

Post-Secondary Education: Opportunities for Foster Youth in the Era of AB12

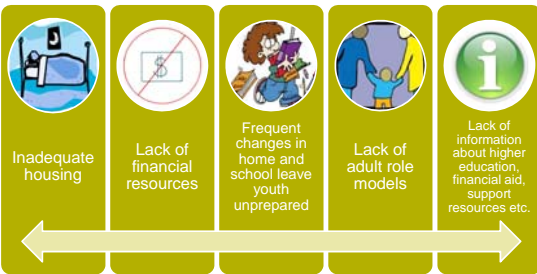


Foster Youth and Education

- Last year in California over 4600 foster youth aged out of care
- Of youth surveyed regarding AB12, 83% indicated a desire to go to college
- Studies show that only 25% will complete one year of college and 5% will obtain a 2 or 4 year degree
- BA degree earns > \$20K more per year than high school diploma and twice the job stability



What challenges do foster youth currently face in higher education?



AB 12 Will Address Many of These Issues by Providing....

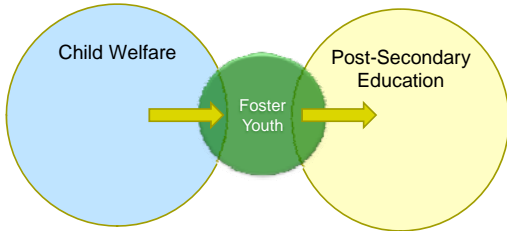


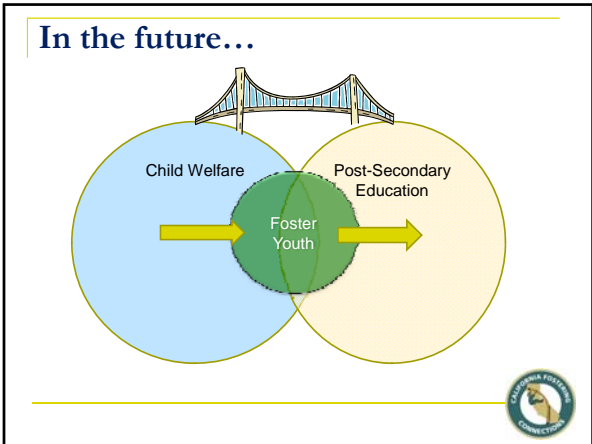
Potential of Extended Foster Care to Promote Educational Outcomes

- "Midwest Study" - Surveyed 732 youth who exited foster care from Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin at ages 18, 19, 21, and 24
 - In care youth 3 times more likely to complete one year of college and 2.5 times more likely to obtain BA
 - Being in care was associated with a 38 percent reduction in the risk of becoming pregnant
- AB12 will improve outcomes, but foster youth still likely to lag behind peers
- Need additional support – from you!



In the past...





Encouraging Education Participation: An Evidence Based Approach

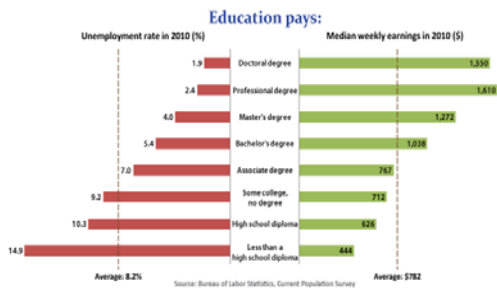
- Early Preparation**
- "The intervention of one significant person at a critical point in the life of a student is extremely significant to educational success for students from low-income backgrounds." – Joan Merdinger PhD, Education Expert*
- Motivate from a young age
 - Include caregiver
 - Bring in resources early
 - County educational liaisons
 - School counselors
 - Foster Youth Services
 - ILP
 - A-G requirements and standardized tests
-

Encourage youth who think they can't go to college

"No one rises to low expectations"

- Danger of the self-fulfilling prophecy
- Set high expectations – regardless of past performance
- Emphasize opportunity that extended foster care presents
- Consistently express the expectation that the student will graduate from high school and go on to post-secondary education
- Encourage all adults involved with the student, including teachers, to give this message and to use such phrases as, "When you go to college..."

Education Pays




Other ways to inspire and motivate



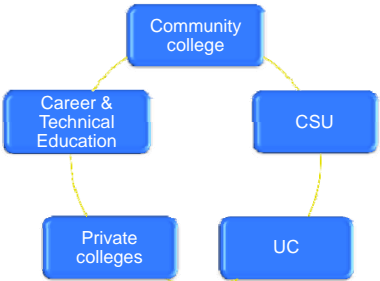
- Explain differences between college and high school
- Discuss non-academic benefits
- Career assessments and interest inventories
- Hold youth accountable
- Connect to mentors and role models
- Expose youth to college




College – The Basics




Overview of Post-Secondary Education Systems





Community College

- Serves greatest number of foster youth of all three systems (estimated 7,000 - 10,000)
- 112 Colleges throughout state
- Options
 - High school diploma
 - 2-year Associate (AA) degree
 - Career and technical education
 - Transfer to 4-year university
- Wide range of programs



Community Colleges – Admissions & Enrollment

- Eligibility & ability to benefit test
- Assessment - COMPASS Evaluation
- Online application – www.cccapply.org
- Board of Governors fee waiver
- Assistance with academic planning
- AB 194 – priority enrollment
- Deadlines
- Benefits of self-identifying as foster youth

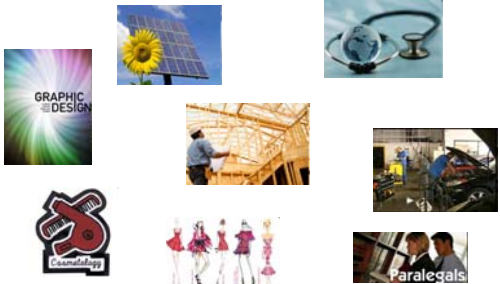


California State University & UC

- 4-year institutions
- More stringent admissions requirements
- Accepts freshman admissions and transfer from community college
- 1200 -1300 foster youth in CSU
- Application Process
 - A-G requirements
 - Standardized testing
 - November 30 deadline



Career & Technical Education



Career & Technical Education

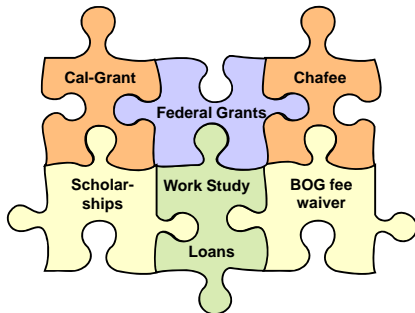
- Targeted, career-focused training
- Can be shorter term programs
- Degree vs. Certificate
- Options include Regional Occupational Centers and Programs (ROCP), Community Colleges, private vocational schools, adult schools, apprenticeships
- Career Advancement Academies
- Cost considerations and risks associated with private vocational schools



Costs of Attending College

	Community College	CSU	UC	Private
Fees/tuition	\$864	\$6,489	\$13,200	\$30,144
Books and Supplies	\$1,656	\$1,652	\$1,500	\$1,455
Miscellaneous	\$4,059	\$4,041	\$4,200	\$3,812
Room & board (on campus)	\$7,800	\$10,607	\$13,200	\$9,330
Room & board (on campus)	\$10,863	\$11,379	\$9,500	\$9,330
Room & board (living w/ caregiver)	\$4,347	\$4,253	\$4,400	\$3,880
Total	\$11K - \$17K	\$16K - \$23K	\$23K - \$28K	\$40K - \$45K

Financial Aid Overview



Financial Aid

- The FAFSA - www.fafsa.gov
- Independent vs. dependent status
- How to get help completing the FAFSA
- Submit GPA Verification form for Cal Grant
- Deadlines
 - March 2 for maximum aid
 - CCC: Prior to start of term – sooner the better!
- Communication
- Impact of AB12 income on financial aid



Chafee Grants

- Requirements
 - Open dependency case or ward after 16th birthday
 - Under 22 as of July 1 of the year they are applying
- Up to \$5000 for college or vocational school
- To apply: FAFSA + Chafee application
- Award priority system
- Enrollment requirements

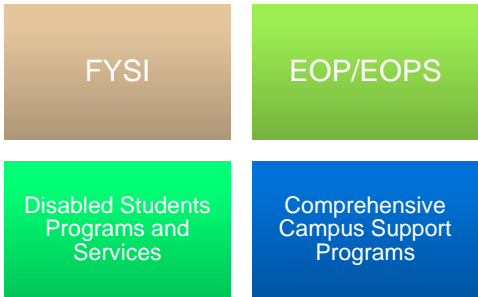


What you can do to help young adults stay in school

- Ensure basic needs met - housing
- Collaborate with care-giver
- Identify local resources
- Develop relationships with local college personnel
- Motivate and hold accountable
- Provide practical information
- Be a support



Support Resources for Foster Youth



Foster Youth Support Programs

- Comprehensive campus support programs
 - Offer supportive services, both academic and non-academic
 - Located on CC, CSUs and UCs
 - Continuum of programs: Visit www.cacollegepathways.org to locate
- Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI)
 - Liaisons located at each community college
 - Assist with navigating all academic and student support services and programs and accessing financial aid



EOP/EOPS

- Essential program for low-income, educationally challenged students
- Provides wide range of assistance, including book vouchers, child care referrals, etc.
- Program staff can be valuable liaison and are often knowledgeable about foster care



Campus Services

- Disabled Students Programs and Services
 - 20% of foster youth have a learning disability
 - Provides support services, specialized instruction, and educational accommodations
- Other Services
 - Student Education Plan
 - Tutoring programs
 - Resources for parenting youth
 - Financial Aid Officers
 - Career and Transfer Centers
 - College/career success courses



California Connected by 25 Initiative

- Eight county initiative
- Innovative programs improve outcomes
- CC25 Initiative report offers promising strategies to help counties implement AB12
 - Youth make positive decisions when they are engaged in their own destinies
 - Child welfare agencies can't do it alone
 - Data and evaluation are needed
- CC25I report available now




Contact Information

To schedule a training in your county:

Debbie Raucher
debbie@johnburtonfoundation.org
 (510) 593-8382



QUESTIONS?



The logo for College Pathways, featuring a blue circle with a white graduation cap in the center. The words "COLLEGE" and "PATHWAYS" are written in white around the top and bottom of the circle, respectively.
