

Toolkit for Foster Youth Education Success

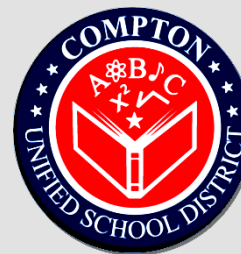
AB 167/216 Graduation

November 5, 2015

Foster Youth Education Toolkit



Jill Rowland
Education Program Director
Alliance for Children's Rights



John Keane
Administrator-Foster Youth Services
Compton Unified School District

Why are you here?

You'll Learn:

1. AB 167/216 rights of foster youth.
2. Best practices for implementing AB 167/216 Graduation.

NOTE: When we refer to foster youth, that includes both foster youth with open dependency court cases and probation youth with open delinquency court cases.

AB 167/216 Graduation

Joey is a senior this year. He was in foster care and moved home to his parents 8 months ago and changed schools at the same time. He was never determined to be AB 167/216 eligible. His case is now closed.

- Putting aside reasonableness, does Joey meet all other eligibility requirements?
 - Yes
- Does the district have a duty to go back and retroactively determine his eligibility?
 - Yes, AB 1166 now requires it

AB 167/216 Graduation

Maria was a senior last year and changed schools mid year due to a change in foster care placement. She was on track to meet high school graduation requirements before the move but really struggled to keep up with her classes afterwards and ended up failing a few of them. She really wants to go to a 4 year university but would need to retake a few A-G classes this year to raise up D grades to Cs or better.

- Assuming she met all other eligibility requirements, what were her graduation options last year?
- Assuming she met all other eligibility requirements, what are her graduation options this year?
- Does Maria have a right to stay at her comprehensive high school for a 5th year, even though she is now 19?
 - Yes
- Who decides what graduation option Maria will utilize?
 - Before 18, her ERH
 - After she turns 18, she does

AB 167/216 Graduation

Michael missed his 10th and 11th grade years of school due to homelessness. He returned to school as a senior this year but had to attend a new school, closer to the shelter where he lives.

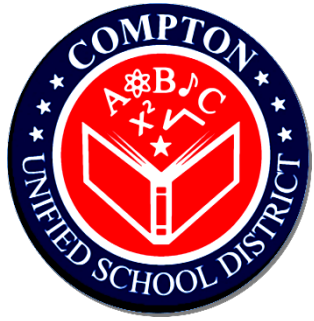
- Has Michael completed his 2nd year of high school?

– Yes

AB 167/216 Graduation

Samantha was certified as eligible for AB 167/216 graduation and was so excited to graduate with her class. She just received her diploma in the mail and it has an asterisk on it which states it's a 'Foster Youth Diploma'.

- Is this legal?
 - No
- If Samantha wants to join the military, will her graduation under AB 167/216 impact her ability to do so?
 - No
- If Samantha wants to go to a 4 year university, will her graduation under AB 167/216 impact her ability to do so?
 - Yes



COMPTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Pupil Services Department



Mr. Darin Brawley, Superintendent
Dr. Virginia Ward-Roberts, Senior Director of Pupil Services Department
Mr. John Keane, Administrator-Foster Youth Services

Compton Unified School District

- Students in CUSD: approximately: 25,000
- Foster Youth (LCFF): 372
- Foster Youth DCFS Student Information System Count: 654
- **CUSD Foster Youth Program:**
 - **Staff**
 - CUSD Foster Youth Administrator (1)
 - CUSD Foster Youth Counselor (High School Counselor) (1)
 - CUSD Foster Youth Enrollment and Records Clerk (1)
 - **Identified Youth**
 - CUSD Active AB 216 / 167 Youth 12th grade: 25
 - CUSD Active AB 216 / 167 Youth 11th grade: 14
 - CUSD 10th grade Identified Foster Youth: 19
 - CUSD 9th grade Identified Foster Youth: 24

Compton Unified School District Foster Youth Challenges

1. Data and Tracking Systems (CalPads, SITS, Aeries)
2. Difficult Placements: Short Term / Out of County
3. Identifying Educational Rights Holder
4. Special Education Foster Youth / IEP Endorsed Eligibility
5. Partial Credits from other LEA's
6. Out of County Transcripts and Partial Credits

Compton Unified School District Foster Youth Program Strategies

- Utilizing and Incorporating LCAP Goals and Objectives
 - Example: Funding / High School Counselor / Records Clerk / District Training
- Develop a strong Foster Youth Advisory with members of the community:
 - DCFS
 - Probation
 - Public Defenders Office
 - Public Health
 - Foster Parents
 - Group Home Representatives
 - Alliance for Children's Rights

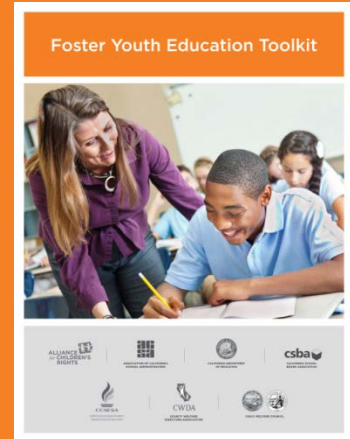
Compton Unified School District Foster Youth Program Strategies

- Updating and Revising CUSD Board Policy and Administrative Regulations:
 - Minimum Requirements for Graduation (AB 216 / 167) (AB 1806)
 - Partial Credits (All CUSD Youth)
 - Other Foster Youth Related Laws
- Staff Training
 - CUSD District Training
 - CUSD Foster Youth High School Counselor
- Updating and Maintaining Current, Accurate Data Monthly / Cross reference w CALPads and DCFS SITS System
- Monitor and Track Attendance to ensure Accurate Partial Credits

Compton Unified School District Successes!

- 14/15 School Year:
 - All eligible foster youth were identified and certified as eligible
 - CUSD Foster Youth Board Policy and AR's were updated and revised
 - Partial Credit Policy for all CUSD Youth Instituted
 - CUSD Foster Youth Advisory Implemented and partnerships developed
 - (5) AB 167 / 216 waivers utilized
 - All Secondary Foster Youth were identified

Questions? Contact us



Jill Rowland
Education Program Director
J.rowland@kids-alliance.org
213.368.6010



John Keane
Administrator Foster Youth Services
Compton Unified School District
jkeane@compton.k12.ca.us
[310.639.4321 ext 63002](tel:310.639.4321)