

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**Instruction****EDUCATION OF FOSTER YOUTH**

County Superintendent and County Board recognize that foster youth may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their family circumstances, disruption to their educational program, and their emotional, social, and other health needs that may be addressed with the provision of a safe, positive learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment and that promotes students' self-esteem and academic achievement.

The County Superintendent or designee shall provide foster youth with full access to the County Superintendent/County Board educational program and implement strategies necessary for the improvement of the academic achievement of foster youth as identified in the local control and accountability plan (LCAP).

The County Superintendent or designee shall also develop strategies to build a foster youth's feeling of connectedness with school, including, but not limited to, strategies that promote positive discipline and conflict resolution, the development of resiliency and interpersonal skills, and the involvement of foster parents, group home administrators, and/or other caretakers in school programs and activities.

The County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that placement decisions for foster youth are based on the students' best interests as defined in law and as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. To that end, the County Superintendent or designee shall designate a staff person as the County Superintendent foster youth liaison to help facilitate the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth.

The County Superintendent or designee and County Superintendent foster youth liaison shall ensure that all appropriate staff, including, but not limited to, each principal, school registrar, and attendance clerk, receive training on the enrollment, placement, and transfer of foster youth and other related rights.

To address the needs of foster youth and help ensure the maximum utilization of available funds, the County Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with local agencies and officials including, but not limited to, the county placing agency, social services, probation officers, and juvenile court officers. County Superintendent or designee shall explore the feasibility of entering into agreements with these groups to coordinate services and protect the rights of foster youth.

Adopted: 12/08/2011

Amended: 03/21/2013, 11/21/2019, 06/15/2023

Legal ReferenceEducation Code

39807.5 Payment of transportation costs by parents/guardians; waiver for foster youth
42238.01-42238.07 Local control funding formula
42920-42926 Foster children educational services
48645-48647 Juvenile court schools

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48850-48859	Educational placement of students residing in licensed children’s institutions
48915.5	Suspension and expulsion; students with disabilities, including foster youth
48918.1	Notice of expulsion hearing for foster youth
49061	Student records
49069.5	Foster care students, transfer of records
49076	Access to student records
51225.1	Exemption from district graduation requirements
51225.2	Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course
51225.3	High school graduation
52060-52077	Local control and accountability plan
56055	Rights of foster parents in special education

Health and Safety Code

1522.41	Training and certification of group home administrators
120341	Foster youth: school placement: immunization records

Welfare and Institutions Code

300	Children subject to jurisdiction
309	Investigation and release of child
317	Appointment of legal counsel
361	Limitations on parental or guardian control
366.27	Educational decision by relative providing living arrangements
602	Minors violating law; ward of court
726	Limitations on parental or guardian control
727	Order of care, ward of court
16000-16014	Foster care placement

Code of Regulations, Title 5

4600-4670	Uniform complaint procedures
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United States Code, Title 20

1415	Procedural safeguards; placement in alternative educational setting
6311	State plan

United States Code, Title 29

794	Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504
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United States Code, Title 42

670-679b	Federal assistance for foster care programs
11431-11435	McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

Management Resources

CSBA Publications

Foster Youth: Supports for Success, Governance Brief, May 2016
Our Foster Youth: What School Boards Can Do, May 2016

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
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Alliance for Children's Rights Publications
Foster Youth Education Toolkit, December 2016

California Child Welfare Council
Partial Credit Model Policy and Practice Recommendations

California Foster Youth Education Task Force Pub
California Foster Youth Education Law Fact Sheets, January 2021

Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership Publications
Our Children: Emancipating Foster Youth, A Community Action Guide

U.S. Department of Education Publications
Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care, Non-Regulatory Guidance, June 2016

Web Sites

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Alliance for Children's Rights: <http://www.kids-alliance.org>

California Child Welfare Council: <http://www.chhs.ca.gov/Pages/CACChildWelfareCouncil.aspx>

California Department of Education, Foster Youth Services: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy>

California Department of Social Services, Foster Youth Ombudsman Office:

<http://www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov>

California Foster Youth Education Task Force: <http://www.cfyetf.org>

California Youth Connection: <http://www.cal-youthconn.org/site/cyc>

Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership: <http://www.ccspartnership.org>

Foster Ed: <http://foster-ed.org>

National Center for Youth Law: <https://youthlaw.org>