

Introducing a new program at the Colorado Department of Education Foster Care Education: Improving Educational Outcomes for Children and Youth

Sense of Urgency:

National Facts

- Less than **70%** of youth in foster care finish high school before leaving care.
- Children and youth in out-of-home care experience 1 or 2 placement changes per year on average
- Youth are at a greater risk for dropping out of school from college
- They have higher rates of suicide, homelessness, unemployment and teen pregnancy when compared to national average

Purpose:

The Foster Care Education Program is dedicated to ensuring that students in foster care are successful. This includes:



- Course completion
- Advancement to the next grade
- Accrual of credits for graduation
- A pathway to postsecondary readiness



Our Framework for Success:

- A State Coordinator for Foster Care Education to lead the work
- Laws and Legislation
- Dedicated Resources
- Coordinated Efforts and Response
- Improving Educational Supports

**This work is being done with support from Mile High United Way, Morgridge Family Foundation
and the Colorado Department of Human Services.**