TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
FOSTER CARE & STUDENT SUCCESS

CREATING PATHWAYS TO POST-SECONDARY

FOSTER CARE & EDUCATION INITIATIVES
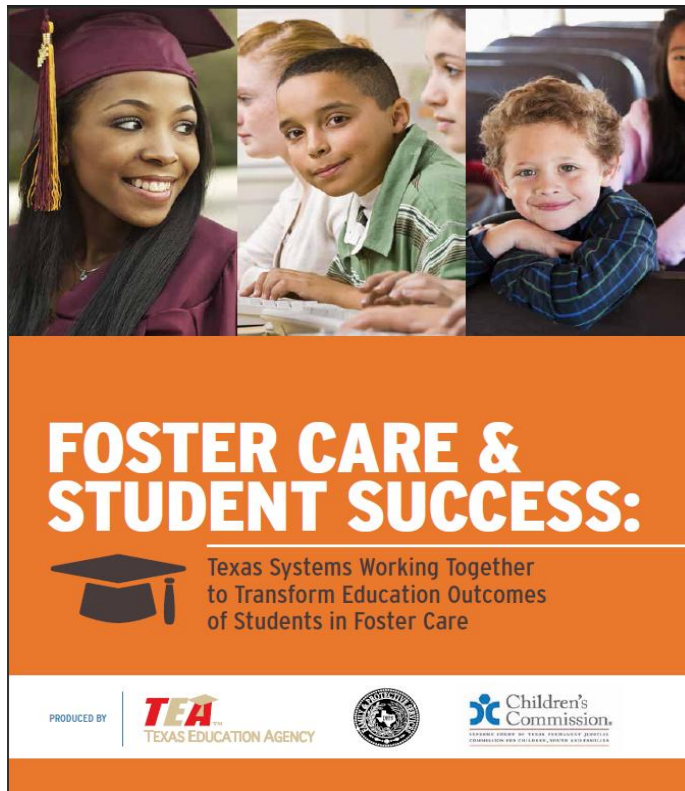
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Workshop Goals

- Introduction

- Data & Information

- High School Completion & Beyond

- Linking with School District Foster Care Liaison(s)

- Resources

Resource Guide Content

- Foster Care and Education Introduction
- Cross-System Awareness
- Building Partnerships
- Foster Care Overview
- Foster Care Liaison Responsibilities
- Student Identity & Maintaining Confidentiality
- Enrollment 101
- School Stability and Effective Transfers
- Education Decision Making, FERPA & Sharing Information
- School Provisions & Procedures
- The School Experience
- Special Education Services
- Transitioning Out of Foster Care and Post-Secondary Education Opportunities
- Appendices and Resources

FOSTER CARE & STUDENT SUCCESS:

Texas Systems Working Together to Transform Education Outcomes of Students in Foster Care

PRODUCED BY **TEA** TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY   Children's Commission.

Orange arrows throughout this presentation note the **corresponding chapter** and **page number** where similar information is found in the **Foster Care & Student Success Resource Guide.**

Video: Becoming Visible

http://vimeo.com/74474866

FosterMore.Org:

I am Amazing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hA5BjBbKm8

Lynn's Story - http://vimeo.com/64662038

Julianna's Story – http://vimeo.com/64662034

Jose's Story - http://vimeo.com/64662036

Kevin's Story - http://vimeo.com/64662040

Davies Story – http://vimeo.com/64662035

TEXAS:

Estimated 16,000 school-age students in foster care.
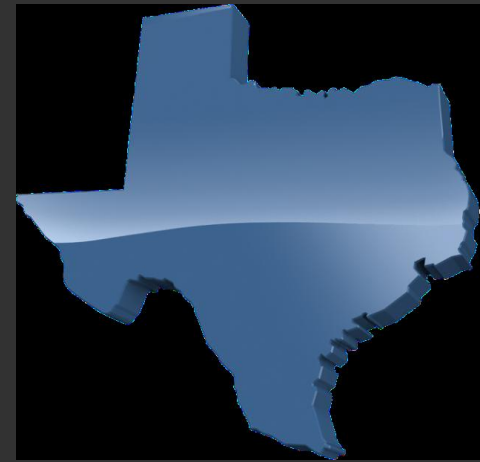
1,363 children and youth who exited from foster care in 2012 lived in an average of 7 placements.

Education at Age 26

Alumni of Foster Care **vs.**   **National Sample**

No high school diploma or GED

| **20%** | vs. | **6%** |

2-year college degree

| **4%** | vs. | **10%** |

4-year college degree

| **3%** | vs. | **24%** |

One or more year of graduate school

| **1%** | vs. | **13%** |

"Outcomes of Midwest Evaluation of the Adult Functioning of Former Foster Youth: Outcomes at Age 26"
http://www.chapinhall.org/sites/default/files/Midwest%20Evaluation_Report_4_10_12.pdf

Employment and Earning at Age 26

Alumni of Foster Care	vs.	National Sample
Currently employed		
46%	vs.	80%
Mean income		
$13,989	vs.	$32,312
Home ownership		
9%	vs.	30%
Economic hardship		
45%	Vs.	18%

Source: Courtney et al, 2011

FOSTER CARE: WHO ARE THE PLAYERS?
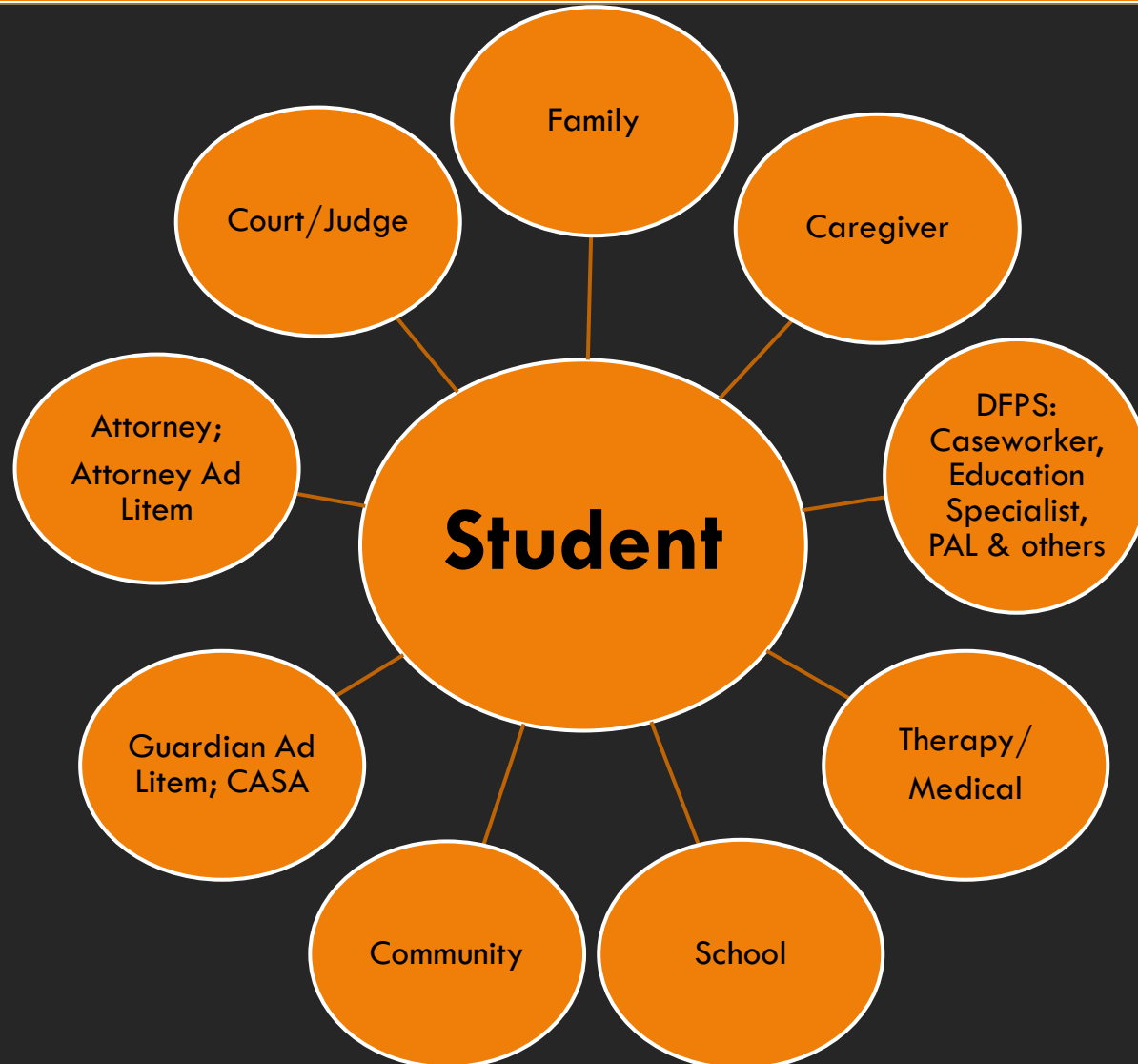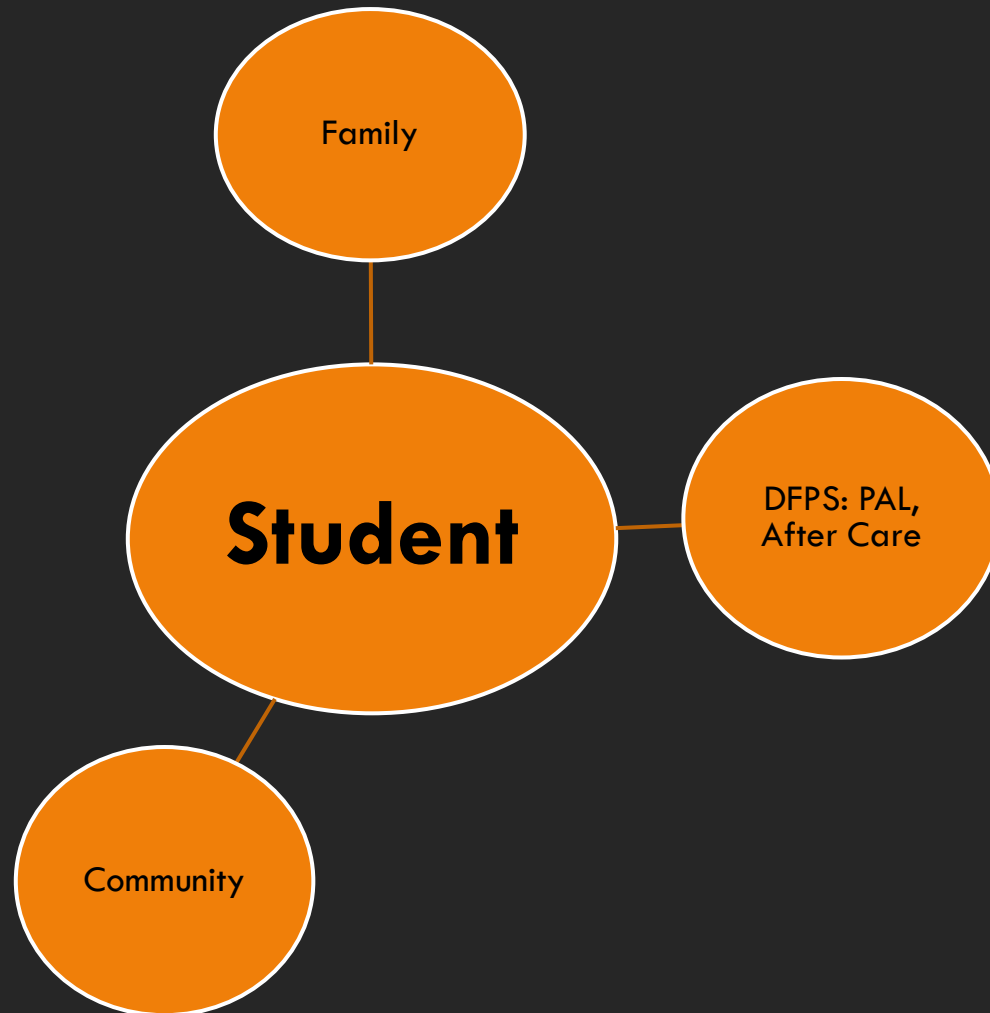
Collaboration and coordination with others involved in the students life is encouraged, recommended, and necessary for educational success!

Foster Care: Who Are the Players?

A diagram with "Student" in the center, connected to surrounding elements:
- Family
- Caregiver
- DFPS: Caseworker, Education Specialist, PAL & others
- Therapy/Medical
- School
- Community
- Guardian Ad Litem; CASA
- Attorney; Attorney Ad Litem
- Court/Judge
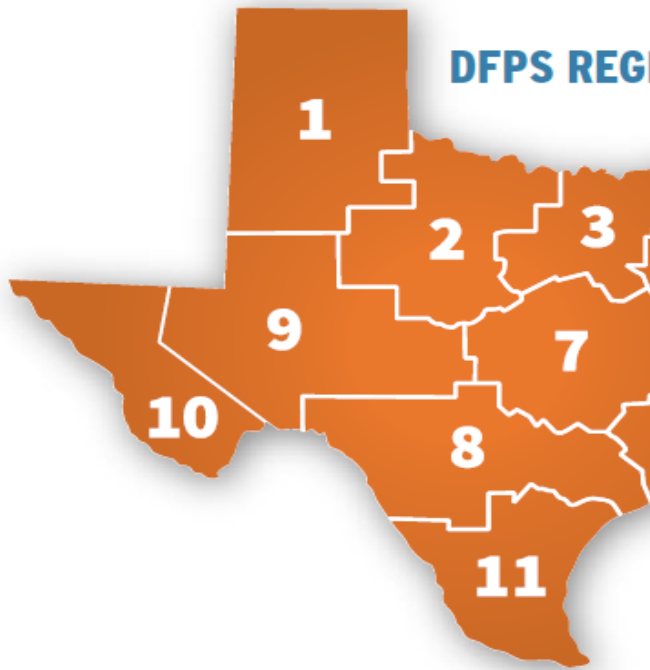
Transition to Adulthood

* Each student's situation is unique. The graphic above is provided for general purposes and may or may not reflect who is involved in a student's life when transitioning to adulthood.
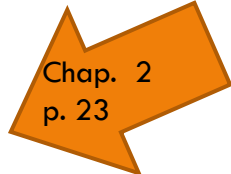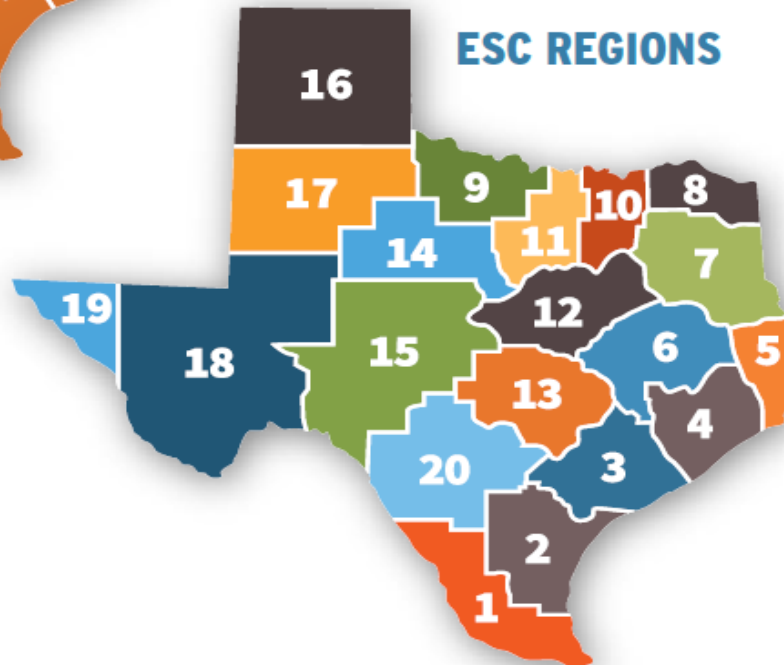
DFPS REGIONS

Regional Education Specialist:

Regional Education Specialists work for DFPS, specializing in education and school-related matters. They act as liaisons between DFPS and local schools and districts within their region. They advocate for educational and ancillary services that best meet the needs of children and youth in the school environment. Regional Education Specialists also serve as a primary resource for school staff on education matters involving students in foster care. Education Specialists also offer presentations on *Improving Educational Outcomes for Children and Youth in Foster Care, Trauma-Informed Care,* and *Intervention Strategies* to CPS staff and community stakeholders.

TIP: The DFPS Regional Education Specialist is an excellent contact to begin building partnerships with the local child welfare system.

The local DFPS Regional Education Specialist may help provide cross-system trainings and other information on services provided. For a list of DFPS Regional Education Specialists, visit www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=2147512296&menu_id=2147483761

ESC REGIONS

Chap. 2
p. 23

TIP: DFPS and ESC service regions differ. It is important to clarify which type of region is being referred to when working with partners from the child welfare system.

Texas Data & Info.

Counts and Percentages of Foster Children by Gender and Ethnicity: 2012-13

	Counts of Foster Children	% of Foster Children	Counts of All Students	% of All Students
Female	10,466	48.4	2,469,727	48.7
Male	11,173	51.6	2,606,113	51.3
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	97	0.4	21,795	0.4
Asian	77	0.4	183,789	3.6
Black or African American	4,959	22.9	646,182	12.7
Hispanic/Latino	9,237	42.7	2,606,126	51.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	16	0.1	6,644	0.1
White	6,682	30.9	1,521,551	30.0
Two or more races	571	2.6	89,753	1.8

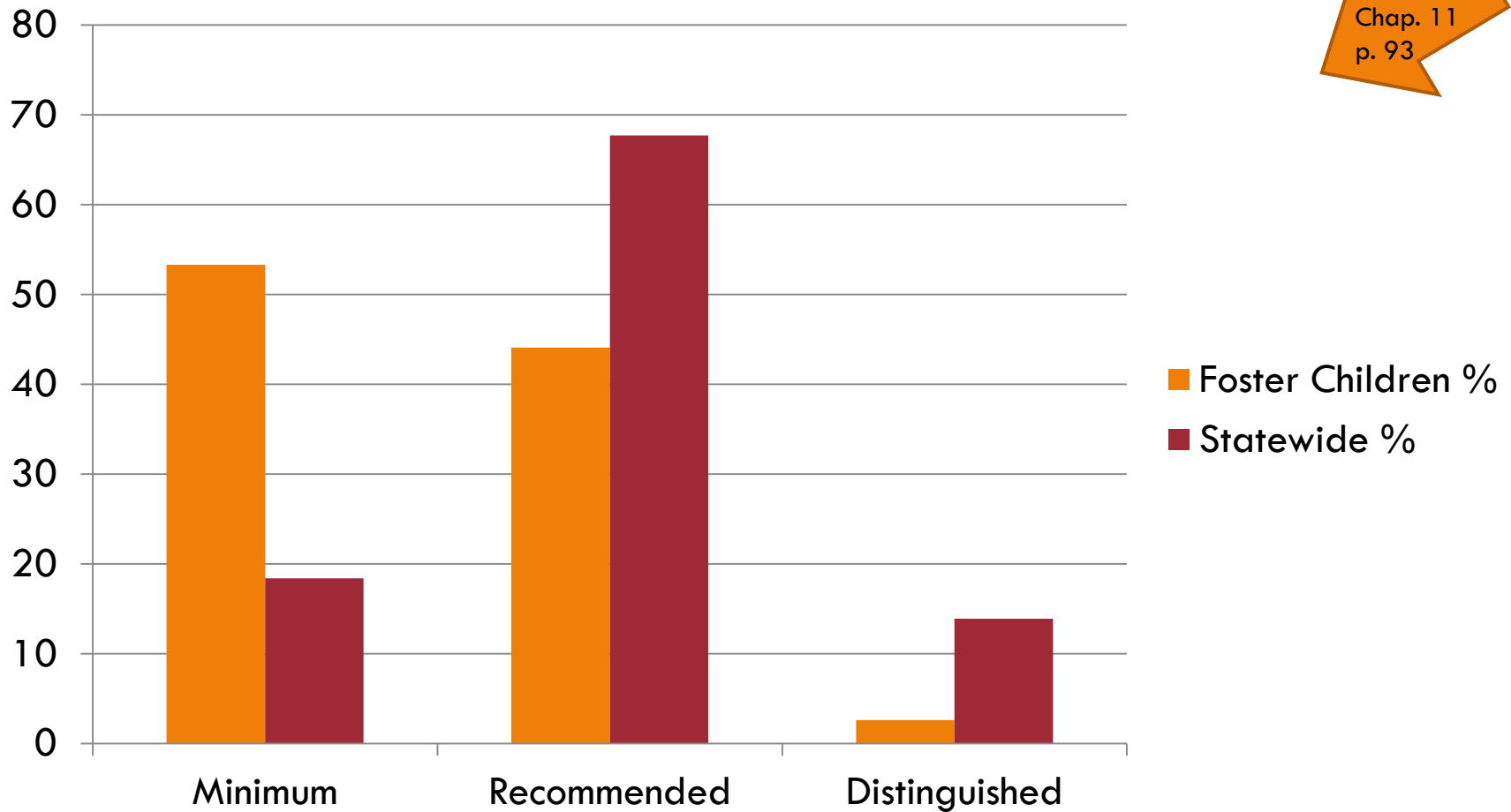# Education Outcomes - Foster Care in Texas

- **Fact:** 38.8% of school leavers (reason for leaving school) for students in foster care are coded as <u>graduated</u>, as compared to 72.4% of school leavers statewide for students not in foster care, in grades 7-12. ***This is not a graduation rate.*** (PEIMS 2012-13)

- **Fact:** 28.6% of school leavers (reason for leaving school) for students in foster care are coded as <u>dropped out</u>, as compared to 8.3% of school leavers statewide for students not in foster care, in grades 7-12. ***This is not a dropout rate.*** (PEIMS 2012-13)

Note: The percentages on the first two rows are ***not*** graduation or dropout rates. These numbers represent the students who graduated or dropped out during the year divided by the total number of leavers for that school year.

PEIMS: 2012-13

Foster Children Compared to the State Population Graduates by Graduation Type 2012-13

Chap. 11 p. 93

Bar chart: Foster Children % vs Statewide %

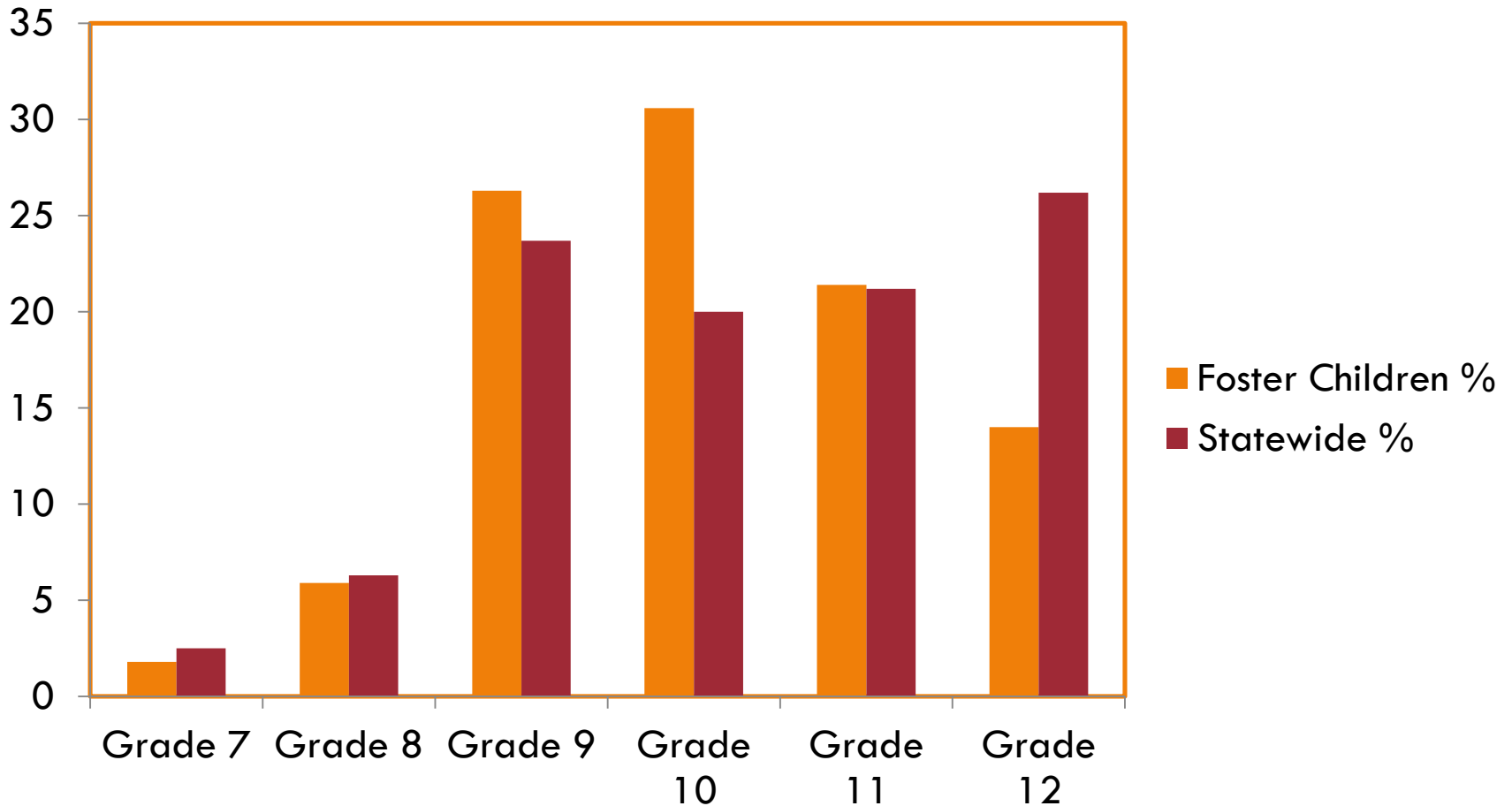| Graduation Type	Foster Children %	Statewide %
Minimum	~53	~18
Recommended	~44	~68
Distinguished	~2.5	~14

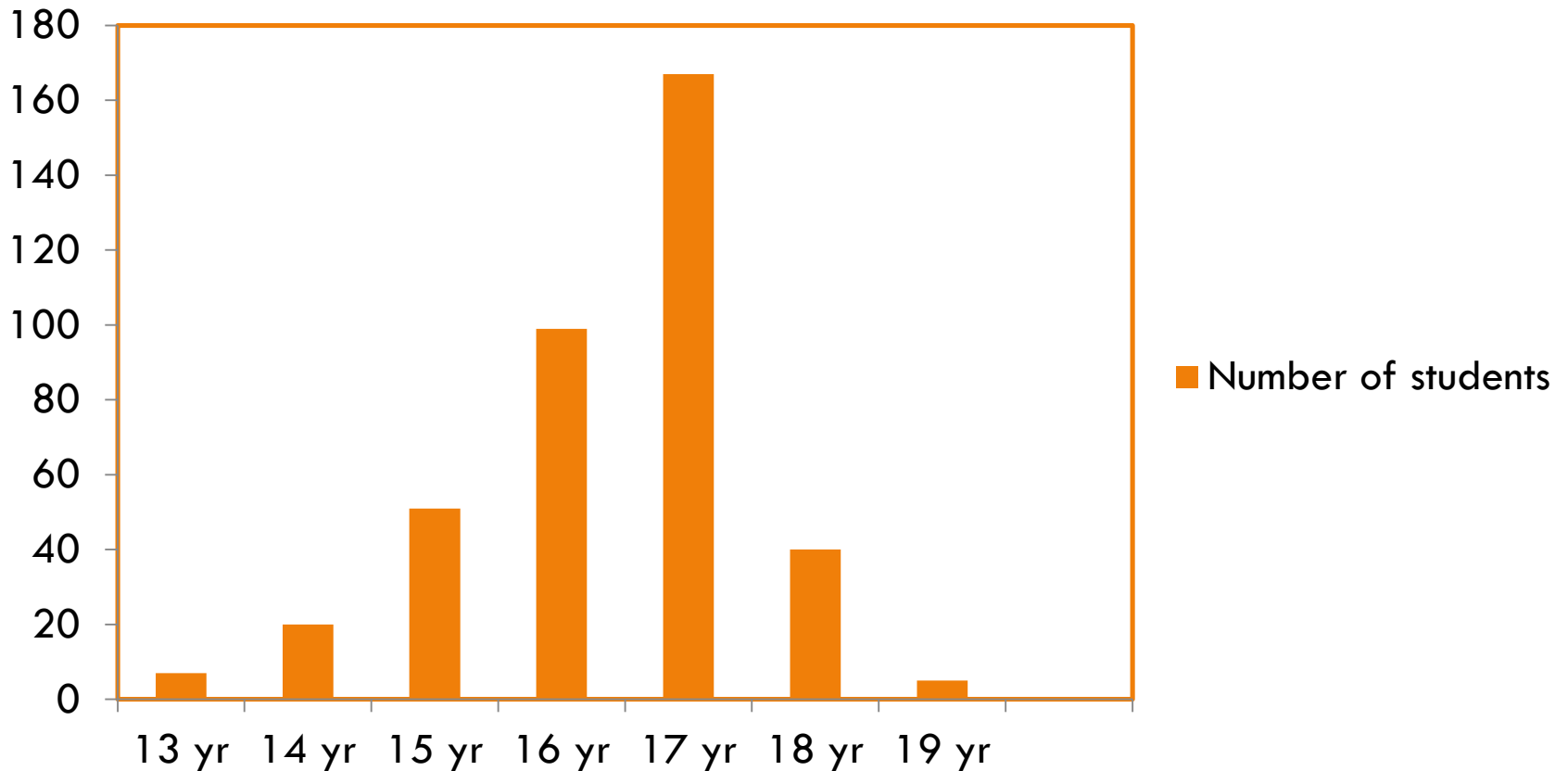# Foster Children Compared to the State Population Dropouts by Grade: 2012-13

Foster Children Dropouts by Age: 2012-13

Number of students who dropout by age

Counts and Percentages of Foster Children by Program: 2012-13

	Counts of Foster Children	% of Foster Children	Counts of All Students	% of All Students
At Risk	**14,254**	**65.9**	**2,264,815**	**44.6**
Career and Technology	**2,286**	**10.6**	**1,111,610**	**21.9**
Economically Disadvantaged	19,496	90.1	3,058,894	60.3
Gifted and Talented	212	1.0	387,623	7.6
Immigrant	35	0.2	70,320	1.4
Limited English Proficient (LEP)	1,390	6.4	864,682	17.0
Dual-Credit	**74**	**1.5**	**101,913**	**7.15**
Special Education	**5,104**	**23.6**	**440,570**	**8.7**

Note: All students in DFPS Managing Conservatorship meet the eligibility criteria for State Compensatory Education, as listed in TEC § 29.081, and should be identified as 'at risk'.

Counts and Percentages of Special Education Foster Children by Primary Disability: 2012-13

	Counts of Special Education Foster Children	% of Special Education Foster Children	Counts of All Special Education Children	% of All Special Education Children
Emotional Disturbance	1,755	34.4	25,663	5.8
Learning Disability	964	18.9	167,086	37.9
Intellectual Disability	729	14.3	38,114	8.7
Other health impairment	664	13.0	56,637	12.9
Speech Impairment	501	9.8	89,515	20.3

Chap. 12

High School Completion and Beyond

Opportunities and Programs

High School Graduation Requirements:

- Foundation High School Program – Graduation Requirements, Endorsements, Distinguished Achievement and other information:
  http://tea.texas.gov/communications/brochures.aspx

- Increased coordination and partnership with higher education by developing coursework to meet endorsement requirements and encourage post-secondary preparedness.

- Personal Graduation Plan (PGP) for *all* high school students. PGP for *all* middle school students *who do not perform satisfactorily* on state assessments.
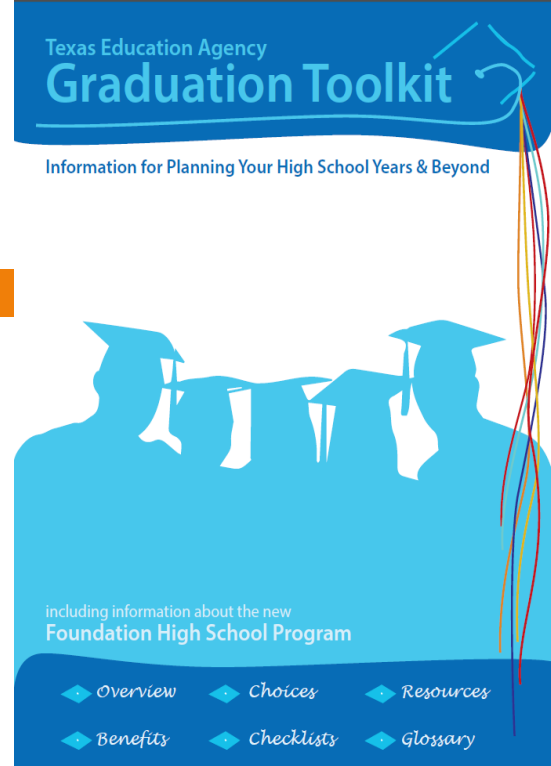
Career & Technical Education Program

-CTE programs focus on high growth industries, employability skills, critical thinking, project based, hands on learning, etc. Opportunities for students to earn endorsements, certifications, college credit while in high school.

-Students in foster care are a recognized special population for CTE programs/Federal Perkins funding.

Career & Technical Education - Special Populations Center: http://ctsp.tamu.edu/

Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN)

- Fully Accredited – Online Texas Public School
  - Supplemental Learning – Statewide course catalog of high school courses.
  - Full-Time Online School – for grades 3-12.

- http://www.txvsn.org/
- http://tea.texas.gov/index2.aspx?id=4840

Promote High School Completion
TEC 28.025 & 25.007

PROMOTING HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION:

Promoting high school completion is important and necessary! Students in foster care are entitled to all education services generally available to other students. Additionally, students may benefit from additional attention in the school setting to make certain they remain on track for high school completion and graduation.[140] School staff can help by reviewing students' class schedules and coursework as an important element to properly advising students and ensuring progress towards

LAW: If an 11th or 12th grade student in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services transfers to a different school district and the student is ineligible to graduate from the district to which the student transfers, the district from which the student transferred shall award a diploma at the student's request, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the district from which the student transferred.[141]

LAW: A student in substitute care who was previously enrolled in a course required for graduation must be allowed the opportunity, to the extent practicable, to complete the course at no cost to the student before the beginning of the next school year.[142]

➢ If a student in DFPS conservatorship is not likely to receive a high school diploma before the 5th school year following the student's enrollment in grade 9 – _review_ the students course credit accrual and personal graduation plan – TEC 25.007

Promote Post-Secondary TEC 25.007 & 54.366

1) LIFE TIME TUITION AND FEES WAIVER to any Texas state supported Institution of Higher Education for certain students in and formerly in Texas DFPS Conservatorship, as long as the student enrolls in at least one-college credit before turning 25 – TEC 54.366 (**see pg. 104-105 for eligibility requirements)

   In addition to a college course - Dual credit or other course where a high school student may earn joint high school and college credit will also activate the waiver

2) Ensure that 11 or 12 grade students in DFPS conservatorship is provided information about the tuition and fee waiver, dual credit, or other courses where a student may earn joint high school and college credit – TEC 25.007

CONSIDERATIONS TO HELP STUDENTS ACTIVATE COLLEGE LIFETIME TUITION AND FEES WAIVER WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL

Diploma

Best practices include coordination among high school personnel, college support services, and college faculty to ensure students receive the support necessary for a positive academic experience and a successful college experience. School personnel can play a key role in linking students with college campus supports and services and encouraging students to believe college is possible!
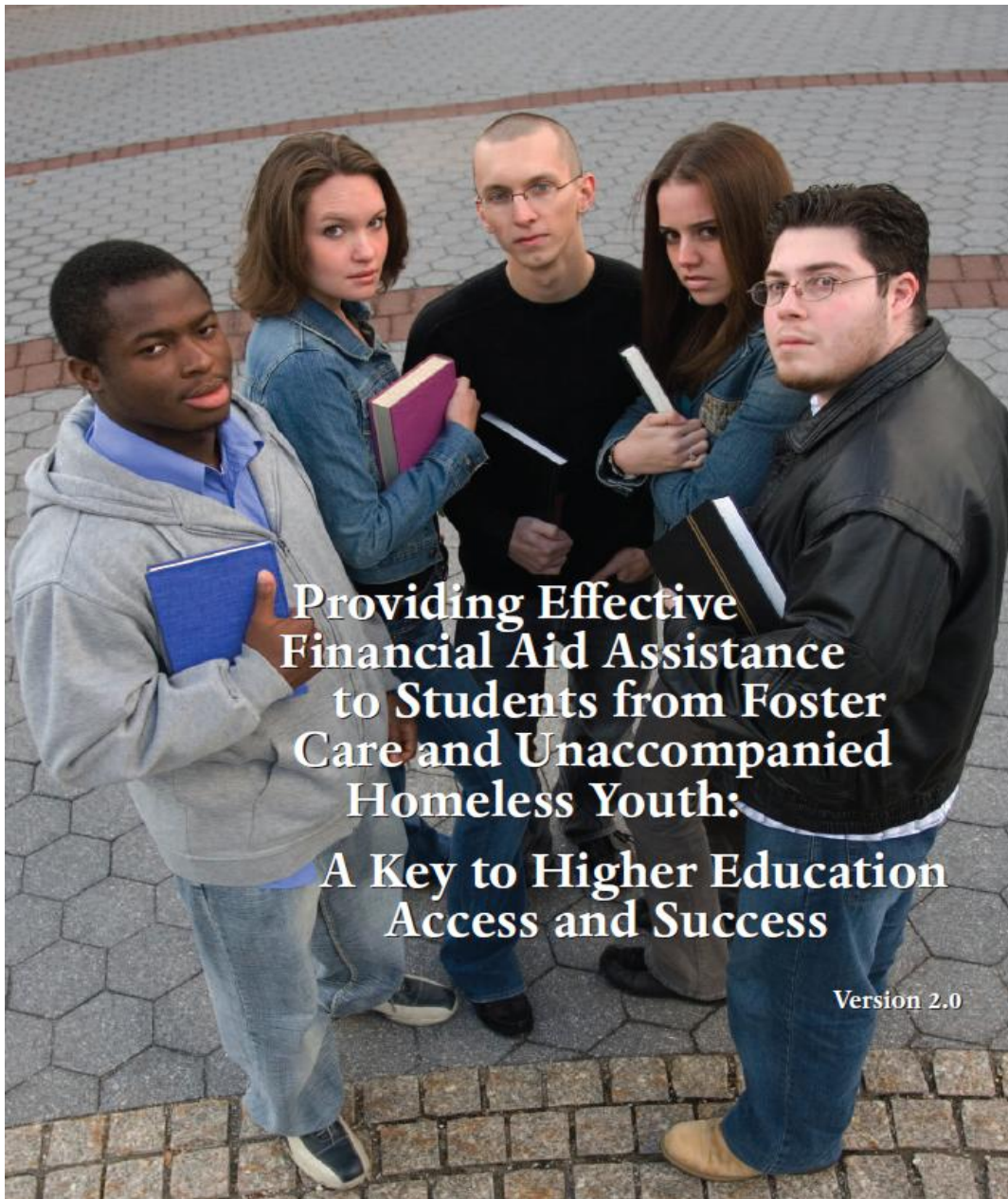
Transition Assistance for Students in Foster Care TEC 25.007(7):

- <u>Encouraging school districts</u> and open-enrollment charter schools to provide services for a student in <u>foster care in transition when applying for admission to post-secondary study</u> and when seeking sources of funding for postsecondary study;

Paying for College $$$ – Resources available for students aging out of foster care:

- ☐ Lifetime Tuition & Fees Waiver – for students enrolled in one-college course before turning 25

- ☐ Freshman Success Fund - $1,000 for Texas freshman only http://texasfosteryouth.org/download/freshman-success-fund-for-foster-youth-grant-1000/

- ☐ Education and Training Voucher - $5,000 a year up until the age of 23 if student is accesses resources before the age of 21.

- ☐ FAFSA – all students who were in foster care 13 years and older file as an 'independent' and qualify for the maximum amount of federal and state grants.

Providing Effective
Financial Aid Assistance
to Students from Foster
Care and Unaccompanied
Homeless Youth:

A Key to Higher Education
Access and Success

Version 2.0

Excellent resource!

http://www.pathwaylibrary.org/ViewBiblio.aspx?aid=21730/

CHAPTER 13

TRANSITIONING OUT OF FOSTER CARE & POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

CONSIDERATIONS TO HELP STUDENTS ACTIVATE COLLEGE LIFETIME TUITION AND FEES WAIVER WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL

Best practices include coordination among high school personnel, college support services, and college faculty to ensure students receive the support necessary for a positive academic experience and a successful college experience. **School personnel can play a key role in linking students with college campus supports and services and encouraging students to believe college is possible!**

TRANSITIONAL SERVICES DESCRIBED:

Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) Services: Help youth ages 16 and older prepare for adulthood and exit foster care. Independent living skills and case management services are provided to eligible youth up to age 21. Youth should be referred to regional DFPS PAL staff for more information. www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Youth_and_Young_Adults/Preparation_For_Adult_Living/default.asp

Transition Centers: Are "one-stop shops" and a central place for youth from 15 ½ to 25 years to access resources,

> **LAW:** State law requires that all students in grades 11 or 12 in substitute care are provided information about the tuition and fee waiver, dual credit, or other courses where a student may earn joint high school and college credit.[167]

> **TIP:** District liaisons are encouraged to link with local colleges and campus-based support programs to develop connections and facilitate effective transitions into post-secondary for students in foster care.

WHAT FINANCIAL SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP STUDENTS FROM FOSTER CARE PAY FOR COLLEGE?

College Tuition and Fee Waiver:[168] Some individuals formerly in Texas' foster care system qualify for a lifetime tuition and fees waiver at any Texas state-supported institution of higher education, as long at least one college credit before turning 25.

WHAT COLLEGE SUPPORT NETWORKS AND COLLEGE CAMPUS PROGRAMS EXIST IN TEXAS FOR STUDENTS FORMERLY IN FOSTER CARE?

Texas Reach is a statewide network focused on increasing college access and retention for foster care alumni. Texas Reach works with colleges and universities statewide in establishing and promoting best-practices in higher education for students formerly in foster care. College campus-based supports for foster care alumni are continuously expanding throughout Texas.

Visit the Texas Reach website to learn more about their annual conference, college access, and other resources, available ... Join the Texas Reach Google Group listserv to stay informed of new resources, confere... www.texasreach.org/

TEXAS
Department of Family and Protective Services

⚠ Report Abuse

Search here...   🔍 Go

Child Protective Services

PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE
Prevent Child Abuse
Prevention & Early Intervention
Hotlines
Community Partners

INVESTIGATION
Investigations
Report Child Abuse

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES
Children in Our Care
Family Based Support
Foster and Kinship Care ▾
Adoption & Permanency Services ▾

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT SERVICES
Overview of Services
Texas Youth Connection
Extended Care and Return

OTHER INFORMATION

Services for Youth and Young Adults

DFPS Home / Child Protection / Youth And Young Adults / This Page

Transitional Living Services (TLS)

Transitional Living Services, programs, and benefits help foster care youth and young adults make the transition to adulthood smoother and help them identify and achieve long-term education, career, and life goals. Transitional Living Services begin at age 14 and may continue until age 23.
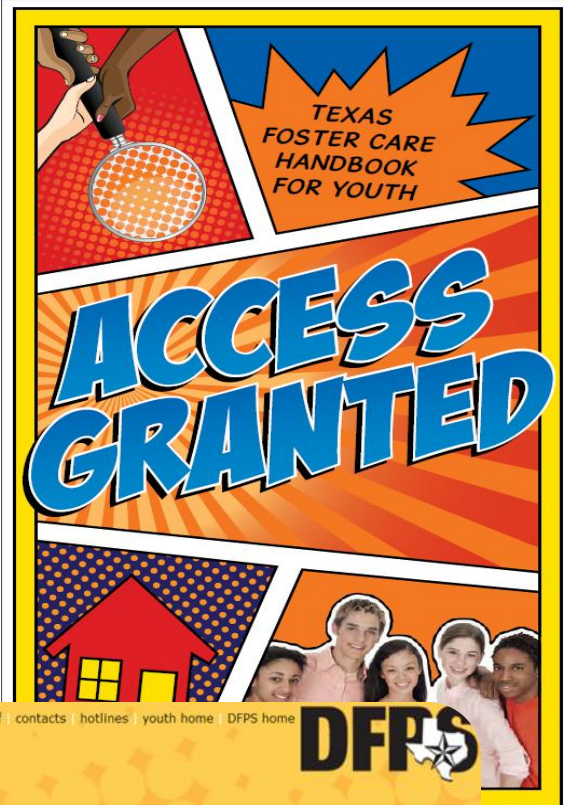
Learn more about Transitional Living Services and how it helps with employment, education, and housing.

Transitional Programs for Young Adults over 18:

- Extended Foster Care and Return to Care
- Extended Court Jurisdiction
- Trial
- Su

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The T
a sou
websi

Services Offered

- Transitional Living Services
- Texas Youth Connection
- Texas Youth Connection on Facebook
- Preparation For Adult Living (PAL)
- Post Secondary Education Information
- Permanency Planning for Older Youth
- Information about College Benefits
- Health Benefits
- Other Services
- Other Transitional Resources

TEXAS FOSTER CARE HANDBOOK FOR YOUTH

ACCESS GRANTED

DFPS

TEXAS YOUTH CONNECTION

Texas Youth Connection > This Page

HOT STUFF
NYTD SURVEY
SAFETY & WELL-BEING
EDUCATION
FINANCES
JOBS
HOUSING
HEALTH CARE COVERAGE
DIVERSITY
EVENTS
FOOD
FUN STUFF
LEGAL/RECORDS
RESOURCES
CONTACTS
SOR

Welcome!

Welcome to the Texas Youth Connection web site!

If you are a youth in the Texas foster care system, a youth transitioning to adulthood, or a youth who is just looking for general tips and information, you've come to the right place.

What is the Texas Youth Connection?

TexasYouthConnection.org is a project of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), the agency that administers Child Protective Services in Texas. Some of our programs that you may be familiar with include:

- the Texas foster care system,
- Preparation for Adult Living (PAL),
- Chafee Foster Care Independence Program,
- Education and Training Voucher,
- Services to At-Risk Youth (STAR),
- the Texas Runaway Hotline, and

LINKING WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISONS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS IN FOSTER CARE:

✓School Districts & Open Enrollment Charter Schools must identify and report to TEA a foster care liaison.
✓TEA to provide information for facilitating enrollment and transfers.

Texas Education Code § 33.904

LIAISON INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW:

LAW: Each school district and open enrollment charter school shall appoint at least one employee to act as a liaison to facilitate the *enrollment in* or *transfer* to a public school of a child in the district who is in the conservatorship of the state.[39]
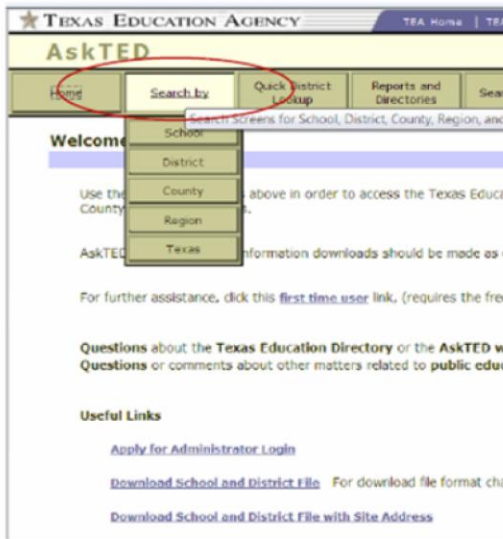
FOSTER CARE LIAISON

Foster Care Liaison List | TEA's AskTED Database System | September 2014

AskTED is TEA's online Texas Education Directory. AskTED is real-time database where each district and charter schools foster care liaison contact information is maintained starting in the 2014-15 school year. Updates and or/changes regarding the foster care liaison(s) contact information is now submitted to TEA through each districts AskTED administrator. Charter schools are responsible to submit their foster care liaison(s) to the Charter School Division at TEA directly via (512) 463-9575 or CharterSchools@tea.state.tx.us. Below are two different avenues (with instructions and pictures) to view and download Foster Care Liaison contact information from TEA's AskTED database.

To view and/or download the foster care liaison list by: "School," "District," "County," "Region," or "Texas" from AskTED, follow the instructions below:

1) Go to the AskTED homepage:http://mansfield.tea.state.tx.us/TEA.AskTED.Web/Forms/Home.aspx

2) Select "Search by" and choose how you would like "Region," or "Texas".

TEA Foster Care Liaison Info:
http://tea.texas.gov/FosterCareStudentSuccess/laws/

✓Liaison contact information and updates are submitted to TEA through each district's AskTED administrator.

✓**For questions about AskTED updates,** please contact Lynne Krajevski, TEA AskTED Administrator, at askTED@tea.state.tx.us or 512-463-9809.

✓**If you are a charter school,** please contact the Charter School Division at (512) 463-9575 or CharterSchools@tea.state.tx.us directly to submit the name and contact information of your foster care liaison.

Strategies for engagement:

- Introduce yourself to school district foster care liaison(s).

- Strategically engage students impacted by foster care and create opportunities within existing programs and activities for student involvement.

- Identify opportunities to promote use of the tuition and fees waiver and assist districts with post-secondary engagement of students in foster care.

Strategies for engagement continued:

- ☐ Learn about opportunities for transition age youth in your community and connect students to resources and opportunities.

- ☐ Learn about college programs and supports available and connect students to opportunities.

- ☐ Participate and engage with transition planning activities when appropriate.

- ☐ Host a celebration for graduating high school students. Include others involved in student's life: judge, CASA, caseworkers, caregiver, PAL, etc.

Can you help me get where I need to be?

Success NEXT EXIT

CHAPTER

5

DISTRICT FOSTER CARE LIAISONS: RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

· LIAISON INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

· WHERE TO GET STARTED?

· 12 KEY ACTIVITIES FOR DISTRICT FOSTER CARE LIAISONS

TIP: The DFPS Regional Youth Specialist is a former foster youth (foster care alumni) that works for DFPS and is available to provide understanding and strengthen awareness about the experience of students in foster care.

It's important to involve people who experienced foster care in trainings and to establish effective supports and practices. To identify the DFPS Youth Specialists who work within one's region, visit: www.dfps.state.tx.us/txyouth/contacts/youth_specialists.asp.

7. Provide foster care-related information and training to the district:

Liaisons can provide trainings and resources about foster care to their district and local campuses and can coordinate with child welfare and community partners to increase cross-system awareness. Trainings may include:

- Child Welfare System 101
- Confidentiality/Sensitivity
- Enrollment/Withdrawal
- Foster Care Education Laws
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act
- Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting
- Credit Retrieval and Recovery
- Culture of Foster Care
- The Impact of Trauma on Learning
- Transition Supports and Post-Secondary Opportunities

8. Work with DFPS to help students maintain their school placement, when appropriate:

Liaisons should be familiar with the federal, state and local laws and policies associated with attendance and enrollment. For example, students are entitled to complete the highest grade level offered at the school in which the student was enrolled at the time of placement in foster care without payment of tuition.[46] When specialized programs or courses are offered in one school or school district and not in another, consider special accommodations — such as providing transportation — may be beneficial for promoting credit completion, stability, academic achievement, and student success. Liaisons can bring together campuses, districts, and caregivers regarding transportation and may participate, if requested by CPS, in school-related best interest decision making. Liaisons can also ensure that local district policies align with state and federal laws.

Resources Available

College & Career Readiness Resources:

Texas Reality Check (from TWC): http://www.texasrealitycheck.com/

Own Your Own Future: www.ownyourownfuture.com/

Texas College and Career: www.texascollegeandcareer.org/

Texas Gear-up: www.texasgearup.com/byot/category/

College For All Texans: www.collegeforalltexans.com/

Achieve Texas : http://www.achievetexas.org/

TEA's Online College and Career Preparation Assistance Resource Site:
http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=8380&menu_id=814

Career & Technical Education - Special Populations Center: http://ctsp.tamu.edu/

College & Career
Readiness Resources – Foster Care

Casey Family Programs, "Providing Effective Financial Aid Assistance to Students from Foster Care and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: A Key to Higher Education Access and Success*: http://www.casey.org/Resources/Publications/SupportingSuccess.htm*

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services - Transitional Living Services – Brief Overview: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Application/Forms/showFile.aspx?NAME=2526.docx.

Access Granted: Texas Foster Care Handbook for Youth http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Documents/Child_Protection/pdf/foster-care-handbook.pdf

It's My Life: Post Secondary Education & Training Guide http://www.casey.org/Resources/Publications/pdf/EducationalOutcomesFactSheet.pdf

Supporting Success: Improving Higher Education Outcomes for Students in Foster Care http://www.casey.org/Resources/Publications/SupportingSuccess.htm

Additional Resources:

❑ Education Reach for Texans - Higher Education Supports & Network: Visit for more information on post-secondary and resources and programs available for students who experienced foster care.

http://www.educationreachfortexans.org/

❑ Texas Youth Connection: Visit for more information on DFPS services and supports available to youth in foster care.

http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/txyouth/education/prep.asp

❑ Texas Foster Youth - Justice Project: Resources and information available to assist youth and young adults in transition out of foster care. Legal services available.

http://texasfosteryouth.org/

Foster Care & Student Success

Foster Care & Student Success, housed in Texas Education Agency's Division of Federal and State Education Policy maintains resources and information to advance the education of student's impacted by foster care. The resources and materials provide guidance related to the unique circumstances surrounding students who are in the foster care system and attend Texas public schools. In Texas, nearly 16,000 school-age students are in foster care at any given time.

The Foster Care & Student Success web content is divided into the following areas:

- School District Liaisons
- Laws and Guidance
- State Efforts
- Collaboration
- Child Protective Services
- Information and Resources

Foster Care & Student Success Resource Guide

TEA developed a premiere resource to support Texas schools in addressing the education of students in foster care: Texas Foster Care & Student Success Resource Guide (PDF). This guide is the product of collaboration with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, the Supreme Court of Texas, and the Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families (Children's Commission). This e-guide and training manual contains a variety of key researched-based topics and calls attention to important matters related to the

Special Student Populations

Bilingual - ESL Education

Dyslexia

Early Childhood Education

Foster Care and Student Success

Gifted and Talented Education

Title III, Part A English Language Acquisition

Title I, Part C - Migrant Education

Contact Information

Federal & State Education Policy
Foster Care Education & Policy Coordinator
Kelly Kravitz
512-463-9235
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fostercareliaison@tea.texas.gov

Comprehensive List of Foster Care and Education Laws:

http://www.tea.state.tx.us/FosterCareStudentSuccess/laws/

Foster Care To the Administrator Addressed (TAA)

September 10, 2014

http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=25769817433

Sign-up for *Foster Care Education* & *To the Administrator Addressed Correspondence* Listserv:
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new?topic_id=TXTEA_21
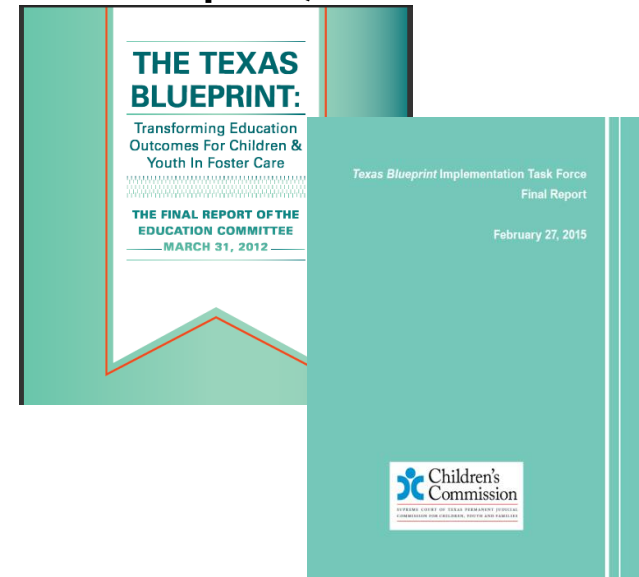
Texas Blueprint Implementation Taskforce Involvement

☐ Ongoing TEA participation in collaborative workgroups with child welfare stakeholders and other partners addressing a variety of education related topics, such as:

- ■ Data

- ■ Training and Resources

- ■ School Stability

THE TEXAS BLUEPRINT:
Transforming Education Outcomes For Children & Youth In Foster Care

THE FINAL REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 31, 2012

Texas Blueprint Implementation Task Force
Final Report

February 27, 2015

Children's Commission
SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

http://education.texaschildrenscommission.gov/education-committee.aspx

New – Texas Blueprint Implementation Taskforce Final Report, February 27, 2015:
http://education.texaschildrenscommission.gov/blueprint-implementation-task-force.aspx

Intra-Agency Collaboration

- Data
- Curriculum
- Special Education
- 21st Century/ACE
- Communities in Schools
- Legal
- Attendance
- State Compensatory Education
- At-Risk Programs

- College and career preparation
- Student Assessment
- Title I
- Migrant
- Homeless McKinney-Vento
- AskTED
- Others

Increasing Awareness – Additional Training Opportunities for K-12

- ESEA Title I– Foster Care & Student Success Toolkit Available in Project Share – contact your ESC Title I representative for more info.

- ESC Foster Care Champion

- TEA Foster Care & Student Success listserv:
  https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new

- Response to Intervention (RTI) Training Institute – University of Texas, Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk: http://buildingrti.utexas.org/resources/

  Professional development module - RTI & Foster Care:
  http://resources.buildingrti.utexas.org/CAP/students_in_foster_care/multiscreen.html

- Texas Online College & Career Readiness Resource Center Course:
  http://txccrsc.esc13.net/occrrc/
  Texas Online College & Career Readiness Portal: http://txccrsc.org/

TEA Website Resources & Information:

Foster Care & Student Success - Information and Resources

There are many resources and information to help you understand and support the educational success of students in foster care. Review the recommended resources and information to get started.

TEA Graduation Program Toolkit (HB 5) - *New*

PEIMS 2014-15, Supplemental Guidance (PDF) - *New*

Texas Foster Care & Student Success Resource Guide (PDF)

Talking to Foster Youth about School (outside source PDF)

Education is the Lifeline for Students in Foster Care (outside source PDF)

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Transitional Living Services - Revised Dec. 2013 (outside source)

What Teachers and Educators Can Do to Help Youth In Foster Care (outside source PDF)

Supporting Students in Foster Care (outside source PDF)

It's My Life: Post Secondary and Education Guide (outside source)

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Foster Care & Student Success

Main Page

Texas School Foster Care Liaisons

Education Laws and Guidance

State Efforts

Collaboration

Child Protective Services Education

http://www.tea.state.tx.us/FosterCareStudentSuccess/Resources/

CASA Educational Advocacy Toolkit: http://texascasa.org/learning-center/resources/educational-advocacy-toolkit/

May 2014| Foster Care| USDE Guidance

- USDE and Health and Human Services (HHS) Letter to Chief State School Officers and Child Welfare Directors on Implementing the Fostering Connections Act, May 30, 2014 - http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/foster-care/fostering-connections-letter.doc

- Letter to Chief State School Officers on Guidance on the Amendments to FERPA by the USA 2013, May 27, 2014 - http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/uninterrupted-scholars-act-guidance.pdf

- USDE **New** Foster Care and Education website - http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/foster-care/index.html

- National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections website - http://www.nrcpfc.org/is/education-and-child-welfare.html

- USDE Education Blog - "Foster Care Alum: Educators Make a Difference for Foster Youth" - http://www.ed.gov/blog/2014/06/foster-care-alum-educators-make-a-difference-for-foster-youth/

Trauma-Informed Education Resources

- Trauma Sensitive Schools: http://traumasensitiveschools.org/

- Compassionate Schools: The Heart of Learning and Teaching: http://www.k12.wa.us/compassionateschools/

- The National Childhood Traumatic Stress Network:

    Child Trauma Toolkit For Educators:

    http://www.nctsn.org/resources/audiences/school-personnel/trauma-toolkit

    Resources for Schools:

    http://www.nctsn.org/resources/audiences/school-personnel/resources-for-schools

    National Foster Care Awareness Month:

    http://www.nctsn.org/resources/public-awareness/national-foster-care-month%20

- Why Schools Need to Be Trauma Informed:
  http://www.traumainformedcareproject.org/resources/WhySchoolsNeedToBeTraumaInformed(2).pdf

- Schools promoting 'trauma-informed' teaching to reach troubled students: http://edsource.org/2013/schools-focus-on-trauma-informed-to-reach-troubled-students/51619

- Comprehensive resource and training guide, released in October 2013; Co-written with TEA, DFPS and Children's Commission.

- Research based: Codifies foster care education practice, policy, laws and resources in one central location.

- Foundational resource for education community, foster care liaisons, and all who support the education of students in foster care.

- Guidebook provides foundation for district training and development on foster care.

Where to find the Foster Care & Student Success Resource Guide:

- Online Interactive PDF available for download:
  http://www.tea.state.tx.us/FosterCareStudentSuccess/resource-guide.pdf

- Individual chapter download:
  http://www.tea.state.tx.us/fostercarestudentsuccess

- Hard-copies may be ordered through TEA's Office of Publication:
  http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=2147487430

- A professional grade PDF file is available for groups and organizations that would like to have the guide printed to disseminate: email fostercareliaison@tea.state.tx.us or kelly.kravitz@tea.state.tx.us for information.

TEA Foster Care & Student Success:

- TEA Website:

  http://www.tea.state.tx.us/FosterCareStudentSuccess/

- Email: Fostercareliaison@tea.texas.gov

- TEA Foster Care & Student Success listserv:
  https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new

- Foster Care Education & Policy, and Homeless/McKinney-Vento, State Coordinator, Kelly Kravitz
  fostercareliaison@tea.texas.gov; kelly.kravitz@tea.texas.gov; 512-463-9235

Committed to Transforming the Education Outcomes of Students in Foster Care!

THANK YOU FOR THE IMPORTANT WORK THAT YOU DO!

TEA
Texas Education Agency