

Education Rights for Children and Youth in Foster Care

Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (H.R. 6893):

Provides a plan for the educational stability of each school-age child or youth placed in out-of-home care.

Colorado's Achievement Plan for Kids, SB-08-212 (CAP4K)

Outlined a course to improve Colorado's public education through alignment of preschool through postsecondary expectations.

Colorado School District Child Welfare Education Liaisons:

Visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us> for a map of Child Welfare Education Liaisons by district



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To learn more or set up a training, please contact Sheree Conyers, State Coordinator of Foster Care at the Colorado Department of Education
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COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**FOSTER CARE EDUCATION:
IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL
OUTCOMES FOR
CHILDREN & YOUTH**

FOSTER CARE EDUCATION: IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

National research shows that students in foster care are at high-risk of dropping out of school and are unlikely to attend college. The national rates of suicide, homelessness, unemployment and teen pregnancy are above average for foster care youth and young adults.

The purpose of the Foster Care Education Program is dedicated to ensure that students in foster care are successful in school and life. The focus is on course completion, advancing to the next grade, accruing credits toward graduation, and creating pathways to postsecondary success.

This program is designed to work with school districts to increase learning supports, implement effective strategies, and strengthen partnerships with child welfare and the courts system.

It will take commitment, leadership and coordinated efforts for each student in foster care to have an academic home and be successful.

OUR FRAMEWORK FOR SUCCESS:

Laws and Legislation

- Implementation of laws requiring Child Welfare Education Liaisons
- Guidance on legislation that defines the rights of students in foster care

Dedicated Resources

- A State Coordinator for Foster Care Education is on board to lead the work at CDE.
- Training and ongoing professional development for liaisons in local education agencies, county caseworkers, Guardian ad Litem (GALs), and judges.

Coordinated Response

- Outreach and public awareness
- School District Pilot Project to increase supports and coordination of services with county child welfare agencies
- Sharing and tracking data on student outcomes

Improve Educational Supports

- Transportation to school and academic enrichment activities
- Transitions due to changes in schools and homes
- Transfer of transcripts and student records with each move

