

Foster Youth Achievement Program

Supporting students and families with open dependency or delinquency cases

Who is eligible as a foster youth?

The **Foster Youth Achievement Program** gives educational rights and protections to foster youth as defined by Education Code 48853.5 and Assembly Bill 490. Eligible students may include:

- Youth in foster care with an **open dependency case** (WIC 300), regardless of where youth lives
- Youth who are **removed from the home** by court order (WIC 309)
- Youth **on probation with an open juvenile delinquency** (WIC 602), regardless of where the youth lives **if**: youth is declared a ward of the court and youth is subject of a suitable placement order (WIC 727)
- Transitional-Aged Youth ages 18-21 in **extended foster care** or under jurisdiction of juvenile court

Program Mission and Vision

The mission and vision of the Foster Youth Achievement Program align with the HSD Mission Statement, which is to develop a community of **lifelong learners, creative thinkers, and responsible individuals** by providing high quality educational programs in a safe and supportive environment.

The Foster Youth Achievement Program promotes educational achievement and socio-emotional well-being with comprehensive services for youth and families. Our vision is to provide **equitable opportunities for students who are in foster care to achieve and succeed.**

Foster Youth Educational Rights



The right to **immediate enrollment** in the *school of origin* or *school of residence* as defined by law.



The right to **attend and fully participate in school activities for which the youth is eligible** including before/after school programs, campus clubs, and sports teams.



The **right to school stability** and to remain in the same school, even if there are changes in foster placement.



High school students may earn **partial credits**; **11th and 12th graders** may qualify for AB167/216 **minimum graduation credits** to earn a diploma.



Protections of student discipline and suspension rights such as a limit of 5 days in a row and no more than **20 days suspension per school year**.



The right to **privacy and confidentiality** regarding the student's status as a foster youth.

Services for Students and Families



District and School Foster Youth Liaisons to connect families with school and community resources, and to advocate for student rights.



Access to **school-based socio-emotional support** and the HSD Community Resource Team for student and family mental health services.



Transportation assistance for eligible students with available District and community resources.



Fedde MS Community Resource Center has a community closet, health center, on-site mental health agencies, and adult education classes.



Academic support, tutoring, and equitable access to school and District resources and programs.



Access to **Free and Reduce-Priced Meals** at school.



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