Increasing Access to Higher Education: California Community College Foster Youth Support Programs

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Welcome and Introductions

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Workshop Overview

Voices from the Community Colleges – video

California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO)
NextUp Program (CAFYES)

Foundation for California Community Colleges (Foundation)
Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success – Independent Living Program

Joint Initiatives with CCCCCO and Foundation
Foster Youth Success Initiative & Campus Resources

Q & A
Voices from the California Community Colleges

https://foundationccc.org/What-We-Do/Equity/Foster-Youth-Services
Cooperating Agencies
Foster Youth
Educational Support
Program

NextUp
NextUp

**Senate Bill 1023** allowed CCCC to establish Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support program at up to 10 California Community College districts: Chapter 771

**Senate Bill 12** allowed for the expansion of CAFYES to up to 20 CCC districts: Chapter 722
NextUp

NextUp is a supplemental program within EOPS. NextUp serves to strengthen the capacity of community college districts to support the higher education success, health and well-being of some of the nearly 20,000 current and former foster youth who are enrolled in California’s community colleges.

- 2014: NextUp on 26 campuses
- 2018: NextUp expansion, now on 45 campuses
NextUp

Eligibility

• In care on or after 16th birthday
• Have or establish California residency
• Enroll in 9 units
• Eligible for fee waiver
• Under age 26
Services & Resources

- Academic, guidance, and personal counseling;
- Frequent in-person contact;
- Tutoring;
- Career guidance and transfer counseling;
- Independent living and financial literacy skills support;
- Book and supply grants;
- Work study awards;
NextUp

Services & Resources

- Unmet need grants;
- Child care assistance;
- Transportation assistance;
- Meal tickets and/or emergency food support;
- Emergency housing support;
- Health & mental health payment assistance;
- Referrals to health services, mental health services, housing assistance and food assistance;
NextUp

How to find NextUp programs!!
http://nextup.cccco.edu/

Find other campus support programs here:
http://www.student.cacollegepathways.org/find-campus-support-programs/
For additional information please contact (me)

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Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success
Independent Living Program

• 18 community college campuses
• Workshops and activities in:
  • *Education*
  • *Employment*
  • *Daily Living skills*
  • *Financial Literacy*
• Current/former foster youth between the ages of 16-21
# YESS-ILP Colleges

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<th>College Name</th>
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<td>Butte College</td>
<td>Rio Hondo College</td>
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<td>College of the Sequoias</td>
<td>San Bernardino Valley College</td>
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<td>Cuesta College</td>
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<td>Fresno City College</td>
<td>Compton Community College</td>
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<td>Imperial Valley College</td>
<td>Palomar City College</td>
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Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success
Independent Living Program

• The 2018-19 academic year had 1753 participants
• Over 8,000 hours of training/workshops and one-on-one support hours were provided to participants
• Built on partnerships: California College Pathways, Chancellor’s Office, County Offices, FYSI, CDSS, and more

Contact Information:
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FOSTER YOUTH SUCCESS INITIATIVE FYSI

A partnership of the California Community College Chancellor’s Office and the Foundation for California Community Colleges
FYSI aims to improve:

- Access to Financial Aid
- Term-to-term retention rates
- Academic performance
- Completion of certificate and degree programs
- Transfer rates
FYSI is a network of over 200 Liaisons across all 114 campuses.

FYSI networks have many different Foster Youth Support Programs (Guardian Scholars, Inspiring Scholars, etc.) varies by campus program; generally fewer eligibility criteria than YESS ILP or NextUp/CAFYES.
Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success (YESS ILP)
Supports for Foster Youth Students at CCCs

**Complete the FAFSA**
Apply by March 2 for maximum aid
Apply at fafsa.ed.gov or through the MyStudentAid mobile app. Current or former foster youth may qualify for “Independent Status” on the FAFSA, so be sure to answer each question carefully. You can still apply after March 2.

**Chafee Grant**
Apply by March 2 for maximum aid
Apply at chafee.csac.ca.gov. Foster youth students who were in care on or after their 16th birthday can apply up until age 26, and can receive the Chafee grant for 5 years. You can still apply after March 2.
Supports for Foster Youth Students at CCCs

CalGrant
APPLY BY MARCH 2 FOR MAXIMUM AID
Apply at fasfa.ed.gov. Foster youth students who were in care on or after their 13th birthday can receive CalGrant for up to 8 years, and can apply up until age 26. Foster youth students in CCCs can apply through September 2.

California College Promise Grant
APPLY AT ANY TIME
Apply at cccapply.org. For eligible California residents, the California Community Colleges Promise Grant waives enrollment fees.
Supports for Foster Youth Students at CCCs

Register for classes early with priority registration

Students who were in foster care on or after their 16th birthday have access to priority registration through age 26.

Apply for CalFresh

Students that participate in some of these foster youth support programs receive an exemption on the CalFresh application, which may increase eligibility. Apply at students.getcalfresh.org.
Contact Information
Foster Youth Success Initiative

Jessica Smith
jsmith@foundationccc.org
Questions?
Thank you