

**WHAT CAREGIVERS NEED TO
KNOW ABOUT AB 12 FOR
PROBATION INVOLVED YOUTH:
TRANSITIONING TO INDEPENDENCE - SUPPORTS AND
OTHER BENEFITS**

March 6, 2013

Noon – 1:00 P.M.

Webinar



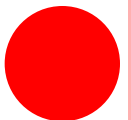
**Caregiver Webinar Series:
AB 12 & Probation Supervised Foster Youth**

SESSION OVERVIEW



- ☑ What is AB 12? (Purpose & Eligibility Review)
- ☑ What Cash Benefits Are Available in Extended Care?
- ☑ Additional Supports & Services?
- ☑ SSI & Foster Youth with Disabilities
- ☑ Post-Secondary Education & Financial Aid
- ☑ How does AB 12 impact financial aid?
- ☑ Additional Education & Training Resources
- ☑ What Can Caregivers Do?

WHAT IS AB 12?



AB 12 - CALIFORNIA'S FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS ACT

- ❖ Helps foster youth, including probation supervised foster youth, transition to adulthood and independence by extending support until age 21
- ❖ Establishes new supervised independent living options for foster youth 18 & over
- ❖ Provides new options for eligible probation supervised foster youth who have met rehabilitative goals and are ready to get off probation continue to receive support until age 21
- ❖ Allows youth to exit and re-enter foster care

GOALS

- PERMANENCY CONNECTIONS
- COMPETENCY COLLABORATION
- INDEPENDENCE SELF-SUFFICIENCY
- STABILITY SUPPORT



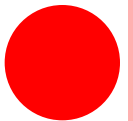
EXTENDED FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST



- Have foster care placement order on 18th birthday/meet age req.
- Meet a participation condition
- Sign a mutual agreement*
- Agree to meet with probation officer (or social worker)
- Agree to work on transitional independent living skills
- Live in a licensed or approved setting
- Have 6 month court review hearings

**Not a condition of payment*

What Cash Benefits Are Available Beyond 18?



EXTENDED AFDC-FC – WHAT DO YOU GET?



Foster Family Homes

Relative Placements

(must be IV-E, aka federally eligible)

NREFM Placements

NRLG

Same rates as minors

- Basic Rate - \$799
- Specialized Care Increment
- Infant Supplement for parenting foster youth (\$411)
- Clothing allowance if offered by county
- Dual Agency Rates

EXTENDED AFDC-FC – WHAT DO YOU GET?



FFA certified homes
Group Homes
THPP

→ Same rates as minors

THP+ -FC

→ Provider Rate based on
Model Type

SILPs - WHAT DO YOU GET?



- Basic rate (currently \$799/ month) – **no specialized care**
- Foster youth may receive the foster care benefit directly
- Clothing allowance available (if offered by county)
- Parenting foster youth receive the Infant Supplement (currently \$411.00/month)

RELATIVE PLACEMENTS: AFDC-FC vs. CALWORKS

Federally-eligible (IV-E) = AFDC-FC

NOT federally eligible = CalWORKs

- Lower benefits (CalWORKS 1 person household = max \$351)
- No specialized care rates, dual agency rates or clothing allowance

RELATIVE PLACEMENT → SILP

Not federally eligible? Foster youth can receive AFDC-FC at 18 if placement changed into a SILP



PREGNANT AND PARENTING YOUTH



Pregnant and parenting youth are eligible for EFC

Benefit Payment

- In a SILP, a parenting youth can receive the foster care payment directly, including the Infant Supplement(\$411)
- For parenting youth in licensed/approved facilities, the Infant Supplement is paid to the provider
- Whole Family Foster Homes, as FFA' s or THP+FC host family homes, are also eligible for the \$200 Shared Responsibility Plan payment

EXTENDED KIN-GAP & AAP BENEFITS

Payment to age 21 up to maximum monthly amount youth would have received in foster family home

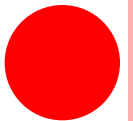
Kin-GAP- Kinship Guardian Assistance Payment Program- youth entering a relative guardianship established by the *juvenile court* at age 16 or later

AAP- Adoption Assistance Program- youth entering AAP at age 16 or later

Note: AAP available to age 21 for youth with disabilities regardless of age started



**Additional supports &
services available beyond
18?**



MEDI-CAL



- Youth receiving AFDC-FC, Kin-GAP, AAP, SSI or CalWORKS eligible
- Former foster youth eligible up to age 21 (and up to age 26 beginning next year - 1/1/14) if exited foster care after 18th birthday

CALFRESH A/K/A FOOD STAMPS



➤ **Household based**

- Living together, buying & preparing food together

➤ **Youth living with a foster family**

- Treated as a boarder
- Not included in the household
- Foster care benefits don't count
- Can opt in

➤ **Youth in a SILP**

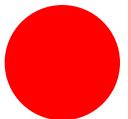
- Can qualify if otherwise eligible
- Usual rules apply

AFTER 18 BENEFIT COMPARISON



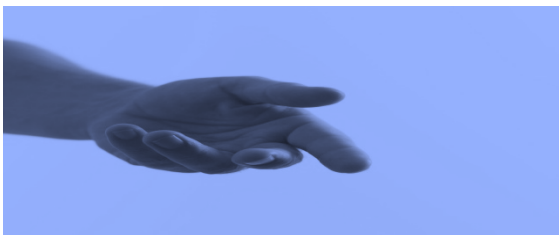
	Amount of Assistance	Special rates	Extended Benefits	Other services
AFDC-FC	\$799	Yes - Specialized rates available Except SILP	Yes – if order for foster care at age 18	ILP, county clothing allowance, Medi-Cal, Chafee
CalWORKs (youth in foster care)	\$351(max) for child only household	No	Yes – if order for foster care at age 18	Medi-Cal, ILP, Chafee
Kin-GAP	Negotiated – cannot exceed foster care	Yes – specialized rates available	Yes – if enter Kin-GAP at 16 or older OR disability	ILP, clothing allowance, Medi-Cal, Chafee (if enter at 16 or older)
AAP	Negotiated – cannot exceed foster care	Yes – specialized rates available	Yes – if enter AAP at 16 or older OR disability	Medi-Cal, Chafee (if enter at 16 or older)
SSI	\$1,122 (NMOHC or with relative or NRLG); \$854.40 (adult in own household)	No	Redetermination at age 18. Benefits continues as long as disability continues	Medi-Cal, education/work incentive programs

SSI & Foster Youth with Disabilities



SSI IMPORTANT RESOURCE FOR FOSTER YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

- SSI available to youth with disabilities regardless of eligibility for AFDC-FC benefits
- Aids in transition planning
- Ongoing resource for foster youth once they leave foster care



WHAT'S SSI/SSP?

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) /
STATE SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENT (SSP)

Needs-based program that provides cash aid and Medicaid to aged (65+), blind or disabled citizens (or qualified immigrants) with limited income and resources

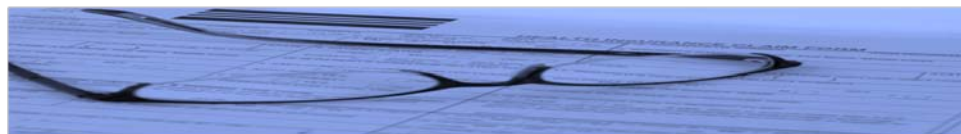
Disability for SSI:

Child Standard

- Having an impairment resulting in **marked or severe functional limitations**, expected to last for at least 12 months or result in death

Adult Standard

- Having an impairment resulting in **the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity**, expected to last for at least 12 months or result in death



SSI & EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

Can participate in extended foster care and receive SSI

- Offset required –receive SSI, AFDC-FC, or a combination of both benefits

SSI continuing disability review in year after 18th birthday

- Probation/supervising agency must assist youth in review process



SSI HELPS TRANSITION OUT OF FOSTER CARE

- SSI links to Medi-Cal (while in care and after exit)
- Often provides more support while a youth is in care and can help avoid homelessness once a youth exit cares
- SSI eligibility may qualify youth for permanent affordable housing – can use time in EFC to apply for these housing slots!
- Social Security has programs to help recipients pursue education or attempt work without losing eligibility
- Youth can receive school scholarships and receive SSI simultaneously
- Allows youth additional time to establish SSI eligibility under adult standards



SSI & FOSTER YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES- TRANSITION PLANNING – PROBATION/CHILD WELFARE

- Screen every youth for SSI eligibility between age 16.5 and 17.5
- Make an SSI application on behalf of likely eligible youth
- Assist youth in receiving direct payment or finding payee
- Inform youth of process of maintaining eligibility as adults

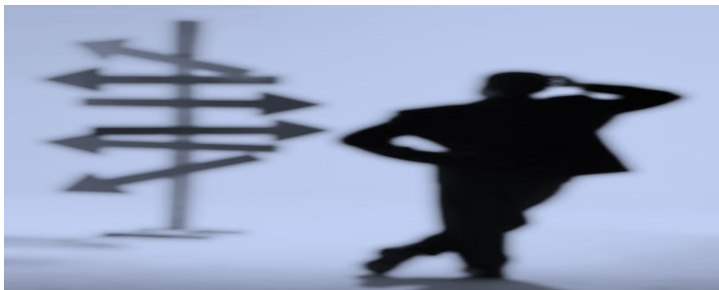
Goal to have SSI in place by age 18



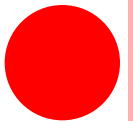
NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR SSI ELIGIBLE FOSTER YOUTH

- If foster youth receives a monthly SSI benefit elects & remains in EFC, county must assist youth in receiving direct payment
 - A youth who is at least 17.5 years is presumed to be capable of becoming own payee.
- If youth is approved for SSI but receives federal foster care in excess of SSI – county must maintain SSI eligibility (using workaround)

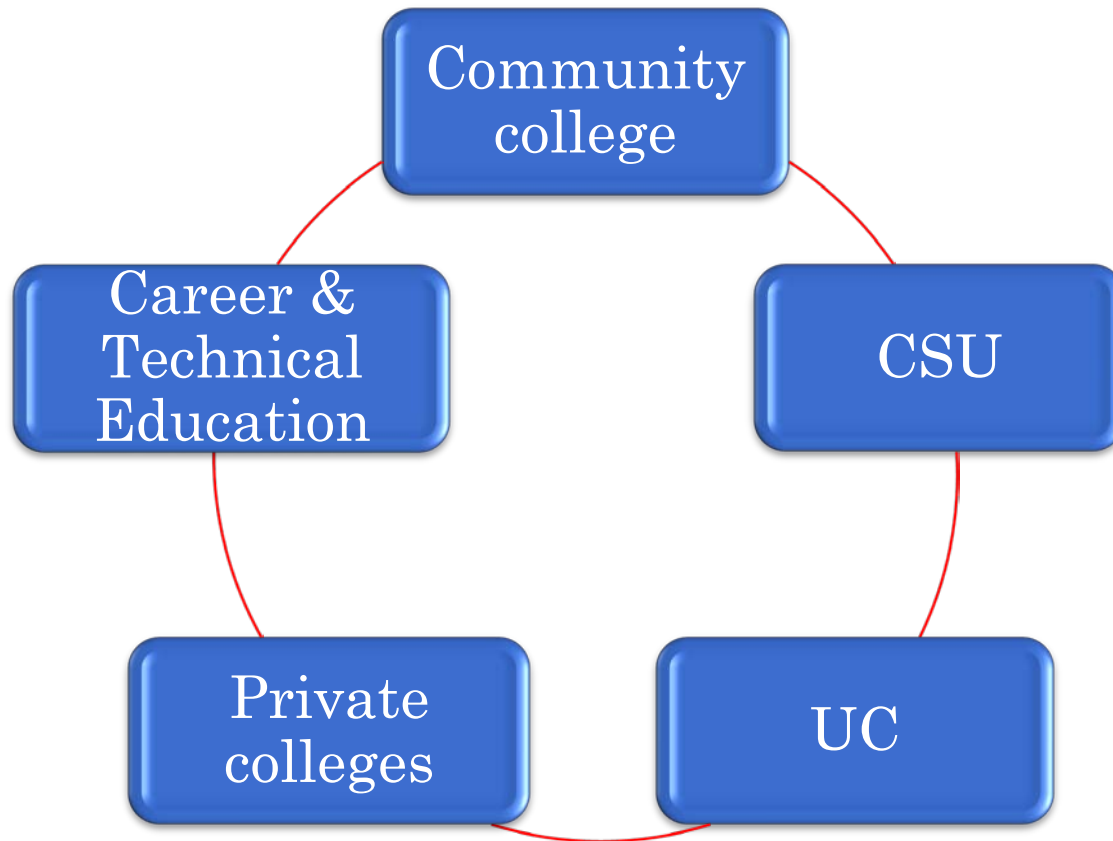
Ensuring SSI is in place at age 18 provides youth maximum flexibility and choice among benefits, services and supports.



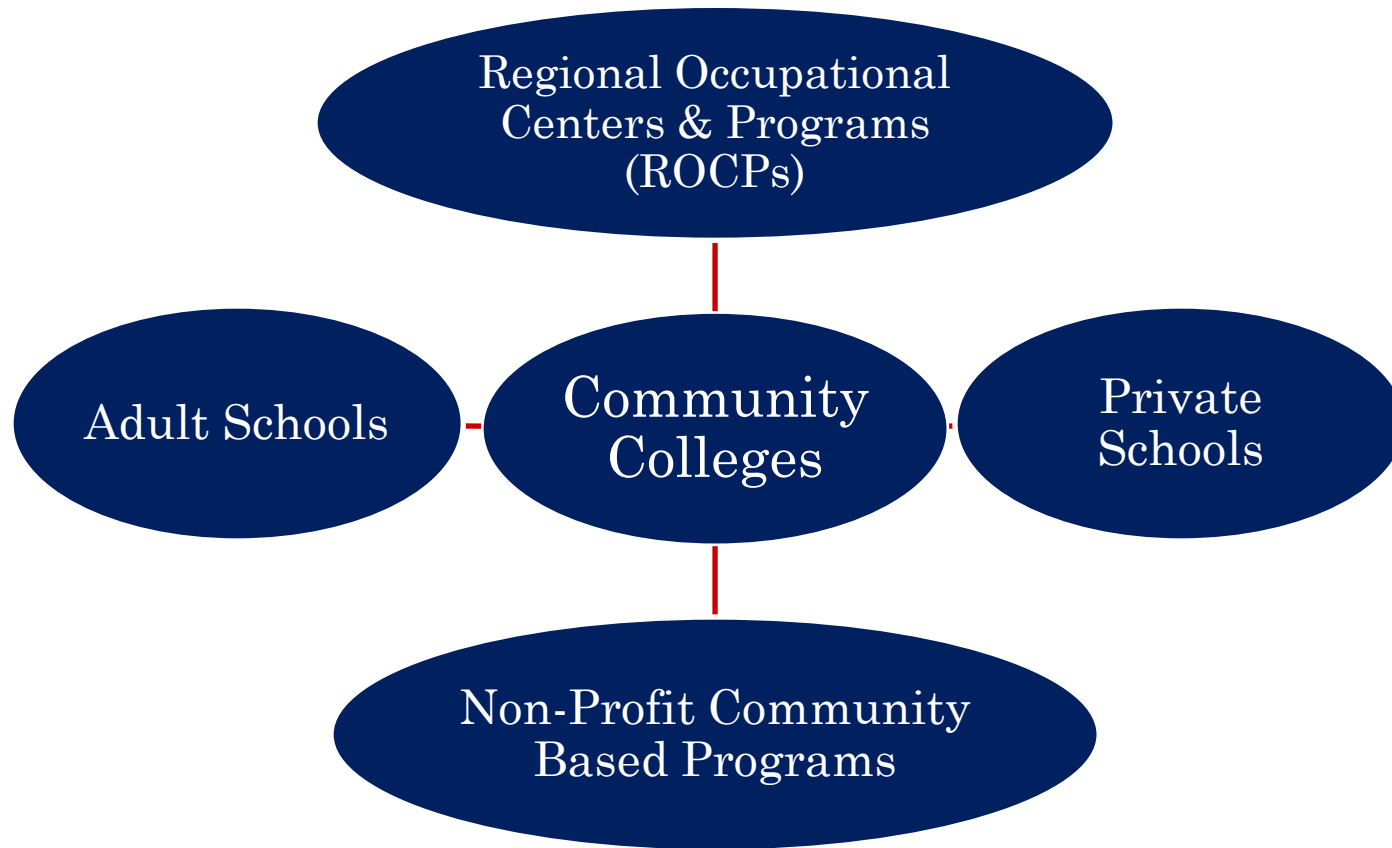
**POST-
SECONDARY
EDUCATION &
FINANCIAL AID**



POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION OPTIONS

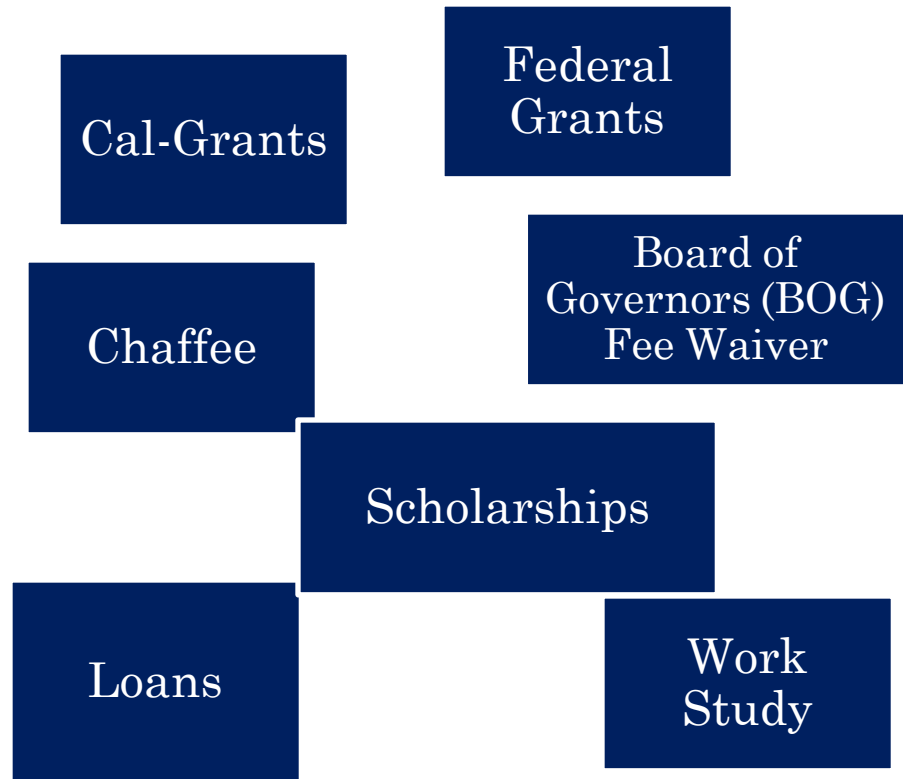


CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION OPTIONS



APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

- The FAFSA - www.fafsa.gov
(Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- How to get help completing the FAFSA
- Deadlines – apply early when possible
 - March 2nd for maximum aid
 - CCC: Prior to start of term – sooner the better!
- Applying for BOG fee waiver



CHAFFEE GRANTS

EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Who?

- Juvenile court dependent or probation supervised foster youth after 16th birthday
- Under 22 as of July 1 of the year they are applying
- Enrollment in at least ½ time in 1 year (or more) program of study & satisfactory academic progress

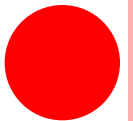
What?

- Up to \$5000 for college or vocational school

How?

- To apply: FAFSA + Chafee application
- Award priority system – if apply in first year and do not get it, you have greater priority the next year

HOW DOES
AB 12 IMPACT
FINANCIAL AID FOR
POST-SECONDARY
EDUCATION?



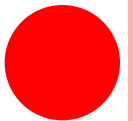
INDEPENDENT STUDENT STATUS. FEE WAIVERS & INCOME EXCLUSIONS

Foster Youth-

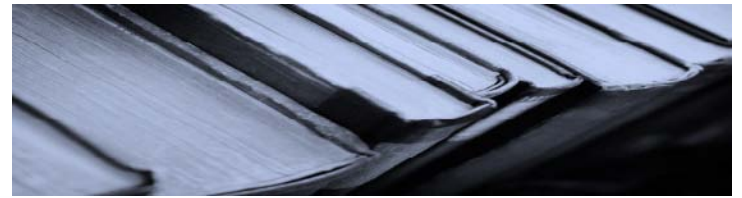
- Independent student status on FAFSA if in foster care at age 13 or later
- Qualify for BOG fee waiver at California Community Colleges if in foster care at age 13 or later
- SILP payments are not reported as income on FAFSA
- Financial Aid not income for AFDC-FC eligibility



Additional Resources



CAMPUS BASED RESOURCES

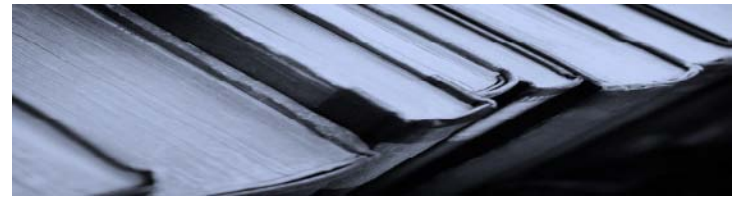


- Comprehensive campus support programs
 - Offer supportive services, both academic and non-academic
 - Located on CC, CSUs and UCs
- Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI)
 - Liaisons located at each community college
 - Assist with navigating all academic and student support services and programs and accessing financial aid
- Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) – CC
- Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) – CSU & UC
 - EOP/EOPS provide wide range of assistance to full-time low income & educationally challenged students (book vouchers, academic counseling, tutoring, ...)
- Disabled Students Programs & Services

More information on post-secondary education for foster youth
www.cacollegepathways.org



OTHER RESOURCES



Employment & Training

California One Stop Centers

http://www.edd.ca.gov/Jobs_and_Training/pubs/osfile.pdf

Job Corp*

<http://www.jobcorps.gov/home.aspx>

Americorp*

<http://www.americorps.gov/>

California Conservation Corp*

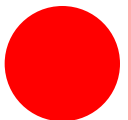
<http://www.ccc.ca.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

More information on career & employment training & development

<http://www.cacollegepathways.org/additional-resources-foster-youth#career>

*Requires criminal background check; can't be on formal probation

What Can Caregivers Do?



WHAT CAREGIVERS CAN DO

Help young adult :



- Develop the skills necessary for self-sufficiency including educational and career development
- Identify & connect to campus based & other supports (FYSI, EOP/EOPS, Disabled Student Programs, Comprehensive Student Support Programs)
- Connect with employment, education & training resources

WHAT CAREGIVERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AB 12 FOR PROBATION INVOLVED YOUTH: TRANSITIONING TO INDEPENDENCE - SUPPORTS AND OTHER BENEFITS

Presenters:

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March 6, 2013
Noon – 1:00 P.M.

Session 4

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Foster Youth