

ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

POLICY PRIORITIES

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2020

Long-term Goals

- Increasing number and percentage of youth who remain in their school of origin following a home placement change to decrease the challenges that foster youth face socially, emotionally, and academically when they experience high rates of school mobility, as well as enhancing implementation of the rights of highly mobile youth to increase graduation rates
- Increasing the number and percentage of foster youth who enter school prepared to learn, and with the supports and recognition of rights they need to achieve social, emotional and academic success
- Ensuring all foster youth have an active and informed education rights holder who is included by child welfare, probation, and school districts in key decision-making impacting education, including home placement changes effecting school stability

Short-term Goals & Strategies

- Promoting implementation and coordination of existing state and federal laws, and connections between child welfare, probation, and school districts related to attendance at and transportation to school of origin
- Furthering collection, analysis and accountability related to foster youth education data to identify barriers youth face in accessing education and expanding data-informed solutions for foster youth in key areas of school stability and graduation
- Improving foster youth academic achievement and graduation rates by ensuring youth are enrolled in the least restrictive environment, and that partial credits and alternative graduation options are utilized and applied in the best interest of foster youth
- Increasing the use of foster youth education and trauma-informed and equity-based best practices

*Ensuring
educational
success for
foster youth by
increasing
educational
stability and
opportunities for
academic
achievement*

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through technical assistance and training, including developing a Systems Change Guide for school districts working to develop robust foster youth supports through California Coalition for Educational Excellence Foster Youth Learning Network

- Ensuring foster children, from birth to age three, have access to early intervention services necessary to thrive and enter school ready to learn including developing best practices guide related to referring children to regional centers for services and managing transfers when children move