



Local Control Funding Formula Provisions Related to Students in Foster Care

**State Curriculum and Instruction Steering Committee (CISC) Meeting
CA County Superintendents' Education Services Association (CCSESA)
January 23rd, 2014**

Key Provisions



Local Education Agencies

- California is the first state to include foster youth as a subgroup in its education accountability framework.
- LEAs are required to develop and implement plans specifying how the LEA will improve the educational outcomes of foster youth.

County Offices of Education – Countywide Provisions

- COEs have a special role in coordinating educational services for foster youth
- Foster Youth Services (FYS) was preserved as a categorical program.

State Agencies

- CDSS and CDE are required to share data and to inform LEAs which of their students are in foster care.
- CDE is required to inform COEs which students in the county are in foster care.

Academic Performance Index



- California is the first state to include foster youth as a subgroup in its accountability framework, the Academic Performance Index (API). (*EC § 52052*)
- Foster youth definition: a student who is -
 - Removed from his or her home pursuant to Section 309 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
 - The subject of a petition filed under Section 300 or 602 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or
 - A nonminor under the transition jurisdiction of the juvenile court, as described in Section 450 of the Welfare and Institutions Code (*EC §§ 42238.01, 48853.5*)
- Numerically significant subgroup size: 15 (*EC § 52052*)

LCAP: Stakeholder Engagement



LEAs must develop and implement local control and accountability plans (LCAPs).

Stakeholder Engagement: How have parents, community members, pupils, local bargaining units, and other stakeholders (e.g., LEA personnel,

- county child welfare agencies,
- county office of education foster youth services programs,
- court-appointed special advocates,
- foster youth,
- foster parents,
- education rights holders and
- other foster youth stakeholders,

English learner parents, community organizations representing English learners, and others as appropriate) been engaged and involved in developing, reviewing, and supporting implementation of the LCAP?

LCAP: Goals, Actions, Expenditures



LCAPs must:

- Identify *goals* for foster youth
- Describe *the specific actions* the LEA will take each year to achieve these goals.
- Make clear the *budget* associated with these actions.

EC §§ 52060, 52061, 52066, 52067



COEs: Countywide Coordination



COE LCAPs must describe how the COE will coordinate services for foster children, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

- Working with the county child welfare agency to minimize changes in school placement.
- Providing education-related information to the county child welfare agency to assist the county child welfare agency in the delivery of services to foster children, including, but not limited to, educational status and progress information that is required to be included in court reports.
- Responding to requests from the juvenile court for information and working with the juvenile court to ensure the delivery and coordination of necessary educational services.
- Establishing a mechanism for the efficient expeditious transfer of health and education records and the health and education passport.

FYS Background



California's Foster Youth Services (FYS) program provides funding to county offices of education (as well as six "core districts") to support the educational success of students in foster care countywide.

Details:

- One of the few categorical programs not eliminated by the LCFF
- Funding for the program was preserved at \$15 million; there is no reason to believe the program or the program's funding will be cut
- A grant program administered by CDE, 3-year grants
- Every county grantee must have a designated Foster Youth Services Coordinator: www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/cwjdcontacts.asp

EC § 42921

FYS Responsibilities - I



Responsibilities of FYS programs include:

- Working with the child welfare agency to minimize changes in school placement.
- Providing education-related information to the child welfare agency to assist the child welfare agency to deliver services to foster children.
- Responding to requests from the juvenile court for information and working with the court to ensure the delivery or coordination of necessary educational services.
- Facilitating the prompt transfer of educational records, including the health and education passport.

EC § 42921

FYS Responsibilities - II



Responsibilities of FYS programs also include:

- Working to obtain and identify, and link children to, mentoring, tutoring, vocational training, and other services designed to enhance the educational prospects of foster children.
- Facilitating communication between the foster care provider, the teacher, and any other school staff or education service providers for the child.
- Sharing information with the foster care provider regarding available training programs that address education issues for children in foster care.
- Referring caregivers of foster youth who have special education needs to special education programs and services.

EC § 42921

FYS Population



FYS programs may prescribe the methodology for determining which children may be served. Applicable methodologies include:

- Serving specific age groups,
- Serving children in specific geographic areas with the highest concentration of foster children, or
- Serving the children with the greatest academic need.

EC § 42921

State Agencies: Data Sharing



CDSS, at least once per week, must share the following with CDE:

- Disaggregated information on foster youth sufficient for CDE to identify which student are in foster care.
- Disaggregated information on foster youth that would be help ensure foster youth receive appropriate educational supports and services.

CDE, at least once per week, shall:

- Inform school districts and charter schools of any students enrolled in those school districts or charter schools who are in foster care.
- Inform COEs of any students enrolled in schools in the county who are in foster care.
- Provide LEAs disaggregated data helpful to ensuring students in foster care receive appropriate educational supports and services.

EC § 49085

State Agencies: Reporting



- Every even numbered year, the CDE must report on the educational outcomes of students in foster care to the Legislature and Governor.
- This report must include, but is not limited to:
 - Educational outcome data
 - Suspensions and expulsion data
 - Truancy and attendance rates
 - Dropout rates
- Data must be reported at the schoolsite level, district level, and county level, so long as there are 15 students in foster care.

EC § 49085