

# Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI)

## College and Financial Aid Resources for Students



Prepared by  
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office  
Student Financial Assistance Programs Unit  
Foundation for California Community Colleges

Funded By

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### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Walter S. Johnson Foundation for providing the funding for the 2014 FYSI manual update and corresponding webinar training.

### **METHODOLOGY USED IN UPDATING THE TRAINING MANUAL**

In our effort to provide the most current and comprehensive information in this manual, we conducted extensive research and gathered information through a variety of methods that included a literature review, FYSI Liaison review of material, and former foster youth review of materials.

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# OVERVIEW



## OVERVIEW



This resource guide provides information about programs and services available to support all young people who have ever been a part of the foster care system, enroll in and succeed in college. The introduction includes an overview of the California Community College (CCC) Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI) and provides critical information regarding foster youths eligibility for priority registration in CCC's and in California State Universities.

The remainder of the guide is divided into five main sections to help you learn more about the college application process and how you can pay for school.

**College Enrollment-** Provides information about the personal and financial benefits of going to and completing college, the various types of colleges, college degrees, certifications and career technical education opportunities. It also includes tools and checklists that offer step-by-step instructions to assist you enroll at a community college, California State University or a University of California.

**Financial Aid Support-** Provides information about various types of financial aid available along with a list of programs and scholarships for which you may be eligible. It concludes with specific guidance on the five (5) steps necessary to enroll in and access financial aid at the California community colleges.

**On-Campus Support Services-** Provides a detailed list of available on-campus services.

**Support for Students with Disabilities-** Provides information on resources for students with disabilities and a list of relevant scholarships.

**Resources-** Provides a compilation of online databases that can help you in researching scholarships, financial aid options and health/wellness resources.

## GETTING INTO COLLEGE

Getting into college, completing courses and graduating can seem very overwhelming, but most public colleges in California, including the 112 community colleges have designated staff to assist you with enrolling in college and accessing critical financial aid and academic resources you need to succeed.

At each of the 112 California community colleges, there is a designated staff person, the Foster Youth Success Initiative Liaison (FYSI for short), that is there to help you access services and resources including:

- Completing your college and financial aid applications.
- Helping you identify and apply for scholarships .
- Connecting you with on-campus support programs and services including tutoring, educational planning, college and career guidance.
- Connecting you with off-campus support resources including referrals for transitional housing and medical services.

The FYSI Liaisons are there to help you navigate every step of the way so do not be afraid to ask for help. A complete list of the FYSI Liaisons is available at: <http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices/FosterYouthSuccessInitiatives/FYlpc.aspx>

### **Priority Enrollment**

In 2011, California lawmakers passed a bill that would allow foster youth to enroll in classes at California community colleges and California State Universities, before most other non-foster students. This privilege is referred to as *Priority Enrollment* and it is very valuable as it allows you to get the classes you need before they get filled. Specific procedures for accessing priority enrollment varies by campus so be sure to follow up with your FYSI liaison to make sure you are eligible.

### **IS A COLLEGE EDUCATION WORTH IT?**

For many foster youth, the thought of going to college can be overwhelming and may seem impossible. There are going to be challenges along the way, some big and some small, but you can beat the odds. There are many reasons why getting a college degree can make a significant impact in your life.

You may be thinking to yourself, is a college degree worth it? Is it for me? One way to think about this is, how will my life be affected if I earn a college degree? Below are a few things you will learn while in college that will better your future:

#### **Personal Growth and Development<sup>1</sup>**

- Earning a college degree is a major life achievement
- College allows students to explore career options
- College graduates learn interpersonal skills in college

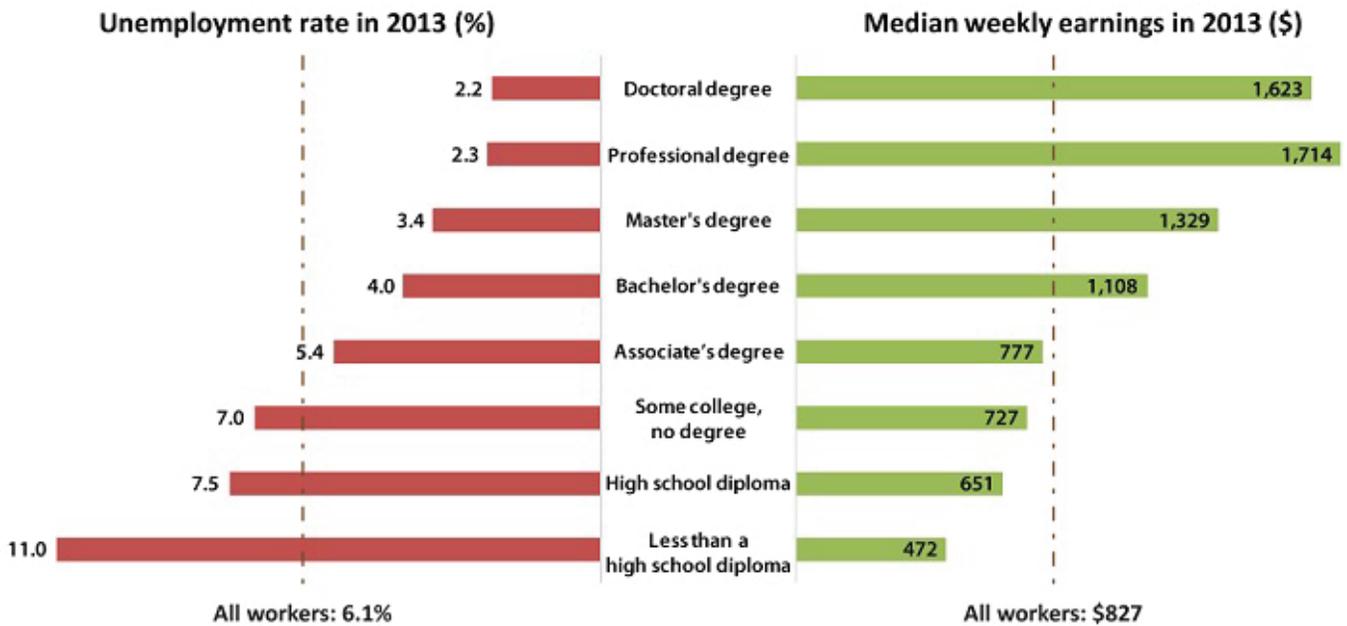
#### **Preparing for a Future<sup>2</sup>**

- College graduates are more likely to have health insurance and retirement plans
- College exposes students to diverse people and ideas which broadens their knowledge and perspective

#### **Higher Learning Equals Higher Earnings<sup>3</sup>**

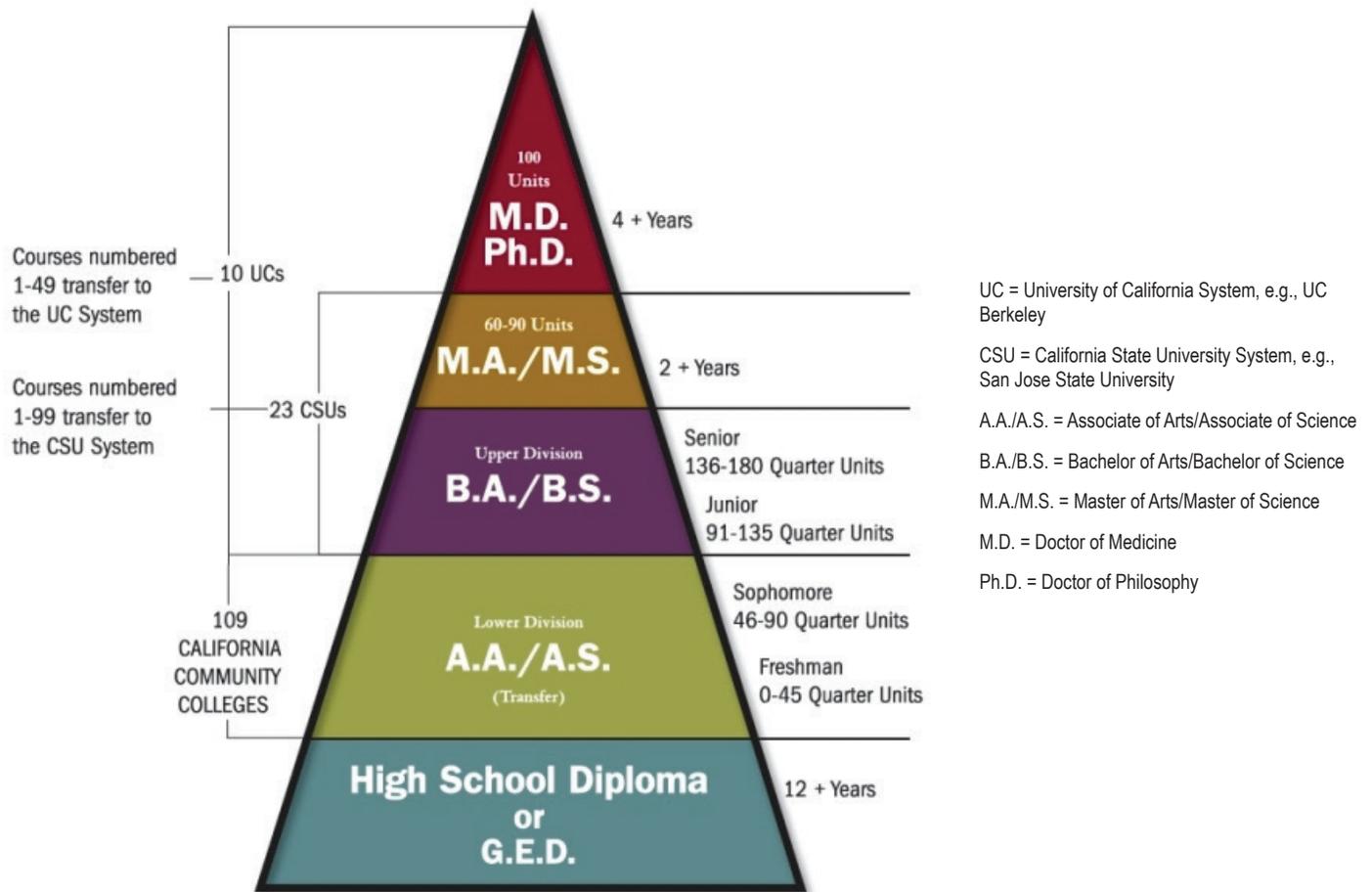
- College graduates have more and better employment opportunities
- College graduates make more money

# Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment<sup>4</sup>



Note: Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.  
 Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

## Academic Pyramid of Higher Education<sup>5</sup>



1,2,3 Retrieved April 1, 2015 from <http://college-education.procon.org/>

4 Retrieved from <http://www.deanza.edu/faculty/nickeldon/highereducationmodel.html>

5 Retrieved July 10, 2014 from <https://www.linkedin.com/today/post/article/20140519154055-493028-having-an-education-is-still-worth-it>



# TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION



## TYPES OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION<sup>1</sup>



There are so many different types of schools that the options can seem overwhelming. To help you figure out which colleges and/or career schools might be best for you, we provide descriptions of the types of schools and the average time it takes students to graduate.

### Vocational/Technical/Trade Schools

- May be public or private, typically offer programs that are two years or less, and provide students with formal classes and hands-on experience related to future career interests, from welding to cosmetology to medical imaging.
- Technical schools teach the science behind the occupation, while vocational schools focus on hands-on application of skills needed to do the job.
- You may earn a diploma or a certificate, prepare for a licensing exam, or study to begin work as an apprentice or journeyman in a skilled trade.

### Community Colleges

- Community colleges, sometimes referred to as junior colleges, award associate degrees once students have successfully completed a two-year course of study.
- Some two-year colleges grant diplomas or certificates of completion to students who have met course requirements and are ready to practice in their career fields, such as nursing.
- If you plan to start at a community college and have plans to transfer to a four-year college, plan accordingly so that courses you are enrolled in are transferrable and count towards a bachelor's degree.

### Four-Year Colleges and Public Universities

- Students who attend a four-year college or university typically earn a bachelor's degree once they have successfully completed a program of study, which usually takes about four years or two if you transfer from a community college.
- A college usually offers a bachelor's degree in the arts (such as English, history, drama) or sciences (such as biology, computer science, and engineering).
- Some colleges also offer advanced degrees, such as master's and doctorate degrees, and sometimes have professional schools, such as a law school or medical school.
- Examples include: California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC).

### Private Colleges

- Private schools are not affiliated with a government organization.
- Private schools receive less (or no) money from state and local governments. The cost for attendance is often higher than the cost of attending a public school in your state.

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved November 24, 2014 from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/prepare-for-college/choosing-schools/types>



# TYPES OF DEGREES



## TYPES OF DEGREES<sup>1</sup>



### **Undergraduate Degrees**

There are two broad categories of undergraduate college degrees: associate's degrees and bachelor's degrees. The average amount of time it takes to earn a degree is two years for an associate's degree and four years for a bachelor's degree.

Some credits from associate's degree programs can typically be applied toward a bachelor's degree, but an associate's degree is not required for entrance to a bachelor's degree program.

### **Associate's Degrees**

Most associate's degree programs are offered at vocational schools and community colleges, although some national universities have also started conferring 2-year degrees. Students who are seeking general education at this level are most likely to earn an Associate of Arts (A.A.) or an Associate of Science (A.S.) in topics ranging from literature to computer programming. The A.A. and A.S. degrees are most suited to transfer to a 4-year college or university.

Associate's degree programs are also very popular for students who are seeking more direct professional training or credentials. The most common type of vocational associate's degree is the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.). Some schools also offer specific diplomas, such as the Associate's Degree in Nursing (ADN). Exact labels for professional associate's degrees will vary between institutions.

### **Bachelor's Degrees**

Bachelor's degrees are offered at all 4-year colleges and universities, from large public institutions to small private colleges. The two most common types of bachelor's degrees are the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.). Some fields offer specialized degrees, such as the Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.), but many schools simply lump these programs under the more general B.A. or B.S. categories.

Whether you earn a B.A. or a B.S. depends as much on your institution as your field of study. Some schools offer a B.A. for humanities and social sciences and a B.S. for applied sciences and research programs, but many institutions divide their degree programs by the graduation requirements.

### **Graduate Degrees**

Because graduate education is a common way to gain advanced professional training in a very specific subject, the world of graduate degrees is even more complex than the world of undergraduate degrees. It can be loosely divided into three main areas: master's degrees, doctoral degrees, and professional degrees.

Time to degree varies based on the type of program. It is typically the shortest for master's programs (one to two years of post-graduate study) and the longest for doctoral programs (five to seven years of post-graduate study).

### **Master's Degrees**

There are two main types of master's degrees: academic and professional. An academic master's program is likely to result in a Master of Arts (M.A.) or Master of Science (M.S.) degree. Many people earn an academic master's degree with the intention of continuing on to doctoral study.

There are almost as many professional master's degrees in the U.S. as there are professions. Some of the more common professional master's degrees include the Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Education (M.Ed.).

### **Doctoral Degrees**

The most common type of doctoral degree is the academic Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). This is a terminal degree in most academic fields and is primarily oriented toward training for research, writing, and teaching at an advanced level.

However, it is becoming more and more common for some fields to offer their own types of doctoral programs that combine advanced practical skills with the usual doctoral focus on research and pedagogy. Such programs include the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.).

### **Professional Degrees**

Although many graduate professional degrees are technically considered doctoral degrees, they are best understood as a separate category. Professional degrees can be found at law and medical schools throughout the country. The most popular types of professional degrees include:

- Juris Doctorate (J.D.), a law degree
- Medical Doctor (M.D.), a physician's degree
- Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.), a dentistry degree
- Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.), a pharmaceutical medicine degree

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved July 8, 2014 from [http://education-portal.com/list\\_of\\_degrees.html](http://education-portal.com/list_of_degrees.html)

# CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)







# ENROLLING IN A CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



# ENROLLING IN A CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



The following checklist is a step-by-step tool that will help you navigate the California community college application process. The document also includes on-campus support programs and services available for foster youth.

## CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH COMMUNITY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

### 1. Application for Admission

**Complete an online application** which can be accessed at the community college website. To access California community college on-line application process visit <http://www.cccapply.org/>. Refer to the Registration Calendar at the college of your interest for the dates the online application is available. Computer access and assistance is available on most campuses as well as over the phone.

**A Student I.D. number and student e-mail address** will usually be assigned shortly after processing your application. Correspondence from the college will be sent to the e-mail address, so be sure to check it at least once per week.

### 2. Financial Aid

Financial aid is designed to help meet direct educational expenses. This includes tuition, books, supplies, transportation, dependent care, costs associated with disabilities and related living costs. Students may apply for grants, student loans, work-study programs and scholarships. Dollar amounts for individual financial aid programs vary by recipient, but you must apply to qualify. In order to receive financial aid **you must** complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**. Because some financial aid programs have limited funding, the earlier you apply, the more you may receive. Students can complete the FAFSA on-line or print a FAFSA worksheet at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/options.htm>.

Current and former foster youth, who have not reached the age of 22 as of July 1 of the year they are applying, may qualify for up to \$5,000 per year under the **Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) grant program**. In order to be eligible for the Chafee ETV grant, youth must have been a ward/dependent of the court anytime on or after their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. In addition to the Chafee ETV grant, most foster youth are eligible to have their California community college course enrollment fees waived through the **Board of Governor's (BOG) fee waiver program**.

**Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI) Liaisons** are available at every community college throughout California, to assist current and former foster youth in navigating all academic and student support services and programs. In addition, the FYSI liaisons can answer foster youth questions about financial aid in general and the BOG and Chafee ETV grant programs specifically. Contact information for the designated FYSI liaisons at each of the 112 community colleges can be found at <http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices/FosterYouthSuccessInitiatives.aspx>

#### Additional Financial Aid Information

To qualify for financial aid students must have a high school diploma or a GED or have passed the California High School Proficiency Exam.

When completing the FAFSA pay attention to the dependency questions included in Section Three as these questions specifically address foster youth status and will affect what information is required to complete the FAFSA.

**Once you have met with the FYSI liaison and have completed the FAFSA it is very important to respond to any E-mail or written correspondence you receive regarding the status of your financial aid.**

Financial aid information and forms can also be found at the community college website. Free financial aid workshops are offered at most campuses. Many colleges will provide financial aid workshops specifically for youth upon request. For additional information about financial aid please visit <http://www.icanaffordcollege.info>.

### 3. Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS)

**EOPS** assists those challenged by language, social, economic and educational disadvantages with enrolling in college as well as assisting them to complete their educational goal while attending college. EOPS services include priority registration, book vouchers, academic and support counseling, and other support services. **Foster youth may be eligible and should apply for EOPS.** Contact the EOPS office at the school to which you are applying for information about application requirements and deadlines.

In addition to the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, **DSPS** empowers students with disabilities, including learning disabilities, to achieve their goals and become contributing members of society by eliminating barriers and facilitating services for students while attending college. Walk-in services and appointments can be made at the DSPS office of most colleges. Check at the college website for hours and other information.

### 4. Assessment

All new students are required to take a Reading, English, and Mathematics assessment called Assessment-COMPASS Evaluation (ACE). You **MUST MAKE AN APPOINTMENT** at the college assessment center to be assessed.

**Youth will be required to show a picture I.D. and your Student I.D. number at the time of the Assessment.**

### 5. College Orientation/Course Planning/Transfer

Prior to enrolling in courses, students should meet with a counselor who will provide assistance with developing a first semester course list and provide essential certificate, associate degree, transfer, and financial aid information. Many colleges offer group advising and college orientation sessions. If you are enrolled in EOPS, you will already have received these services. For the most up to date orientation information visit the college website orientation link. Students interested in transferring from a two year to a four year college should meet with a counselor early on in the process, to develop an education plan and map out the appropriate sequence of courses and ensure that coursework units are transferable.

### 6. Enrollment

To enroll in courses you must have your Student I.D. number and have met the assessment requirements prior to registration. Most colleges offer on-line registration. As a current or former foster youth you may be entitled to register prior to the general registration period. Make sure that you determine in advance if you are eligible for early registration and that you take advantage of this option.

It is highly recommended that every student create a Personal Identification Number (PIN) to protect the confidentiality of her/his records. Not all community colleges require students to create a PIN, check with the college to which you are applying to see if they require students to create a PIN. If you experience problems registering, Live Support is provided online by most colleges. Registration assistance is also available on most campuses.

### 7. College Fees

In addition to enrollment fees, many colleges have nominal health and/or student activity fees. These fees are due at the time of registration and payments may be made online at most colleges. Check in advance with the Admissions Office for forms of payment that are accepted.

**Warning! Disenrollment may occur after registration if fees have not been paid within a certain timeframe. Check with the college admissions office for relevant deadlines.**

## 8. Additional Resources

### Resources available for parenting youth California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids

**(CalWORKs)** CalWORKs funds are for the purpose of assisting welfare recipient students and those in transition off of welfare to achieve long-term self-sufficiency through coordinated student services offered at community colleges including: work study, job placement, child care, coordination, curriculum development and redesign, and under certain conditions post-employment skills training, and instructional services. <http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices/CalWORKs.aspx>

**Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE)** The State of California established the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) program in the California Community Colleges as “a unique educational program geared toward the welfare recipient who desires job-relevant education to break the dependency cycle. The CARE program offers educational support services, including supplemental grants and services for child care, textbooks, school supplies, and transportation, to EOPS students who are welfare-dependent single parents with young children. CARE is part of the EOPS program that is available at community colleges throughout California. <http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/StudentServices/CARE.aspx>

Listing of California Community Colleges: <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/maps/alphaList.asp>

Other useful websites available to assist youth in planning to attend college are listed below [http://www.college.gov/wps/portal/?WCM\\_GLOBAL\\_CONTEXT=/wps/wcm/connect/college/college/whattodo/whattodo](http://www.college.gov/wps/portal/?WCM_GLOBAL_CONTEXT=/wps/wcm/connect/college/college/whattodo/whattodo)

## 9. Additional Foster Youth Higher Education Support Programs

Currently, there is a wide range of academic support programs for current and former foster youth attending two and four year colleges in California. These programs are sometimes referred to as Guardian or Renaissance Scholar programs. The range of services provided by these programs varies considerably, and the most accurate information about each program can be gained by directly contacting the program coordinator, who is listed for each program. These programs offer an array of services, often including financial aid assistance, dedicated campus support staff, and housing among others. The goal of campus support programs is to provide former foster youth attending higher education with specialized academic, social and financial support.

For additional information regarding specific programs available, please visit the California College Pathways website: [http://www.cacollegepathways.org/sites/default/files/resource\\_guide\\_cc\\_.pdf](http://www.cacollegepathways.org/sites/default/files/resource_guide_cc_.pdf) (retrieved July 8, 2014).

# CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER YOUTH COMMUNITY COLLEGE ENROLLMENT CHECKLIST<sup>1</sup>

## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

\_\_\_ My online Application for Admission was submitted electronically on this date: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ My Student ID number is \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ My Student e-mail address is \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ The name, phone # and e mail address of the FYSI liaison or person at the college that helped me: \_\_\_\_\_.

## Recent High School Graduates

\_\_\_ Contact your high school counselor to request a copy of your final transcript.

\_\_\_ Submit your final high school transcript by mail or in person to the Admissions & Records Office at the college you would like to attend.

## Transfer, Returning and Students from other colleges

\_\_\_ Request an official sealed transcript from all other U.S. colleges/universities attended to be sent to the admissions office of the college you would like to attend.

\_\_\_ Transcript(s) requested from \_\_\_\_\_ on this date: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ Transcript(s) requested from \_\_\_\_\_ on this date: \_\_\_\_\_.

## FINANCIAL AID

\_\_\_ I have made an appointment to meet with the FYSI liaison in the Financial Aid Office.

\_\_\_ I have applied for a BOG fee waiver to pay my fees for the academic year. NOTE: The BOG fee waiver is for California residents only.

\_\_\_ I have completed the FAFSA.

\_\_\_ I have verified whether additional forms are required at the college that I am interested in attending and I have completed the additional forms.

\_\_\_ I have submitted my application for Chafee funds to the California Student Aid Commission.

## EXTENDED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND DISABLED STUDENTS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

\_\_\_ I have applied to be a part of the EOPS program.

\_\_\_ I have visited the DSPS office (if applicable).

## ASSESSMENT

I have taken the assessment test.

I am a returning student and already took the assessment test.

I took the assessment test at another college and have provided my scores to the Assessment Center.

**OR** I have provided **official** transcripts showing satisfactory completion of English composition and/or college level math to the Evaluations Office.

I am going to exercise a one-course waiver and take a course that does not have a prerequisite assessment level.

## College Orientation/Course Planning

I have contacted the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment.

**OR** I have signed up for a new student group advising/Orientation session.

## Registration/Enrollment

I have created a Personal identification Number (PIN) to protect my records.

I have registered for \_\_\_fall \_\_\_spring \_\_\_summer I have printed my schedule of classes.

I have paid all required registration and enrollment fees.

## Resources for Parenting Youth

I have applied for California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids benefits.

I have applied to participate in the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education.

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved July 8, 2014 from [http://www.cacollegepathways.org/sites/default/files/resource\\_guide\\_cc\\_.pdf](http://www.cacollegepathways.org/sites/default/files/resource_guide_cc_.pdf).



**IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE  
REGARDING HIGH SCHOOL  
DIPLOMA AND GENERAL  
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
(GED)**



## IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE REGARDING HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GED)



Beginning January 1, 2010, students in foster care who transfer to a new school while in grades 11 or 12 may be able to graduate from high school without meeting the local graduation requirements that exceed the state minimum course requirements. In these cases, the district would need to conclude that the student would not reasonably be able to complete the additional local graduation requirements during the student's remaining time in high school. These students would still be required to pass the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE). See CDE Foster Youth Resources for additional information.

### **CALIFORNIA GED INFORMATION AND COURSES<sup>1</sup>**

The California GED test assesses individuals in five subject areas: reading, writing, math, social studies and science. According to the American Council on Education (ACE), this test is intended to measure a person's knowledge of these subjects in comparison to a high school graduate ([www.acenet.edu](http://www.acenet.edu)). While the GED is primarily a multiple-choice test, the math section requires some graphing and the writing section requires the completion of an essay. In order to pass the California GED, the California Department of Education (CDE) indicates that candidates must score a minimum of 410 points out of a possible 800 on each subject test and have an average standard score of 450 or better ([www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov)).

### **Eligibility Requirements for the California GED**

While there are general eligibility requirements for the GED, California maintains some specific standards. In order to take the GED test in California, the ACE reports that a candidate must be a resident of the state who is within 60 days of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. If a test taker is under 18, they must provide documentation to prove their age. Should an individual not pass the GED, they are eligible to retake it immediately.

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved August 5, 2014 from [http://education-portal.com/california\\_ged.html](http://education-portal.com/california_ged.html)



# 5 STEPS FOR APPLYING TO CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND FINANCIAL AID



# 5 STEPS FOR APPLYING TO CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND FINANCIAL AID



Step 1: Apply to community college through [www.cccapply.org](http://www.cccapply.org)

Step 2: Ask your ILP worker or social worker to complete a verification form

Step 3: Fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Step 4: Fill out your CHAFEE grant application

Step 5: Apply for other grants and scholarship resources

## STEP 1: APPLY TO COMMUNITY COLLEGE THROUGH CCCAPPLY.ORG<sup>1</sup>

To begin your community college application, visit [www.cccapply.org](http://www.cccapply.org). This will take you through a series of questions about yourself and educational goals. Do the best you can to complete the questions.

**Financial Aid**

Yes! You CAN afford college at a California community college. There are several ways to get financial assistance if you need it, including federal financial aid, fee waivers, loans, grants, and scholarships.

**Where Can I Get Aid?**

You can explore your options before applying for assistance at three popular websites for financial aid information below. You can also contact the financial aid office of the college you wish to attend for more information. When you've seen enough to get started, go ahead and apply for the two most popular forms of financial assistance below, the FAFSA and the BOG Fee Waiver.

- [icanaffordcollege.com](http://icanaffordcollege.com) | Brought to you by the California Community Colleges.
- [FinAid.org](http://FinAid.org) is the national student aid website, which also offers a list of [online resources in Spanish](#).
- [CaliforniaColleges.edu](http://CaliforniaColleges.edu) provides financial information for all colleges in California.
- Contact a [California community college](#) directly. The college you want to attend may have additional aid available, and can help you find the financial aid available to you.

**How Do I Apply for Financial Aid?**

Everyone interested in getting financial assistance to attend a California community college should look at submitting applications for the FAFSA and the BOG Fee Waiver. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) makes available several types of loans and grants from the federal government, while the BOG (California Board of Governors) Fee Waiver can waive enrollment fees for qualified students.

1. If you haven't yet done so, [choose a college](#).
2. Gather your financial documents, like tax returns and income records. For an idea of what you'll need, visit the [FAFSA website](#).
3. Fill out the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#).
4. Apply for the [BOG Fee Waiver](#).
5. [Contact the college](#) of your choice for more information and opportunities.

These are just the two most common forms of assistance; there may be more options at the college of your choice. You can apply for financial assistance either before applying for admission to college or after ... but the sooner, the better.

**Apply Today**

Select a community college

**APPLY**

CCCApply.org is your online gateway to the California Community Colleges. Each year at our 112 colleges, nearly three million students from all over the world build their career skills, prepare for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, or simply enrich their lives through learning.

**Apply for Financial Aid**

**Step 1: Choose a college.**

**Step 2: Fill out FAFSA application.**

**Step 3: Apply for BOG fee waiver.**

**Step 4: Contact your college for more opportunities.**

**STEP 2: ASK YOUR ILP WORKER OR SOCIAL WORKER TO COMPLETE A VERIFICATION FORM AND GIVE IT TO YOUR FYSI LIAISON OR FINANCIAL AID REP**

Below is a sample “Ward of the Court” letter used to verify your status as a foster youth.<sup>2</sup>

**Sample County “Ward of the Court” Verification Language**

**RE:** (child’s name)  
**DOB:** (child’s date of birth)  
**SSN:** xxx-xx-xxxx  
**Current Mailing Address:**  
**County Contact Number:**  
**County Identification Number:**  
**Start Date of Wardship:** (xx/xx/xxxx)  
**Close Date of Wardship:** (xx/xx/xxxx)

This letter is to confirm that (child’s name) was under the supervision and care of the court until the age of 18 in (county name) County from (dates of care; i.e., xx/xx/xxxx to xx/xx/xxxx). (Child’s name) was placed in out-of-home care in a foster care placement. This means that (child’s name) is considered a “ward of the court” for the purpose of responding to questions on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Financial Aid Administrators should be advised that recent or current wards of the court typically have little or no income and for purposes of the FAFSA Application, the federal Verification Guide states that **“Payments and services received from states for foster care or adoption assistance, under Part A or Part E of Title IV of the Social Security Act”** are not to be reported on Worksheet B of the FAFSA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

### STEP 3: FILL OUT YOUR FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)<sup>3</sup>

There are several ways to complete your FAFSA application:

1. Visit <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>
2. Complete a PDF FAFSA application (note: PDF FAFSAs must be mailed for processing)
3. Request a paper FAFSA by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) or 319-337-5665. If you are hearing impaired, contact the TTY line at 1-800-730-8913

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Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Home | About Us | PIN Site | StudentAid.gov | Help | English | Español

## Get help paying for college

Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

**New to the FAFSA?**

**Start A New FAFSA**

**Returning User?**

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...

**Login**

**\*\*NOTE:** Applying for financial aid is an annual process where students are encouraged to apply by March 2<sup>nd</sup>. **March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the priority deadline for the state of California processing with the FAFSA application and for Cal Grant consideration.** Both the FAFSA application and the GPA Verification Form need to be submitted by this date.

For more questions about your status as a foster youth that you are not sure how to answer, please visit the "Students in Unique Situations" at the end of this document or speak with your campus FYSI liaison or financial aid counselor.

## STEP 4: FILL OUT YOUR CHAFEE GRANT APPLICATION<sup>4</sup>

The Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Grant Program was designed specifically for foster youth. The California Chafee Grant is free money for current or former foster youth to help pay for college or career and technical training. Chafee Grants do not have to be paid back. You may use your grant to pay for child care, rent, and transportation while you're in school. A Chafee Grant is a federal and state funded grant subject to yearly availability of funds.

To qualify, you must:

- Be a current or former foster youth\*
- Not have reached your 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday as of July 1 of the award year
- Have financial need

To apply, you must submit the following two forms either via online or paper application:

- Visit <https://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/> to begin application
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (Step 2)
- Your school submits the Chafee Needs Analysis Report (NAR) on your behalf

### California Student Aid Commission California Chafee Grant Program

#### Student Application

- The following information is needed so that your application may be considered for the foster youth California Grant Program.
- The California Chafee Grant Program gives free money to current or former foster youth to use for vocational school training or college courses.
- To qualify, you must be a current or former foster youth, must have established court dependency at anytime between the ages of 16 and 18, and must not have reached your 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday as of July 1st of the award year.
- KinGap youth, adopted youth, guardian placement, and voluntary placement may not be eligible for the Chafee Grant, unless court dependence was established, at anytime, between the ages of 16 and 18.
- The California Department of Social Services will determine your foster youth eligibility status.
- Students: To check your Chafee Grant status you can go online to [WebGrants for Students](#).

All fields marked "\*" are "Required"

If you are an undocumented student, please select the box:

SSN\*:

Last Name\*:

Address 1\*:

Address 2:

City\*:

Email:

Alternate Email:

Foster Care County\*:

School of Attendance\*:

If you cannot find your school in the drop down list above, enter the name, city and state in the boxes below.

School Name:  City:  State:

Degree Goal:

Major:

Education Level:

Are/were you in foster care placement under court dependency?  
 Yes  No

Have you completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)?  
 Yes  No

[The FAFSA must be completed prior to receiving any Chafee Grant funds. The FAFSA can be filed on-line at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)]

How did you find out about the Chafee Grant Program?

I declare under penalty of the laws of the State of California and of the United States that this form has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge and belief is true, correct and complete.

I authorize the Commission and the California Department of Social Services to receive and to release my student records, information regarding this application, including confidential information, and other information I have provided concerning my application with institutions and appropriate public and private agencies.

I Agree

\*To qualify, foster youth dependency of the court must have been established between the ages of 16 and 18. KinGap youth who are or were eligible to receive Independent Living Program services, guardian placements, and voluntary placements may not be eligible for the California Chafee Grant unless court dependency was established between the ages of 16 and 18.

## STEP 5: APPLY FOR OTHER GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

### What is Cal Grant?<sup>5</sup>

Cal Grant is money for college you don't have to pay back. To qualify, you must meet the eligibility and financial requirements, as well as any minimum GPA requirements. There are three kinds of Cal Grants —A, B, and C — but you don't have to figure out which one to apply for. Your eligibility will be based on your FAFSA responses, your verified Cal Grant GPA, the type of California colleges you list on your FAFSA, and whether you're a recent high school graduate.

ABOUT CAL GRANTS	HOW TO APPLY	CASH FOR COLLEGE	QUESTIONS?	TESTIMONIALS	LINKS
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→ [How To Apply - Information & Forms](#)

[Important Tasks to Remember](#)

[FAFSA on the Web Video](#)

## FAFSA + VERIFIED GPA = A CAL GRANT APPLICATION.

### HOW TO APPLY - INFORMATION & FORMS

#### STEPS 1,2,3

Applying for a Cal Grant Takes Two Forms! FAFSA + Your Verified GPA = a Cal Grant Application. File your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Cal Grant Grade Point Average (GPA) Verification form by the March 2 deadline for a Cal Grant – that's money you don't have to pay back.

You must apply by March 2 to maximize your opportunity to receive an award.

If you miss the March 2 Cal Grant deadline **AND** you plan to attend a community college in the fall, you have until September 2 to apply. However, the number of Cal Grant awards is limited.

1 GETTING READY	2 APPLY	3 TRACK IT
<p>Taking care of the details now will make it easier to apply for a Cal Grant by the deadline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Get an e-mail address if you don't have one. Make sure your e-mail address is current and entered correctly on your FAFSA and the resulting Student Aid Report (SAR), and don't let your inbox get full. Remember to check your bulk or junk mail folder before logging off.</li><li>Find out how your school will submit your verified Cal Grant GPA. Start the process early to get your GPA submitted by the Cal Grant deadline.</li><li>If your school does not submit your GPA for you, you must fill out a paper <a href="#">GPA Verification form</a> that the school can sign. Don't forget to mail the form after both you and your school sign it.</li><li>Get a <a href="#">PIN</a>, a personal identification number that lets you e-sign the FAFSA. If you're a dependent student, ask one of your parents to get a PIN so they can sign your FAFSA.</li><li>Use this <a href="#">checklist</a> to gather all your documents in preparation for filling out your FAFSA. Then complete the <a href="#">FAFSA on the Web worksheet</a> to make it easier to complete the online FAFSA.</li></ul>	<p>Determine how you will apply – online or on paper. Provide an e-mail address for a fast response.</p> <p><b>Submit the two forms (FAFSA + GPA) for a Cal Grant by the deadline.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Starting January 1, file your <a href="#">FAFSA</a> online. You can also download a PDF version of the FAFSA or call toll free 800-4FED-AID (800-433-3243) to have a paper FAFSA sent to you.</li><li>Submit <a href="#">your verified GPA</a> form.</li></ul> <p>For help, go to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Your High School Counselor</li><li>Your Financial Aid Office at College or Career Technical School</li><li>A <a href="#">California Cash for College Workshop</a> where you could cash in on a \$1,000 scholarship</li></ul>	<p>Now that you've applied, check the status of your applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To check out the status of your Cal Grant, set up your <a href="#">WebGrants for Students</a> account to access your information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.</li><li>If you submit your FAFSA online and provide an e-mail address, you may receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) within 72 hours. The FAFSA paper process takes a few weeks. Be sure to review your SAR right away for accuracy and follow the instructions to make corrections. You can check your SAR or make corrections <a href="#">online</a> using your PIN.</li></ul> <p>If you have any questions, e-mail them to <a href="mailto:studentsupport@csac.ca.gov">studentsupport@csac.ca.gov</a> or call 888-CA-GRANT (888-224-7268)</p>

# Do I Have to Provide My Parents' Information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA<sup>SM</sup>)?<sup>6</sup>

All applicants for federal student aid are considered either "independent" or "dependent." Dependent students are required to include information about their parents on the FAFSA. By answering a few questions, you can get a good idea of which category you fit into.

**24** Will you be 24 or older by Dec. 31 of the school year for which you are applying for financial aid?

Will you be working toward a master's or doctorate degree (such as M.A., M.B.A., M.D., J.D., Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)?

Are you married or separated but not divorced?

Do you have children who receive more than half of their support from you?

Do you have dependents (other than children or a spouse) who live with you and receive more than half of their support from you?

At any time since you turned age 13, were both of your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a ward or dependent of the court?

Are you an emancipated minor or are you in a legal guardianship as determined by a court?

Are you an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces for purposes other than training?

Are you a veteran of the U.S. armed forces?

**You may be a Dependent Student**  
If none of the criteria listed above apply to you, you may be considered a dependent student and may be required to provide your parents' financial information when completing the FAFSA.

**You may be an Independent Student**  
If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you may be an independent student. You may not be required to provide parental information on your FAFSA.

**If you have questions about your dependency status or need more information, please visit [StudentAid.gov/dependency](http://StudentAid.gov/dependency).**

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StudentAid.gov

1 Retrieved July 11, 2014 from <http://home.cccapply.org/money>

2 Retrieved March 16, 2014 from <http://www.collegepathways.org/additional-resources-foster-youth>

3 Retrieved March 16, 2015 from <https://fafsa.ed.gov>

4 Retrieved July 9, 2014 from [http://www.csac.ca.gov/pubs/forms/grnt\\_frm/chafee\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.csac.ca.gov/pubs/forms/grnt_frm/chafee_factsheet.pdf).

5 Retrieved March 17, 2014 from <http://www.calgrants.org/index.cfm?navId=10&>

6 Retrieved July 15, 2014 from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/dependency-status.png>

April 2013

# ON-CAMPUS STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES ELIGIBILITY MATRIX



# ON-CAMPUS STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES ELIGIBILITY MATRIX



In addition, there are a lot of support services on your campus. The table below identifies some common services.

Please note: Not all of these programs will be available at every school, please talk to your FYSI Liaison about what your school offers.

Program	Services Offered	Eligibility Requirements
Academic Success Center/Learning Assistance Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading, speech, and ESL assistance</li> <li>• Tutoring services</li> <li>• Continuing Education High School, GED, and ABE classes</li> <li>• Vocational programs</li> <li>• Writing Center</li> <li>• Counseling services (career, personal, academic)</li> <li>• Study groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>
Assessment/Testing Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math Placement Testing</li> <li>• English Placement Testing</li> <li>• Ability to Benefit Testing (ATB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>
Basic/Developmental Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Algebra courses</li> <li>• ESL courses</li> <li>• Pre-university transfer English courses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>
CalWORKs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School tuition</li> <li>• Textbook vouchers</li> <li>• Child care (on or off campus)</li> <li>• Job placement assistance</li> <li>• Counseling and student support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both new and currently enrolled students who are receiving cash aid or TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families) from County Social Services Department</li> <li>• Youth from foster care with dependents may be eligible.</li> <li>• Foster youth without children are not eligible</li> </ul>
Career/Job Placement Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance in linking students' college majors and training programs with careers that meet their individual needs.</li> <li>• Provide resources, programs, and workshops to assist students in finding the career of their dreams</li> <li>• Workshops and classes</li> <li>• Career and job search counseling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New and currently enrolled students</li> <li>• No specific foster youth services or priorities</li> </ul>

Program	Services Offered	Eligibility Requirements
Child Development Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early childhood educational services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be eligible for subsidized childcare, a family must meet the state requirements of need and financial status, and the parent must be a student in the college. Students are generally required to be enrolled in a certain # of course units.</li> <li>• Fees for low-income families are determined by State Department of Education, are on a sliding scale, and are based on age of child, and hours and days of need.</li> <li>• Applicable to youth from foster care with children</li> </ul>
Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides single parents receiving public assistance with resources and services while attending college</li> <li>• Child care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must qualify for EOPS</li> <li>• Must be at least 18 years old</li> <li>• Must be head of household</li> <li>• Must receive CalWORKS/TANF/AFDC</li> <li>• Must have a dependent child under 14</li> <li>• Must be a CA resident for over 1 year</li> <li>• Must apply for financial aid</li> <li>• Applicable to youth from foster care with children</li> </ul>
Counseling Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New student counseling</li> <li>• Mental health counseling</li> <li>• Psychological counseling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>
Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning disabilities testing</li> <li>• Accommodations for students with disabilities</li> <li>• Employment and career services</li> <li>• Class relocation procedure</li> <li>• Credit and non-credit courses</li> <li>• Priority registration</li> <li>• Academic advising</li> <li>• Assistive technology and instructional support</li> <li>• Note-taking assistance</li> <li>• Interpreter services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must complete disability verification form and have it signed by a licensed professional who is qualified to diagnose the disability</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>
Extended Opportunity Programs and Service (EOPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College orientation program</li> <li>• Counseling</li> <li>• Priority registration</li> <li>• Book service</li> <li>• Financial aid advising</li> <li>• Tutorial services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enrolled as a full-time student but if a student is eligible for DSPS, he or she can be enrolled part-time and still be eligible</li> <li>• Must be eligible for the BOG waiver</li> <li>• Must be a CA resident</li> <li>• Must have fewer than 30 units of degree-applicable credits</li> <li>• Must be educationally disadvantaged as defined by EOPS</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>

Program	Services Offered	Eligibility Requirements
Health and Wellness Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis of chronic illnesses</li> <li>• Community health resources</li> <li>• Psychological services</li> <li>• HIV testing</li> <li>• Health education information</li> <li>• Immunizations</li> <li>• Laboratory services</li> <li>• Men's and women's health</li> <li>• Tobacco, drug, and alcohol programs and referrals</li> <li>• Dermatology</li> <li>• First aid/minor injuries</li> <li>• Physical exams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority</li> </ul>
Language Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audio, video, and computer stations with high-speed Internet access to support and complement coursework in foreign languages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• No specific services or priorities for youth from foster care</li> </ul>
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library instruction</li> <li>• Ask a Librarian reference and research assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General library reference and research assistance is available to everyone regardless of student status</li> <li>• No specific priority for youth from foster care</li> </ul>
Transfer Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and guide students through the university transfer process by providing a variety of services and resources that ensures well-informed options and thorough preparation for successful admission to 4-year baccalaureate granting institutions.</li> <li>• Fairs</li> <li>• College tours</li> <li>• Counseling</li> <li>• Application workshops</li> <li>• Online resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently enrolled students</li> <li>• No specific priority for youth from foster care</li> </ul>
Tutoring and Academic Support Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tutoring services</li> <li>• Learning communities</li> <li>• Online tutoring</li> <li>• Student Success Workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At some schools, students must be enrolled in the classes for which they need tutoring.</li> <li>• Some schools provide general tutoring in any subject.</li> <li>• Have ability to make youth from foster care a priority.</li> </ul>
Upward Bound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federally-funded TRIO program</li> <li>• Assists underrepresented students in achieving post-secondary education goals</li> <li>• Saturday classes</li> <li>• College study skills</li> <li>• Tutoring</li> <li>• Mentoring</li> <li>• Personal education planning</li> <li>• Self-esteem workshops</li> <li>• Assistance with scholarship search and applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First-generation college student</li> <li>• Low income based on federal income guidelines</li> <li>• U.S. citizen and/or legal/permanent resident</li> <li>• Demonstrated academic need</li> <li>• Priority for youth from foster care</li> </ul>



# UC AND CAL STATE UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS



# UC AND CAL STATE UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS<sup>1</sup>



The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) systems have established a uniform minimum set of courses required for admission as a freshman. The following document provides an overview of specific requirements.

High School Subject Area	State Mandated Requirements* (EC 51225.3) for High School Graduation	UC Requirements for Freshman Admissions	CSU Requirements for Freshman Admissions
English	Three Years	Four years of approved courses	Four years of approved courses
Mathematics	Two years, including Algebra I, beginning in 2003–04  (EC 51224.5)	Three years, including algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra  Four years recommended	Three years, including algebra, intermediate algebra, and geometry
	Three years of history/ social studies, including one year of U.S. history and geography; one year of world history, culture, and geography; one semester of American government and civics, and one semester of economics	Two years of history/social science, including one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government; and one year of world history, cultures, and geography	Two years, including one year of U.S. history or U.S. history and government and one year of other approved social science
Science	Two years, including biological and physical sciences	Two years with lab required, chosen from biology, chemistry, and physics.  Three years recommended	Two years, including one year of biological and one year of physical science with lab
Foreign Language	One year of either visual and performing arts, foreign language, or career technical education**	Two years in same language required.  Three years recommended.	Two years in same language required
Visual and Performing Arts	One year of either visual and performing arts, foreign language, or career technical education**	One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/ theater, music, or visual art	One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art
Physical Education Electives	Two years	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
	Not Applicable	One year*** 15	One year***
Total	13	(7 in the last two years of high school)	15

<sup>1</sup> Retrieved July 11, 2014 from <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs/hsgtable.asp>



## Former Foster Youth Current and Former Foster Youth California State University Admission Information

### 1. Prepare for Admission

The minimum you need to do to be considered for **admission as a freshman** is:

- Complete 15 “a-g” courses
  - A. 2 years of history/social science
  - B. 4 years of English
  - C. 3 years of math
  - D. 2 years of lab science
  - E. 2 years of a language other than English
  - F. 1 year of visual and performing arts
  - G. 1 year of college-prep elective from “a-g”
- Take the ACT or SAT by November for fall admissions
- Earn a 2.0 GPA
- Check the eligibility index at [http://www.csumentor.edu/planning/high\\_school/cal\\_residents.asp](http://www.csumentor.edu/planning/high_school/cal_residents.asp) for minimum combined GPA and test score requirements

To be considered for CSU **admission as a junior transfer**, you must fulfill both of the following:

- Complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of transferable college credit with a GPA of at least 2.0.
- Within the transferable courses, there must be 30 semester (45 quarter) units of general education work
- General education courses in the written communication, oral communication, critical thinking and mathematics sections of general education must be completed with a grade of C or better for each course.

### 2. Complete an online application, which can be accessed at [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu).

Campuses e-mail applicants to request or clarify information; they often need a quick response. Provide an e-mail address that you'll check regularly and keep until you enroll. Update your spam filters to ensure that you receive all CSU communications. Communication may also be sent by U.S. mail so be sure to keep your mailing address updated.

*Application filing periods – First time freshman applicants must apply for the fall term.*

Fall semester or quarter	October 1 – November 30
Spring semester or quarter	August 1 – 31
Winter quarter	June 1 – 30
Summer Semester or Quarter	February 1 – 28

The application fee is \$55 for each CSU campus to which you apply. CSU will waive application fees for up to **four** campuses for qualified students who would otherwise be unable to apply for admission. You can apply for a fee waiver within the online application and be notified immediately whether you have qualified. You will need to provide your income and the number of people supported by that income.

**3. After you apply**, you can log in to your application to review and, if necessary, change your telephone number, e-mail or mailing address. You can also apply to additional campuses if the period for applying is still open.

If you're a freshman or sophomore applicant, be sure to have your ACT and SAT scores reported by the testing agency. If you have your official score report sent to one campus, it will be available to all campuses to which you applied. You must indicate the school code for each school you have applied to on the ACT/SAT application, so that the scores will be reviewed.

If you're a transfer student, about five weeks after the filing period has ended, you are required to update your grades and course records. Please pay close attention to the deadlines posted at each campus. You are highly encouraged to send the information **BEFORE** the deadline.

Each campus that accepts you for admission will issue you an Intent to Enroll form or direct you to a website where you can declare your intent to enroll. You may accept admission to one campus only. A \$150 nonrefundable deposit must accompany your acceptance. Housing and financial aid information will be included in your admission offer.

#### 4. Entry Level Writing and Math Requirement

All incoming California students must take the English Placement Test (EPT) and/or the Entry Level Mathematics Test (ELM) as soon as possible unless you are exempt (if you have performed well on another standardized test, such as the SAT, or earned transferable credits from another college, you may not need to take one or both of the exams.) The EPT and the ELM are not admission tests. They will not affect your admission to any CSU campus — they simply help determine which courses best match your level of performance in math and English. The EPT and ELM should be taken before the first Saturday in May of your senior year in high school. For general information on placement tests and test dates, check the most current CSU placement test information bulletin OR visit [www.ets.org/csu](http://www.ets.org/csu). There is a \$18 fee for each test, fee waivers are not available.

#### 5. Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), Disability Resources and Other Campus Support Programs

**EOP** assists those challenged by social, economic and educational disadvantages with enrolling in college as well as helping them to complete their educational goals. EOP services include academic and support counseling and other support services. Students apply to EOP by completing sections F & J on the application form and completing the EOP supplemental application on CSU Mentor. Check each campus program for deadlines.

In addition to EOP, CSU provides special assistance and services to support students with disabilities so they can participate fully in campus programs and activities. Each campus has a **Disability Resources Office** that coordinates a variety of services for students with permanent and temporary disabilities. Check the campus website for location, hours and other information.

There is a wide range of other academic support programs for current and former foster youth attending CSU campuses. These programs are sometimes referred to as **Guardian or Renaissance Scholar** programs. The range of services provided by these programs varies considerably, and the most accurate information about each program can be gained by directly contacting the program coordinator, who is listed for each program. These programs offer an array of services, often including financial aid assistance, dedicated campus support staff, and housing among others.

For additional information regarding specific programs available, please visit the California College Pathways website link below.  
<http://www.cacollegepathways.org>

#### 6. Important Dates and Deadlines

October 1:	Application opens for fall admission at <a href="http://www.csumentor.edu">www.csumentor.edu</a>
November:	Deadline for taking SAT or ACT test
Nov. 30:	Application deadline for fall admission for most campuses. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Nov. 30.
Jan. 1:	Filing period opens for GPA Verification Form (required of California residents for Cal Grant consideration) and Free Application for Federal Student Aid ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> ).
Feb 1-15:	Check for EOP application deadline for all campuses you apply to.
March 2:	Deadline for applicants for all terms to submit FAFSA and GPA Verification Form
May 1:	Deadline for admitted freshmen to submit the Statement of Intent to Enroll
June 1:	Deadline for admitted transfers to submit the Statement of Intent to Enroll
July 15:	Final official transcripts due at campus admissions offices for students admitted for fall.
August 1-31:	Application filing period for spring semester/quarter.

#### 7. Additional Resources

Early Assessment Program (EAP): designed to help high school juniors and seniors assess and polish skills before taking CSU classes  
<http://www.ets.org/csu/about/eap/>

Compare CSU campuses  
<https://secure.csumentor.edu/Select/>

Paying for a CSU education  
<https://secure.csumentor.edu/FinAid/>

Math and English success websites  
<http://www.csumathsuccess.org/mshome> and <http://www.csuenglishsuccess.org/eshome>

## Current and Former Foster Youth California State University Admissions Checklist

### CSU Admission Requirements

#### High School Seniors

- I will complete 15 “a-g” courses by the end of my senior year.
- I have taken or will take the ACT with Writing or SAT Reasoning Test by November of my senior year.
- I have earned a 2.0 GPA in my “a-g” courses.
- I have checked the eligibility index to determine if I qualify for admission.

#### Transfer Students

- I will complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of transferable college credit with a GPA of at least 2.0.
- I will complete 30 semester (45 quarter) units of general education work:
- I will complete courses in the written communication, oral communication, critical thinking and mathematics sections of general education with a grade of C or better for each course

### Apply Online

- I have a copy of my transcript(s) to enter courses and grades from all schools I have attended.
- I have applied to EOP by completing sections F & J on the application form and completing the EOP supplemental application on CSU Mentor.
- My EOP application was submitted on this date: \_\_\_\_\_.
- My CSU application was submitted on this date: \_\_\_\_\_.
- My application ID number is \_\_\_\_\_.
- My e-mail address for my CSU application is \_\_\_\_\_.

### After I Apply

- I have ordered my official scores from ACT and/or SAT (freshman applicants).
- I have submitted my Transfer Academic Update, providing my grades for the last completed term and updating my planned coursework (transfer applicants).
- I will notify the admissions office at each campus where I applied if I add or drop a course or fail to earn a C or better in a course.

### After I Am Admitted

- I have registered for the English Placement Test (EPT) and/or the Entry Level Mathematics Test (ELM) (if applicable).
- I have submitted my Statement of Intent to Enroll by the stated deadline.
- I have arranged to have final transcripts sent to the campus admissions office no later than the stated deadline (July 15 for fall enrollment).
- I have applied for housing and arranged to have my deposit and prepayment made.
- I have signed up for orientation.
- I have completed the appropriate online pre-orientation preparation prior to attending the orientation
- I have contacted the disability services office (if applicable).
- I have contacted the Guardian Scholars or Renaissance Scholars program (if applicable)

### Financial Aid

- I have reviewed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) worksheet at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/options.htm> in order to assemble the information that I will need to complete the FAFSA.
- I have applied for and received a federal Personal Identification Number (PIN) ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)) to allow me to file a completed FAFSA during January or February.
- I have reported my entire taxed and untaxed income for the previous year, even if I have not officially filed my income tax return yet. (If I do not file taxes, I have checked my W-2 to obtain the information to put on my FAFSA.)
- I have filed a FAFSA ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)) before March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- I have submitted my application for Chafee funds to the California Student Aid Commission.
- I have checked online to ensure that my FAFSA was successfully submitted and processed and that I have listed the colleges that I am most likely to attend and their federal Office of Postsecondary Education Identification Number (OPEID) numbers.
- I have filed my income tax return for the previous year by April 15th, and I have updated the information on my FAFSA to correspond to the information on my income tax filing.
- I have confirmed that my high school has sent my GPA to the California Student Aid Commission or that I have downloaded the GPA verification form ([http://www.csac.ca.gov/pubs/forms/grnt\\_frm/gpaform.pdf](http://www.csac.ca.gov/pubs/forms/grnt_frm/gpaform.pdf)), completed my part, and submitted it for my high school counselor to submit on my behalf to the California Student Aid Commission prior to March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- I have checked my e-mail and/or application account each week for the CSU campuses to which I have applied for admission for any messages, including information about financial aid.
- I have provided by required deadlines any additional documentation needed to complete my financial aid application process at each of the CSU campuses where I have applied for admission.
- I have checked my application account at the campus where I have decided to attend to review and accept my financial aid offer and to sign a promissory note and complete online loan counseling sessions and other requirements, if I am agreeing to any student loans.
- I have checked my online campus billing statement and have made sure that my financial aid has been disbursed and applied to my tuition, fees, and other campus charges in time to meet the campus payment deadlines.
- I have opened a bank account so I can have a place to put my earnings when I work and so I can use the electronic funds transfer (EFT) when the amount of my financial aid awards exceeds my actual CSU expenses.
- I have shared information about my personal bank account, confidentially, with the bursar at the CSU campus where I plan to enroll so that I am eligible for EFT.

### More Information for Foster Youth and Counselors Helping Them....

To find campus support programs at your school:

<http://www.cacollegepathways.org>

College planning guide

<http://www.college.gov/prepare-for-college/checklists>

# Current and Former Foster Youth University of California Admission Information

## 1. Prepare for Admission

The minimum you need to do to be considered for **admission as a freshman** is:

- Complete 15 “a-g” courses
  - A. 2 years of history/social science
  - B. 4 years of English
  - C. 3 years of math
  - D. 2 years of lab science
  - E. 2 years of a language other than English
  - F. 1 year of visual and performing arts
  - G. 1 year of college-prep elective from “a-g”
- Take the ACT with Writing or SAT Reasoning exam
- Earn a weighted 3.0 GPA in A-G courses

To be considered for UC **admission as a junior transfer**, you must fulfill both of the following:

- Complete 60 semester (90 quarter) units of transferable college credit with a GPA of at least 2.4. No more than 14 semester (21 quarter) units may be taken Pass/Not Pass.
  - Complete the following course pattern requirements, earning a grade of C or better in each course:
    - A. Two transferable college courses (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units each) in English composition
    - B. One transferable college course (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units) in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning
    - C. Four transferable college courses (3 semester or 4-5 quarter units each) chosen from at least two of the following subject areas:
      - arts and humanities
      - social and behavioral sciences
      - physical and biological sciences
- Each course must be worth at least 3 semester units.

## 2. Complete an online application, which can be accessed at [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply).

Campuses e-mail applicants to request or clarify information; they often need a quick response. Provide an e-mail address that you'll check regularly and keep until you enroll. Update your spam filters to ensure that you receive all UC communications.

To give us a complete picture of who you are, you may wish to discuss your foster care experience in your personal statement.

### *Application filing periods*

Fall quarter/semester	November 1–30
Winter quarter/spring semester	July 1–31
Spring quarter	October 1–31

The application fee is \$70 for each UC campus to which you apply. UC will waive application fees for up to **four** campuses for qualified students who would otherwise be unable to apply for admission. You can apply for a fee waiver within the online application and be notified immediately whether you have qualified. You will need to provide your income and the number of people supported by that income.

**3. After you apply**, you can log in to your application to review and, if necessary, change your telephone number, e-mail or mailing address. You can also apply to additional campuses if they're still open.

If you're a freshman or sophomore applicant, be sure to have your ACT and SAT scores reported by the testing agency. If you have your official score report sent to one campus, it will be available to all campuses to which you applied.

If you're a transfer student, about five weeks after the filing period has ended, you are required to update your grades and course records.

Each campus that accepts you for admission will issue you a Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) form or direct you to a website where you can declare your intent to register. You may accept admission to one campus only. A \$100 nonrefundable deposit must accompany your acceptance. You may be eligible to have the deposit deferred until you receive financial aid. Housing and financial aid information will be included in your admission offer.

#### 4. Entry Level Writing Requirement

Freshmen must demonstrate their command of the English language by fulfilling the Entry Level Writing Requirement. Students can meet this requirement by scoring:

- 30 or better on the ACT Combined English/Writing test; or
- 680 or better on the College Board SAT Reasoning Test, Writing section; or
- 3 or above on either Advanced Placement Examination in English; or
- 5 or above on an International Baccalaureate Higher Level English: Literature (formerly IB HL English A1); or
- 6 or above on an International Baccalaureate Standard Level English A exam

All incoming California students who have not met the Entry Level Writing Requirement by April 1 must take the **UC Analytical Writing Placement Examination**. The exam will be administered in May at testing centers throughout the state. There is a fee for the test, but it will be partially or fully waived if you have already received a waiver of your UC application fees.

#### 5. Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and Disability Resources

**EOP** assists those challenged by social, economic and educational disadvantages with enrolling in college as well as helping them to complete their educational goals. EOP services include academic and support counseling and other support services. Students inform UC of their interest in EOP by checking a box within the admissions application. The applicant is then prompted for a brief explanation of their interest in applying.

In addition to EOP, UC provides special assistance and services to support students with disabilities so they can participate fully in campus programs and activities. Each campus has a disability resources office that coordinates a variety of services for students with permanent and temporary disabilities. Check the campus website for location, hours and other information.

#### 6. Important Dates and Deadlines

October:	Application opens for fall admission at <a href="http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply">www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply</a>
Nov. 1-30:	Filing period for fall admission. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Nov. 30.
Jan. 1:	Filing period opens for GPA Verification Form (required of California residents for Cal Grant consideration) and Free Application for Federal Student Aid ( <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a> ).
March 1-31:	Notification of fall freshman admission decisions
March 2:	Deadline for applicants for all terms to submit FAFSA and GPA Verification Form
April 1-30:	Notification of fall transfer admission decisions
May 1:	Deadline for admitted freshmen to submit the Statement of Intent to Register
June 1:	Deadline for admitted transfers to submit the Statement of Intent to Register
July 1:	Final official transcripts due at campus admissions offices for students admitted for fall.

#### 7. Additional Resources

Choosing a UC campus

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/campuses/index.html>

Paying for a UC education

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/paying-for-uc/index.html>

Other useful websites available to assist youth in planning to attend college are listed below

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/prepare-for-college>

<http://www.cacollegepathways.org/programs.php>

# Current and Former Foster Youth University of California Admissions Checklist

## UC Admission Requirements

### High School Seniors

- I will complete the required specific 15 "a-g" courses by the end of my senior year.
- I have taken or will take the ACT Plus Writing or SAT Reasoning Test by December of my senior year.
- I have earned a weighted 3.0 GPA in all of my "a-g" courses.

### Transfer Students

- I will complete 60 UC-transferable semester (90 quarter) units of college credit with a GPA of at least 2.4.
- I will complete the following course pattern requirements, earning a grade of C or better in each course:
  - D. Two transferable college courses in English composition
  - E. One transferable college course in mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning
  - F. Four transferable college courses chosen from at least two of the following subject areas:
    - arts and humanities
    - social and behavioral sciences
    - physical and biological sciences

## Apply Online

- I have a copy of my transcript(s) to enter courses and grades from all schools I have attended.
- I have written my personal statement in advance. It includes my experience in the foster care system.
- I have checked the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) box on the admissions application, and have completed the field requesting a brief description of my interest in EOP.
- My UC application was submitted on this date: \_\_\_\_\_.
- My application ID number is \_\_\_\_\_.
- My e-mail address for my UC application is \_\_\_\_\_.

## After I Apply

- I have ordered my official scores from ACT and/or SAT (freshman applicants).
- I have submitted my Transfer Academic Update, providing my grades for the last completed term and updating my planned coursework (transfer applicants).
- I will notify the UC Application Center if I add or drop a course or fail to earn a C or better in a course.

## After I Am Admitted

- I have registered for the Analytical Writing Placement Examination (if applicable).
- I have submitted my Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) by the stated deadline and paid the fee if applicable.
- I have arranged to have final transcripts sent to the campus admissions office no later than the stated deadline (July 1 for fall enrollment).
- I have signed up for housing.
- I have signed up for orientation.
- I have contacted the disability services office (if applicable).

## Financial Aid

- \_\_\_ I have reviewed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) worksheet at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/options.htm> in order to assemble the information that I will need to complete the FAFSA.
- \_\_\_ I have applied for and received a federal Personal Identification Number (PIN) ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)) to allow me to file a completed FAFSA during January or February.
- \_\_\_ I have reported my entire taxed and untaxed income for the previous year, even if I have not officially filed my income tax return yet. (If I do not file taxes, I have checked my W-2 to obtain the information to put on my FAFSA.)
- \_\_\_ I have filed a FAFSA ([www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)) before March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- \_\_\_ I have checked online to ensure that my FAFSA was successfully submitted and processed and that I have listed the colleges that I am most likely to attend and their federal Office of Postsecondary Education Identification Number (OPEID) numbers.
- \_\_\_ I have filed my income tax return for the previous year by April 15th, and I have updated the information on my FAFSA to correspond to the information on my income tax filing.
- \_\_\_ I have confirmed that my high school has sent my GPA to the California Student Aid Commission or that I have downloaded the GPA verification form ([http://www.csac.ca.gov/pubs/forms/grnt\\_frm/gpaform.pdf](http://www.csac.ca.gov/pubs/forms/grnt_frm/gpaform.pdf)), completed my part, and submitted it for my high school counselor to submit on my behalf to the California Student Aid Commission prior to March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- \_\_\_ I have checked my e-mail and/or application account each week for the UC campuses to which I have applied for admission for any messages, including information about financial aid.
- \_\_\_ I have provided by required deadlines any additional documentation needed to complete my financial aid application process at each of the UC campuses where I have applied for admission.
- \_\_\_ I have checked my application account at the campus where I have decided to attend to review and accept my financial aid offer and to sign a promissory note and complete online loan counseling sessions and other requirements, if I am agreeing to any student loans.
- \_\_\_ I have checked my online campus billing statement and have made sure that my financial aid has been disbursed and applied to my tuition, fees, and other campus charges in time to meet the campus payment deadlines.
- \_\_\_ I have opened a bank account so I can have a place to put my earnings when I work and so I can use the electronic funds transfer (EFT) when the amount of my financial aid awards exceeds my actual UC expenses.
- \_\_\_ I have shared information about my personal bank account, confidentially, with the bursar at the UC campus where I plan to enroll so that I am eligible for EFT.

## More Information for Foster Youth and Counselors Helping Them....

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/paying-for-uc/financial-aid/index.html>

The Office of Postsecondary Education Identification numbers (OPEID) associated with each UC campus are:

#001312 – UC Berkeley

#001313 – UC Davis

#001314 – UC Irvine

#001315 – UCLA

#4127100 – UC Merced

#001316 – UC Riverside

#001317 – UC San Diego

#001319 – UC San Francisco

#001320 – UC Santa Barbara

#001321 – UC Santa Cruz

# FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION



## FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION



Financial aid helps students to pay for college and covers educational expenses such as tuition fees, room and board, books, supplies, and transportation. There are several types of financial aid, including grants and scholarships, work study and loans.

- **Grants and Scholarships-** Grants and scholarships are often called “gift aid” because they are free money—it doesn’t have to be repaid. Grants are often need-based, while scholarships are usually merit-based.<sup>1</sup>
- **Loans-** A loan is money you borrow and must pay back with *interest*. If you decide to take out a loan, make sure you understand who is making the loan and the terms and conditions of the loan. Student loans can come from the federal government or from private sources such as a bank or financial institution. Make sure you speak with your FYSI liaison before taking out a loan to exhaust all options. Taking a loan is a big responsibility so make sure you do not take this lightly.<sup>2</sup>
- **Work-Study-** Provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay education expenses. The program encourages community service work and work related to the student’s course of study.<sup>3</sup>

It may seem like a daunting task due to the different types of paperwork but you have the FYSI liaison to help you and be your ally. It is also important to identify yourself as a foster youth and to make sure you get proof documenting you were in care.

1 Retrieved April 2, 2015 from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships>

2 Retrieved April 2, 2015 from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/loans>

3 Retrieved April 2, 2015 from <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/work-study>



# UNDERSTANDING THE MAJOR FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS



## UNDERSTANDING THE MAJOR FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS<sup>1</sup>



The following consists of grants (need or academic based) that does not have to be repaid.

Program	Who can apply	Annual awards up to...	Application deadline	Forms required	Eligibility requirements*
<b>Cal Grant A</b>	undergraduates	\$10,302	March 2 †	FAFSA, verified GPA, <a href="http://www.calgrants.org">www.calgrants.org</a>	3.0 high school GPA or 2.4 college GPA, financial need
<b>Cal Grant B</b>	undergraduates	\$1,551 (first year) \$10,302 + \$1,551	March 2 †	FAFSA, verified GPA, <a href="http://www.calgrants.org">www.calgrants.org</a>	2.0 high school GPA, financial need
<b>Cal Grant A and B Transfer Entitlement Awards</b>	California Community College students	\$10,302	March 2 †	FAFSA, verified GPA <a href="http://www.calgrants.org">www.calgrants.org</a>	2.4 California Community College GPA, financial need, graduated high school after 7.1.2000, not age 28 by 12/31
<b>Cal Grant C</b>	technical and career students	\$3,168	March 2 †	FAFSA, Cal Grant C Supplement Form, <a href="http://www.calgrants.org">www.calgrants.org</a>	financial need
<b>Cal Grant A and B Extended Benefits</b>	undergraduates	an additional year of Cal Grant award	contact your financial aid office	<a href="http://www.calgrants.org">www.calgrants.org</a>	enroll in an approved teacher credential program
<b>Federal Pell Grant</b>	undergraduates	\$5,775 (2015-16 maximum award)	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a>	financial need according to your EFC and COA
<b>Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)</b>	undergraduates	\$4,000	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a>	financial need according to your EFC and COA (not all colleges offer FSEOGs)
<b>Federal TEACH Grant</b>	undergraduate/graduate/post-baccalaureate students pursuing a career in teaching	\$4,000	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a>	must agree to teach in a high-need field serving low-income students;
<b>University of California Student Aid</b>	UC undergraduate/graduate students	average grant award of \$12,600	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a>	financial need
<b>State University Grant</b>	CSU undergraduate/graduate students	full system-wide fees	contact your financial aid office	FAFSA, <a href="http://www.fafsa.gov">www.fafsa.gov</a>	financial need

## OTHER CALIFORNIA AID PROGRAMS

Program	Eligibility requirements	Annual awards up to...	How to apply	Other requirements	For more information
<b>California Chafee Grant</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• you are or were in foster care</li> <li>• not yet age 22</li> </ul>	\$5,000 for job training or college in addition to any other state or federal aid you receive	FAFSA and Chafee Grant application available at <a href="http://www.calgrants.org">www.calgrants.org</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• does not require a Social Security number</li> <li>• must stay in school and maintain good grades</li> <li>• must be enrolled at least half time</li> <li>• remember to establish your independent status on your FAFSA</li> <li>• apply for a Cal Grant by submitting a FAFSA and verified GPA by March 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov">www.chafee.csac.ca.gov</a></li> <li>• call 888.224.7268</li> <li>• contact your school, caseworker, or Independent Living Coordinator</li> <li>• or contact California's Foster Care Ombudsman at 877.846.1602 or go to <a href="http://www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov">www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov</a></li> </ul>
<b>Child Development Grant</b>	must be nominated	\$1,000 (at a California Community College) or \$2,000 (at a four-year college) up to \$6,000 total	FAFSA and Child Development Grant application form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must be pursuing a child development permit and plan to work at a licensed children's center in California</li> <li>• must sign a Service Commitment Agreement to teach or supervise in a California licensed child care facility</li> <li>• financial need</li> <li>• apply by application deadline at <a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov">www.csac.ca.gov</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov">www.csac.ca.gov</a>, click on financial aid programs</li> <li>• call 888.224.7268</li> </ul>
<b>California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program</b>	members of the California National Guard, State Military Reserve or Naval Militia	\$10,302 for undergraduate programs; or \$10,802 for graduate programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAFSA</li> <li>• California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program Application</li> <li>• additional forms as required by the Adjutant General's Office</li> <li>• priority application deadline is June 15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• California residency</li> <li>• two years of qualifying military service</li> <li>• enrollment in minimum of three units at qualifying institution</li> <li>• pursuing a certificate, degree or diploma not currently held</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.calguard.ca.gov">www.calguard.ca.gov</a>, click on "Money for College"</li> <li>• <a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov">www.csac.ca.gov</a>, click on "Financial Aid Programs"</li> <li>• call the California National Guard</li> <li>• Education Assistance Award Program Coordinator 916.854.4255</li> </ul>

<b>Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents Grant</b>	You are the dependent or spouse of a California peace officer, firefighter or certain other law enforcement employee who was killed or totally disabled in the line of duty	\$11,259	FAFSA and Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents Grant application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• need based</li> <li>• applications accepted year-round</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov">www.csac.ca.gov</a>, click on "Financial Aid Programs"</li> <li>• call 888.224.7268</li> </ul>
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1 Bristow, K. (2006). College Handbook. Contra Costa County ILSP.



# SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



## SCHOLARSHIP OPPURTUNITIES

The following matrix consists of scholarships you may be eligible for. If you are interested in applying, set up a meeting with your campus FYSI liaison to help you work on your application.



### GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIP	ELIGIBILITY	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p><b>Casey Family Scholars Program</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.fc2success.org/programs/casey-family-scholars/">http://www.fc2success.org/programs/casey-family-scholars/</a></p>	<p>Foster Care to Success scholarships are for undergraduate studies only, and are awarded based on a combination of merit and need, and funding levels are determined based on cost of attendance and availability of other resources. Awards range from \$1,500 to \$6,000 per academic year, and are renewable for up to five years if a student remains eligible. Scholarships are announced annually in June. Recipients and non-recipients are notified via email, at the email address provided in their online application.</p>	<p><b>Foster Care to Success</b> 21351 Gentry Drive Suite 130 Sterling, VA 20166</p> <p>Tina Raheem, Director of Scholarships and Grants,  (571) 203-0270  <a href="mailto:tinar@fc2success.org">tinar@fc2success.org</a></p>
<p><b>Chafee Education and Training (ETV) Grant Program</b></p> <p>Online application is available at:  <a href="http://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/">www.chafee.csac.ca.gov/</a></p>	<p>Up to \$5,000 renewable award for former/current youth from foster care towards vocational/college expenses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enrolled in Title IV vocational school or college</li> <li>2. Enrolled at least half-time</li> <li>3. Course of study should be at least a 1-year program</li> <li>4. Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress</li> </ol>	<p>(888) 224-7268  <a href="mailto:specialized@csac.ca.gov">specialized@csac.ca.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Foster A Dream</b></p> <p>"Dare to Dream" academic scholarship</p> <p><a href="http://www.fosteradream.org">www.fosteradream.org</a></p>	<p>Current and former foster youth. Scholarship awards the range in the amounts of \$500 to \$5,000 and will be awarded at an annual celebration in May. Scholarship funds can be used to cover program approved academic costs (ex. tuition, dorm fees, books, class supplies, &amp; living expenses) and only be dispersed directly to program approved third parties. Funds will not go directly to the scholar. Scholarship categories: Scholastic Achievement, Rising Above Adversity, &amp; Community Involvement</p>	<p>Tamara Earl, Program Director  (925) 228-0200  <a href="mailto:tamara@fosteradream.org">tamara@fosteradream.org</a></p>
<p><b>Fostering Futures</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.fosteringfuturesfoundation.org">www.fosteringfuturesfoundation.org</a></p>	<p><b>Fostering Futures</b> provides renewable scholarships from \$1,000-\$5,000/year to youth from foster care and alumni from care seeking higher education, whether at a trade school, community college, or university.</p> <p>At the current time we are providing scholarships to students from the following California counties: Contra Costa, Alameda, Sonoma, Sacramento, Yolo, Napa, Solano, Merced, Stanislaus, Santa Clara, and San Francisco.</p>	<p>Fostering Futures 1127 – 11th Street, Suite 215 Sacramento, CA 95814</p> <p>Phone: (925) 899-8894 Fax: (925) 944-0286 Email: <a href="mailto:fosteringfutures@astound.net">fosteringfutures@astound.net</a></p>
<p><b>Guardian Scholars</b></p>	<p>Youth must apply and be accepted to one of the many Guardian Scholar partner institutions before they are eligible to become Guardian Scholar students.</p>	<p>To apply, visit the website and search by college or institution</p> <p><a href="http://www.cacollegepathways.org/explore-campus-support-programs">http://www.cacollegepathways.org/explore-campus-support-programs</a></p>

SCHOLARSHIP	ELIGIBILITY	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p><b>National Foster Parent Association Scholarship</b></p> <p>Application available at: <a href="http://nfpaonline.org/nfpascholarship">http://nfpaonline.org/nfpascholarship</a></p>	<p>The National Foster Parent Association offers scholarships for foster youth, adopted youth, or biological youth of currently licensed foster parents, who wish to further their education beyond high school, including college or university studies, vocational/technical school or junior college. The foster parents must be members of NFPA. Five scholarships in the amount of \$500 were awarded.</p>	<p><a href="mailto:scholarships@nfpaonline.org">scholarships@nfpaonline.org</a></p>
<p><b>Orangewood Children's Foundation, Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Grants</b></p> <p>Applications are available at: <a href="http://www.orangewoodfoundation.org/programs_trustfund.asp">www.orangewoodfoundation.org/programs_trustfund.asp</a></p>	<p>Provides financial and educational assistance to current and former foster youth from Orange County, CA with an emphasis on those who are pursuing higher education after emancipation. Funding is not guaranteed and conditions may apply.</p> <p>Funding range by categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Ages: 18-25) College &amp; Trade School Scholarships) Up to \$3,000 per academic year for community college and vocational/trade school and up to \$5,000 per year is offered for university</li> <li>• (Ages: 18-21) Emancipated &amp; AB12 Non-Minor Dependent (NMD) Foster Youth Grants Up to \$500 per fiscal year (July 1st - June 30th) to assist with various living expenses (see Commonly Funded Items below). For those who are prepared to get their Driver License, up to an additional \$300 may be available for driving school.</li> <li>• (July 1st - June 30th) Dependent Foster Youth Grants (Ages: 0-18) Up to \$250 per fiscal year for various expenses (see Commonly Funded Items below). For those who are prepared to get their Driver License, up to an additional \$300 may be available for driving school.</li> </ul>	<p>OCF Mailing Address: 1575 E. 17th St., Santa Ana, CA 92705</p> <p>CTF Email: <a href="mailto:CTF@orangewoodfoundation.org">CTF@orangewoodfoundation.org</a></p>
<p><b>Point Foundation</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.thepointfoundation.org/scholarships.html">http://www.thepointfoundation.org/scholarships.html</a></p>	<p>Administers a variety of scholarships for LGBTQ students</p>	<p>The Point Foundation 5055 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 501 Los Angeles, CA 90036 (866) 337-6468 (323) 933-1234</p> <p><a href="mailto:info@thepointfoundation.org">info@thepointfoundation.org</a></p>
<p><b>Silicon Valley Children's Fund</b></p> <p><b>Youth Education Scholarship (YES)</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.svcf.org">www.svcf.org</a></p>	<p>YES Program participants are full time students at a community college, university, or accredited vocational program or trade school. Applicants first apply for federal and state aid through FAFSA. YES scholarships are determined based on their unmet financial need. YES College Scholars may reapply for up to 5 years of support if they meet specific standards of progress toward graduation.</p>	<p>SVCF 1871 The Alameda, Suite 335, San Jose, CA 95126</p> <p>Tel:(408) 484-6200</p> <p>Sherri Brooks <a href="mailto:sherri.brooks@svcf.org">sherri.brooks@svcf.org</a></p>
<p><b>Students Rising Above Scholarship</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.studentsrisingabove.org">www.studentsrisingabove.org</a></p>	<p>Students Rising Above is looking for HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS who have demonstrated strength of character in the face of challenging odds, and dream of a college education. Selected students come from low-income households and are rising above tremendous difficulties and succeeding in school and in life despite their circumstances at home. These difficulties may include poverty, neglect, violence, addiction, and homelessness.</p>	<p>Students Rising Above P.O. Box 29174 San Francisco, CA 94129 (415) 333-4222</p> <p><a href="mailto:info@studentsrisingabove.org">info@studentsrisingabove.org</a></p>

SCHOLARSHIP	ELIGIBILITY	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p><b>United Friends of the Children College Sponsorship Program</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.unitedfriends.org/youth-access/programs-applications/applications">http://www.unitedfriends.org/youth-access/programs-applications/applications</a></p>	<p>Referrals ONLY-United Friends of the Children empowers current and former foster youth on their journey to self-sufficiency through service-enriched education and housing programs, advocacy, and consistent relationships with a community of people who care. UFC staff is committed to ensuring that current and former foster youth have access to high quality education and the opportunity to pursue their academic goals at four-year colleges and universities.</p> <p>Must have an open case with the Los Angeles County foster care system OR have recently closed case with ILP eligibility (includes Kin-Gap, or ILP eligible legal guardianship or adoption.</p> <p>Must also be a current high school senior.</p>	<p>Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1955, Los Angeles, CA 90017</p> <p>Carolina Diaz (213) 975-1406</p>



# SPECIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES



## SPECIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES



If you received one-on-one help when you were in high school or had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), you may qualify for extra services and support to help you succeed in college from the Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS) department of your community college. It is important for you to know that there is NO COST to you for these services.

If you need assistance with any of the following, contact the campus DSPS office and set up a meeting with a counselor:

- Help taking notes in class
- Extra time to take tests or someone who can read or write the test for you
- Extra tutoring
- Planning your courses
- Help getting around campus

You have the option of taking classes specifically designed to accommodate your disability (for example, Special Service classes, Sign Language classes, etc.) and/or a service is incorporated into your regular class (for example, note taker, alternative media, etc.) You have to develop a Student Educational Contract (SEC), a plan to address your specific needs as a student with a disability. It details the support services and courses necessary to meet your educational needs. Your SEC must be updated annually by you and a DSPS counselor to review your progress.



# SCHOLARSHIP FOR DISABLED STUDENTS



## SCHOLARSHIP FOR DISABLED STUDENTS



Below is a list of existing scholarship options for students with disabilities. If you are interested in applying, please utilize your FYSI Liaison and DSPS counselor to help you complete your application.

See more at: <http://www.cacollegepathways.org/what-other-resources-or-scholarships-are-available-foster-youth>

SCHOLARSHIP	TYPE OF DISABILITY	ELIGIBILITY	CONTACT INFORMATION
<b>Alexander Graham Bell Association for Deaf and Hard of Hearing</b>	Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Varies	Wendy Will – College Scholarship Program 8745 Gary Burns Drive, Suite 160-504 Frisco, TX 75034  <a href="http://www.listeningandspokenlanguage.org/ScholarshipProgram/">http://www.listeningandspokenlanguage.org/ScholarshipProgram/</a>
<b>American Council of the Blind</b>	Blind	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Legally blind in both eyes</li> <li>2. Full-time students admitted to academic and vocational training programs at the post-secondary level.</li> <li>3. A cumulative GPA of 3.3 is generally required, but extenuating circumstances may be considered for certain scholarships.</li> <li>4. Part-time students who are working full-time are also invited to apply.</li> </ol>	Dee Theien Email: <a href="mailto:deetheien@acbes.org">deetheien@acbes.org</a>  <a href="http://www.acb.org/scholarship">http://www.acb.org/scholarship</a>
<b>American Foundation for the Blind</b>	Blind	Varies depending on scholarship	AFB Information Center Toll Free: (800) 232-5463 Attn: Tara Annis  E-mail: <a href="mailto:tannis@afb.net">tannis@afb.net</a> <a href="https://www.afb.org/info/afb-2015-scholarship-application/5">https://www.afb.org/info/afb-2015-scholarship-application/5</a>
<b>Ann Ford Scholarship Program National Center for Learning Disabilities</b>	Learning disability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. \$10,000 scholarship awarded to a high school senior with a learning disability</li> <li>2. Have an overall GPA 3.0 or higher</li> <li>3. Demonstrate financial need</li> <li>4. Provide most current documentation of an identified learning disability</li> <li>5. Be a U.S. citizen</li> </ol> <p>Deadline: December 31</p>	National Center for Learning Disabilities c/o Anne Ford Scholarship 32 Laight St. 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor New York, NY 10013  <a href="http://www.nclld.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/AnneFord2014.pdf">http://www.nclld.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/AnneFord2014.pdf</a>
<b>Hemophilia Federation of America Educational Scholarships</b>	Hemophilia	Varies, depends on scholarship  Deadline: April 30	Email: <a href="mailto:scholarship@hemophiliafed.org">scholarship@hemophiliafed.org</a> Fax: (972) 616-6211  <a href="http://www.hemophiliafed.org/programs/educational-scholarships/hfa-scholarships/">http://www.hemophiliafed.org/programs/educational-scholarships/hfa-scholarships/</a>

SCHOLARSHIP	TYPE OF DISABILITY	ELIGIBILITY	CONTACT INFORMATION
<b>Hemophilia Foundation of Southern California</b>	Hemophilia	<p>Applicants must be pursuing a post-high school college or technical / trade school education.</p> <p>Deadline: July 1</p>	<p>6720 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90038 (323) 525-0440</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:ofcmgr@hemosocal.org">ofcmgr@hemosocal.org</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.hemosocal.org">http://www.hemosocal.org</a></p>
<b>National Federation of the Blind (NFB)</b>	Blind	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Must be legally blind in both eyes</li> <li>2. Must reside in the United States</li> <li>3. Must be pursuing or planning to pursue a full-time, post-secondary course of study in a degree program. One (1) scholarship may be given to a person employed full-time while attending school part-time</li> <li>4. Must participate in the entire NFB national convention and in all of its scheduled scholarship program activities</li> </ol> <p>Deadline: March 31</p>	<p>Chairperson Patti Chang, Esq. Email: <a href="mailto:scholarships@nfb.org">scholarships@nfb.org</a> Office: (410) 659-9314, extension 2415</p> <p><a href="http://www.nfb.org">http://www.nfb.org</a></p>
<b>Parke Davis Epilepsy Scholarship Award</b>	Epilepsy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. High school seniors who have applied to a college or university</li> <li>2. Currently under a physician's care for the treatment of epilepsy</li> <li>3. Currently taking anti-epileptic medication</li> </ol> <p>Based on academic merit and extracurricular activities</p> <p>Deadline: March 1</p>	<p>Jeffrey Tarnoff Parke-Davis Epilepsy Scholarship Award c/o IntraMed 1633 Broadway, 25<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10019 (800) AWARD-PD (212) 827-6547</p> <p><a href="mailto:info@epilepsy-scholarship.org">info@epilepsy-scholarship.org</a></p>

# ONLINE RESOURCES



## ONLINE RESOURCES

Below is a list of resource guides, online scholarship database, and support on campus.



### DATABASE

There are number of online databases where you can get research information on scholarships. Feel free to look up scholarships for yourself for additional support.

**COLLEGE BOARD** provides an online tool to help you locate scholarships, internships, grants, and loans that match your education level, talent, and background. The scholarship search will find potential opportunities from their database of more than 2,000 programs, totaling nearly \$6 billion in available aid. <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>

**FAST AID** is the world's largest private sector scholarship database in the world. 30 years of scholarship research constantly updated. <http://www.fastap.org/>

**FAST WEB** is the largest and most popular free scholarship search site. Once you complete a profile, you'll have access to over 1.5 million scholarships, totaling \$3.4 billion dollars in funding. It is frequently updated and provides automatic email notification of new scholarships that match your student profile. <http://www.fastweb.com/>

**FINAID** This award-winning site has grown into the most comprehensive source of student financial aid information, advice, and tools. <http://www.finaid.org/>

**HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND (HSF)** is the largest Hispanic scholarship-granting organization in the nation. HSF provides financial assistance to outstanding Hispanic students in higher education throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. The students represent every region of the country and attend hundreds of institutions of higher education throughout America. Founded in 1975, HSF has awarded more than 470 million scholarships. <http://www.hsf.net/>

**I CAN AFFORD COLLEGE** campaign is a statewide, financial aid awareness initiative sponsored by the California Community Colleges. <http://www.icanaffordcollege.com/>

**MILITARY.COM** offers a Scholarship Finder where you can search for scholarships and grants exclusively for the military community. <http://aid.military.com/scholarship/search-for-scholarships.do>

**ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS (OCA)** recognizes the lack of access to quality education and resources for underserved communities, including the Asian Pacific American (APA) community. OCA is known as a leading organization in administering scholarships for APA students. They administer scholarships sponsored by Avon, Verizon, UPS, Sysco, and AXA. [http://www.ocanational.org/?page=Programs\\_Scholarship](http://www.ocanational.org/?page=Programs_Scholarship)

**STUDENTSCHOLARSHIPSEARCH.COM** is a program created by the Advisors network that provides an organized platform for students to search, investigate and apply for scholarships. <http://www.studentscholarshipsearch.com/about.php>

## ONLINE FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

**FAFSA PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN)** A PIN is a 4-digit number that is used in combination with your Social Security Number, name, and date of birth to identify you as someone who has the right to access your own personal information on Federal Student Aid Web sites, such as FAFSA on the Web. Your security PIN is used to sign Federal Student Aid documents, access personal records and make binding legal obligations \*\*Keep this number safe and report to 1-800-433-3243 if it's lost or stolen.\*\*

<https://pin.ed.gov/PINWebApp/pinindex.jsp>

**INFORMATION ON CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES-** The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, with 2.1 million students attending 112 colleges. The colleges provide students with the knowledge and background necessary to compete in today's economy. With a wide range of educational offerings, the colleges provide workforce training, basic courses in English and math, certificate and degree programs, and preparation for transfer to four-year institutions. [www.cccco.edu](http://www.cccco.edu)

## RESOURCES FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES

**COLLEGE BUYS** offers discounts of up to 85 percent on a wide range of educational products—from Microsoft programs such as Office, Adobe, software, and office furniture.

<http://www.foundationccc.org/Default.aspx?tabid=484>

**IFORSTER.ORG** brings in resources that meet the foster community's biggest needs. iFoster works with private, public, and government organizations to find the best resources to help close the economic gap and turn surviving into thriving. <http://www.ifoster.org/>

**JOHN BURTON BOOK FUND** provides qualified students up to \$500 to cover the costs of textbooks. If a student has not utilized the full \$500 in one semester/quarter, the remaining balance may be carried over to pay for textbooks the next semester/quarter. All students who participate in the Burton Book Fund must fill out and submit a form with a digital picture (face image). If a student does not wish to submit a photo, they will instead be asked to write and submit a thank you note in place of a photograph.

## RESOURCE GUIDES

**Guide to Casey Life Skills** is a free tool that assesses your behavior and competencies to achieve long term goals. It aims to set you on your way to developing healthy, productive lives. If your goals revolve around going to school, meeting new friends, living on your own, owning your own car, raising a family, travelling, or getting a job you love, CLS helps you make a plan for overcoming the challenges that can get in the way of these dreams. To get started visit, <http://lifskills.casey.org/> to take the free assessment.

## EDUCATION SPECIFIC RESOURCE GUIDES

**CSU Foster Youth Resource Guide** A step-by-step guide and checklist for foster youth planning to enroll at a Cal State University.

<https://www.calstate.edu/fosteryouth/documents/Foster-Youth-Educational-Planning-Guide.pdf>

**It's My Life: Post-Secondary Education** A guide that provides a set of strategies to help you take advantage of education and training opportunities beyond the high school level.

<http://www.f2f.ca.gov/res/ItsMyLife.pdf>

**UC Foster Youth Resource Guide** A step-by-step guide and checklist for foster youth planning to enroll at a University of California.

[http://www.cacollegepathways.org/sites/default/files/resource\\_guide\\_uc\\_.pdf](http://www.cacollegepathways.org/sites/default/files/resource_guide_uc_.pdf)

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES

**Affordable Care Act** It is important for you to have medical coverage. Foster youth are covered with Medi-Cal until the age of 26. Services include medical visits, vision exams, substance use treatment, mental health services, counseling, and dental care. Don't miss out on free coverage. <http://coveredtil26.childrennow.org/>

**A Home Within** is the only national organization focused exclusively on meeting the emotional needs of youth who are or were in foster care. They match current and former youth from care with licensed volunteer therapists who provide weekly pro-bono therapy. To find a therapist, visit <http://www.ahomewithin.org/>

**Healthy Transitions** A curriculum for young adults transitioning out of foster care with the purpose of helping them to realize their own strengths and abilities. The curriculum seeks to increase awareness and disseminate information about the many facets of wellness and self-care, with the goal of instilling students with healthy habits, connecting them to local resources, services, and empowering them to reach a higher state of health and well-being. Through a combination of training and peer-to-peer support, Healthy Transitions serves to support these young people physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. Note: Only a certain colleges participate in the curriculum. Please visit the site for more information <http://www.foundationccc.org/WhatWeDo/HealthyTransitions/tabid/944/Default.aspx>

**On-Campus Student Health Services/Wellness Center** Most community colleges provide on-campus support for students such as specialized services, health counseling, and preventative care and community resources. Visit your school's website and search for student health services/wellness center.





**CaliforniaColleges.edu**  
The official source for college and career planning in California

**WHO DO U WANT 2B?**

**icanaffordcollege.com**<sup>SM</sup>

**CollegeBuys.org**<sup>®</sup>  
Exclusive savings on software and more.

**Created for the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office  
Student Financial Assistance Programs – Foster Youth Success Initiative**