

### John Burton Advocates for Youth

John Burton Advocates for Youth is a statewide non-profit organization based in San Francisco, working to improve the quality of life for California's foster, former foster, and homeless youth.

John Burton Advocates for Youth works in three areas: education, housing and health.

Go to our website to learn more & sign up for our newsletter:

























Findin	g Your Be	est Fit	JUST AHEAD
Type of College	Example	Known For	Watch Out For
Community College	East Los Angeles College	Affordable option for a 2-year degree, certificate and CTE programs, or a transfer path to a 4-year institution	Remediation delays, unclear educational goals
California State University	CSU Northridge	Affordable option for a 4-year degree, especially in fields like teaching and nursing	Large classes, challenges for commuter students
University of California	UCLA	4-year degree from institutions with world-class faculty and research facilities	Higher tuition and non- tuition costs
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Finding	JYour Be	st Fit	COLLEGE JUST AHEAD
Type of College	Example	Known For	Watch Out For
Private, nonprofit college or university	USC	Some private schools have religious affiliation, may offer small classes	High tuition costs
Out-of-State School	Arizona State University	Provides a new environment, may offer unique programs or generous financial aid	Culture shock, may have high tuition costs
Proprietary, vocational, or trade school	ITT Tech	Career and technical education	Higher tuition costs, unclea or spotty employment outcomes





### Educational Planning Milestones



# Benefits When Applying to College

Supporting youth with application and enrollment







### Tips for Applying to a Community College

- Be aware of deadlines, which vary by school
- Start the process early
- Can be difficult to find all of this information online, may need to call or go in person
- Get connected to the FYSI Foster Youth Liaison and/or Foster youth campus support programs in the beginning of the process
- Meet with an EOPS counselor to get help with your Education Plan, if possible





## Resources to Succeed in College

Accessing campus resources at community college and 4-year universities

























Common Bai	rriers to Financial Aid
Applying by the March 2 <sup>nd</sup> deadline	<ul> <li>Unaware of March 2nd state priority deadline and what information is needed</li> <li>May feel overwhelmed and in need of adult support</li> </ul>
Meeting additional eligibility requirements	<ul> <li>Taking a year off between high school and college or earning a GED can disqualify youth for some Cal Grant awards.</li> <li>Some Cal Grants also have GPA thresholds</li> </ul>
Completing verification or other follow-up steps	<ul> <li>May be flagged for verification - where they need to provide additional documentation, like tax information</li> <li>Other procedural hurdles before aid is dispensed IOHN BURTON ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH</li> </ul>







### What a Student Will Need to File FAFSA



- Name as it appears on their social security card
- Social security number
- Email address
- List of up to 10 schools students are interested applying to
- Income information, such as taxes or any income received for the requested year







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## After the **FAFSA**:

#### The FAFSA is just the first step to receiving financial aid

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### Checklist

□ Apply for the Chafee Grant

Create a WebGrants account

Check your email & student portal regularly

Request a foster youth verification letter

□ Make sure that your Cal Grant GPA verification is sent by your high school

□Apply for additional scholarships













# How Can You Make a Difference?

Creating a college-going culture that inspires and motivates



### **Encouraging Foster Youth**



- Motivate from a young age
- o Danger of the self-fulfilling prophecy
- Set high expectations regardless of past academic performance
- Consistently express the expectation that the student will graduate from high school and go on to college
- Use such phrases as "When you go to college...." instead of "If..."





