**AB 167/216 Graduation Eligibility Notification Letter**

Date:

 Probation Officer/

TO: Education Rights Holder (“ERH”): Social Worker:

 Address: Address:

RE: Name of Student: Date of Birth:

 Current High School: Date of Enrollment:

Youth who are involved in the foster care and/or probation systems in California have special rights to help them remain on track for high school graduation. Under Assembly Bills 167/216 (“AB 216”), youth in the foster care/probation systems who are off track for high school graduation, and transfer after their second year of high school, may be eligible to graduate by completing the minimum state requirements if they are not reasonably able to complete all school district requirements by the end of their fourth year of high school. This includes completing 13 year-long courses, which can be determined by combining partial credits. Students who graduate under AB 216 do not have to complete additional school district requirements, which generally range from 80-120 credits.

We have determined, and hereby certify, that the above named student [ ]  **does /** [ ]  **does not /** [ ]  **has already been certified to** meet all requirements for AB 216 graduation.

**If the above named student is eligible for AB 216 graduation, they have all of the following graduation options:**

[ ]  Graduate by completing state requirements and accept AB 216 eligibility; this can be completed in 4 or 5 years. Please note that there are advantages and disadvantages to graduating under AB 216. While a student may graduate with classmates and receive a regular high school diploma, they may sacrifice important learning opportunities that are necessary to succeed in higher education and employment (e.g., remedial academic supports, vocational training, lose all special education services). Students who graduate under AB 216 may not be eligible to apply directly to a California State University (CSU) or University of California (UC) school.

[ ]  Graduate by completing all district requirements; this can be completed in 4 or 5 years. Our district has the following options for credit recovery: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

[ ]  Acknowledge eligibility but defer decision until a later date.

[ ]  If the student has an IEP, remain in high school for more than 4 years pursuant to their IEP.

School Official: Signature: Date:

We would like to provide consultation to you about these options so that you can chose which one meets the youth’s needs based on their current graduation status and future plans. Please contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to schedule a meeting to discuss these options. The second half of this form may be completed now, during, or after your consultation. We recommend completing it following the consultation so that you are fully informed about all your options.

Please also note that youth involved in the foster care or probation systems have the right to remain in or return to their previous school/school of origin, following a home placement change. When you speak to a school representative about graduation options, let them know if you are also interested in learning more about the youth’s school stability options.

Please make sure to keep a copy of this certification letter for your records. If the student was not found eligible for AB 216 graduation, you or the student may request reconsideration of eligibility at any time. If the student was found eligible, this letter can be used at any future school to verify that the student is already certified as AB 216 eligible. The above named student retains the right to graduate under AB 216 even if they transfer schools again or their foster care/probation case closes before they receive their high school diploma.

**CHOOSING A GRADUATION OPTION**

Once the student’s ERH has determined which graduation plan is in the youth’s best interests, please notify the school by checking the appropriate box below and returning this form. Please note that the school district cannot allow a student to graduate under AB 216 without receiving this document. An 18 year old student or their ERH can change their decision regarding graduating under AB 216 at any time until the student receives their high school diploma. Please note that regardless of whether or not a student elects to graduate under AB 216, a student has the right and obligation to attend school until age 18, with limited exceptions.

If you have any questions or concerns about AB 216 graduation, please contact the student’s counselor. This form should also be returned to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

As the student's ERH, I choose to have the student:

[ ]  Graduate under AB 216 state minimum requirements

[ ]  Graduate under school district requirements

[ ]  Acknowledge eligibility but defer decision until a later date

Education Rights Holder: Signature: Date:

(or 18 year old Student)