26.org**

Financial Aid Resources

■ **Application Fee Waiver |** Most foster youth qualify for an application fee waiver for up to four CSUs, four UCs, and all applications submitted through the Common Application (private universities) based on their income.

■ **California College Promise Grant |** Allows low-income students at California Community Colleges to have enrollment fees (the cost of classes) waived. Foster youth can maintain this benefit regardless of academic performance once in college. To apply, complete a FAFSA (**fafsa.gov**) or CADAA (**dream.csac.ca.gov**).

■ **California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) |** Provides information on state financial aid resources, like the Cal Grant, Chafee Grant, and California Dream Act Application. It also includes a list of Cal Grant-eligible institutions. **csac.ca.gov** or **csac.ca.gov/foster-youth-students**.

■ **Federal Student Aid |** Provides information about different types of federal financial aid, how to submit your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), how aid is calculated, and how to manage loans. **studentaid.gov**

■ **John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) |** Provides everything you need to know about financial aid for California foster youth, including the *Financial Aid Guide for CA Foster and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth*, FAFSA, and CADAA step-by-step visual guides, and scholarship resources. **jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide**.

California Community College Programs and Benefits

Programs vary by campus. Contact your campus to learn more.

- **Basic Needs Centers |** Provide access to food, housing, mental health resources, and more.

- **California College Promise Program |** Assists full-time eligible students with free college tuition and support services.

- **Campus Support Programs (CSP) for Foster Youth |** Support current and former foster youth with a variety of services such as admissions, financial aid, academic counseling, and tutoring. All CA community colleges have NextUp (see eligibility below), and many others have additional foster youth programs that serve students who don't meet NextUp eligibility. **cacollegepathways.org/ search-foster-youth-programs**

  NextUp Eligibility: Serves current and former foster youth who were in care on or after their 13th birthday and under the age of 26 at the time of program entry. Provides special assistance, including one-on-one support, book vouchers, and additional financial resources. **icangotocollege.com/financial-aid/ foster-youth-support.**

- **Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) and CalWORKs |** Assist students with dependents who are eligible for county cash aid.

- **Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)/Student Accessibility Services (SAS) |** Provides assistance and accommodations, including note-taking assistance and longer test-taking time, for students with physical, mental, and/or learning disabilities.

- **Dream Resource Center |** Assists undocumented students with academic, career, and referral services.

- **Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) |** Provides admission, academic counseling, and financial support services to historically underserved and low-income students.

- **LGBTQ+ Services |** Create a safe and welcoming space for members of the LGBTQ+ community. **jbay.org/ resources/ccc-lgbtq-resource-guide**

- **Physical and Mental Health Services |** Offer access to free and low cost medical and mental health services including vaccinations, physicals, and counseling.

- **Priority Registration |** Allows youth who were in foster care at least one day after the age of 13 and are under the age of 26 to register for classes before the general population. Application deadlines vary by campus.

- **Puente Project |** A program geared toward Hispanic/Latino students that provides academic support, counseling, and mentoring. **thepuenteproject.org**

■ **Rising Scholars |** Supports students who were involved with the justice system with academic, counseling, and referral services. **risingscholarsnetwork.org**

■ **Student Success Completion Grant |** A community college financial aid program that provides a grant of $5,250 per semester to students who were in foster care on or after the age of 13, receive the Cal Grant B or C and enroll in 12 or more units.

■ **Umoja Community |** A community dedicated to enhancing the cultural and educational experience of African American and other students. **umojacommunity.org**

CSU and UC Programs and Benefits

Programs vary at each campus. Contact campuses to learn more.

More information about services at the CSUs is available at **calstate.edu/ attend/student-services.**

More information about services at the UCs is available at **tinyurl.com/ UCStudentServices.**

■ **Basic Needs Centers |** Provide access to food, housing, mental health resources, and more.

■ **Campus Support Programs (CSP) for Foster Youth |** All CSU and UC campuses support current and former foster youth with a variety of services such as assistance with admissions, financial aid, academic counseling, and tutoring. To qualify, students must be in foster care at least one day. Program names and services vary by campus. **cacollegepathways.org/search-foster-youth-programs**

■ **Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) |** Provides assistance with admissions, academic, and financial support services to historically underserved and low-income students. They also advocate to accept some students who don't meet regular university admission criteria! Students must apply when completing their undergraduate application. **calstate.edu/attend/ student-services/eop**

■ **Justice System Involved Students |** Many campuses have programs for students with prior involvement with juvenile and adult criminal justice systems such as the UC's Underground Scholars.

■ **Priority Housing |** Foster youth can receive priority status for on-campus housing, and some students can stay on campus year-round including holiday breaks. Contact your college to learn more.

■ **Priority Registration for Foster Youth |** Current and former foster youth in California receive priority course registration at all CSU and most UC campuses. This benefit makes it much easier to enroll in competitive classes. At the CSUs, this benefit is for youth who were in foster care at least one day after the age of 13 and are under the age of 26. Eligibility varies across the UCs.

■ **Resources for Undocumented Students |** Often referred to as Dream Centers, offered at many CSUs and UCs.

■ **Students with Disabilities Services |** Provide assistance and accommodations for students with physical, mental, and/or learning disabilities, including note-taking and special test-taking conditions.

■ **TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) |** Serve first-generation, low-income students, and individuals with disabilities in their academic, personal, and professional growth.

California College Pathways | Provides information and resources about postsecondary education for foster youth including resources for understanding and getting help with financial aid, finding scholarships, and accessing foster youth support programs on college and university campuses. **cacollegepathways.org**

Student Spotlight: Benefits of Priority Registration

Click here to watch: **youtu.be/Nb-K2VABvHY**

Scan here to watch.