

California Community College Foster Youth Support Programs

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June 28, 2023

California Community College System

- 116 California Community Colleges
- Serve 1.8 Million Students
- 23K Current and Former Foster Youth





Facts: Foster Youth and College

At age 17, 85.5 percent of California's foster youth aspire to complete college

At age 19, 96.3 percent of California's foster youth aspire to complete college

Foster youth who participated in a campus support program were 2.5 times more likely to persist than those who did not



Foster Youth Success Initiative



- Foster Youth Success Liaisons at each of the 115 California Community Colleges
- Foster Youth Liaisons in various departments – Financial Aid, Counseling, EOPS, and other CCC departments
- Initial point of contact for students from foster care
- Knows the unique needs of students from foster care
- Financial Aid (deadlines, eligibility, etc.)



Priority Registration

- · FYSI Liaisons connect students with priority registration
- Students who were in care on or after their 13th birthday are eligible
- Provisions for this are found in (SB 512)



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Opportunities to connect foster youth students to Support Networks through Campus Partnerships

Financial Aid Support Academic Support and Career Exploration

Basic Needs/Public Benefits

On-Campus Support Programs

Community Resources Physical & Mental Health



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NextUp Program



- The NextUp program is housed within the California Community College EOPS program and is designed to provide guidance, support and direct financial assistance to students who have experienced the foster care system.
- NextUp was recently expanded to at all 115 California community colleges!
- \$50M in the CA state budget (ongoing funds)
- Colleges have unique program designs though all offer extensive support and direct cash aid.



Key Program Information



The NextUp program, formerly known as Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support (CAFYES), began legally operating in January 2016 after the Board of Governors selected 10 districts to implement NextUp and became a part of **Education Code 79220 – 79229** in 2014.



NextUp was created to support foster youth students seeking to further their educational career in California's Community College system by providing "over, above, and in addition to" services and support including more intensive care and academic support



Recent **Education Code changes** include student eligibility requirements and additional funds to expand services and support to 115 colleges in 2022.



NextUp Program Eligibility

- Expanded student eligibility:
 - Be a current or former foster youth, who was in care on or after the youth's 13th birthday.
 - Be under the age of 26 at the commencement of the academic year in which the student first enrolls in the program.
 - Students are allowed to continue participating in the program beyond the age of 26.
 - Students who enrolls in the NextUp program prior to age 26, disenroll, and subsequently return to the same or another institution after turning 26 may be readmitted to the program.



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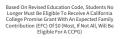
NextUp Program Eligibility

- Expanded student eligibility:
 - Students who are enrolled in at least nine units or
 - Students enrolled in fewer than 9 units, that have an education plan, designed to move them toward subsequent enrollment in at least nine units.



NextUp Program Eligibility







Colleges Must Provide A Streamlined Application & Enrollment Process To Ensure The Program Is





NextUp Program Services

 The NextUp Program may provide services, and direct financial support, to enrolled students who meet all eligibility requirements but whose courses have not commenced yet, and who have completed the required matriculation activities, if services are necessary to enable the student to be successful upon the commencement of the academic term.



NextUp Program Services Personal and Academic Counseling Frequent in-person Contact Frequent in-person Contact Tutoring Career Guidance and Transfer Counseling Independent Living and Financial Literacy Skills Support Work Study Awards

NextUp Program Services Unmet Need Grants Childcare Assistance Transportation Assistance

Directly from NextUp Students

"I love that the NextUp Program is a safe place to go and they do everything they can to help you succeed in school. You can see that the staff really wants the best for you!" "It's important. Those like me who didn't know a thing about most means of financial Independence or health care or anything similar need this program in order to learn the things that we need to be independent."

"They have helped me succeed. I can say without them I think I would have dropped out of college already. They are my biggest support and help."



California Community Colleges

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Guardian Scholars



- In addition to FYSI and NextUp many colleges have Guardian Scholar programs:
- Approximately 30 CCC campuses have formal GS support programs
- Services vary though most offer comprehensive counseling and many provide direct aid to the students
- Searchable database to find all support programs located at: http://www.student.cacollegepathways.or g/find-campus-support-programs/





