

AB 12 and Postsecondary Education: How Can Extended Foster Care Promote Better Educational Outcomes?

January 27, 2011

Web Seminar of the California College Pathways

Web Seminar Technical Details

- Click on unique link forwarded after your registered
- To access audio, either listen on computer OR call:
(314) 627-1519
 1. Enter access code: 423-778-692
 2. Enter unique PIN that is on screen

To submit live questions, click on the “Question and Answer” arrow on your screen, type your question, and click “Send.”



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- Technical Assistance & Training
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- Policy Analysis & Development
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Purpose of Today's Web Seminar

- Present information about potential impact of extended foster care on educational outcomes
- Provide informational about core elements of extended foster care
- Discuss implementation issues related to higher education
- Answer your questions

Panel Participants

- Amy Lemley, John Burton Foundation
- Jenny Vinopal, CSU Office of the Chancellor
- Angie Schwartz, Alliance for Children's Rights
- Debbie Raucher, John Burton Foundation

Midwest Study

- Each additional year young people remained in care beyond their 18th birthday was associated with an increase in earnings of between \$470 and \$924.
- Based on the increased likelihood that a foster youth will complete college, providing foster youth with additional support will increase per person work-life earnings by \$92,000.
- Other benefits include decreased incarceration and better physical and mental health.

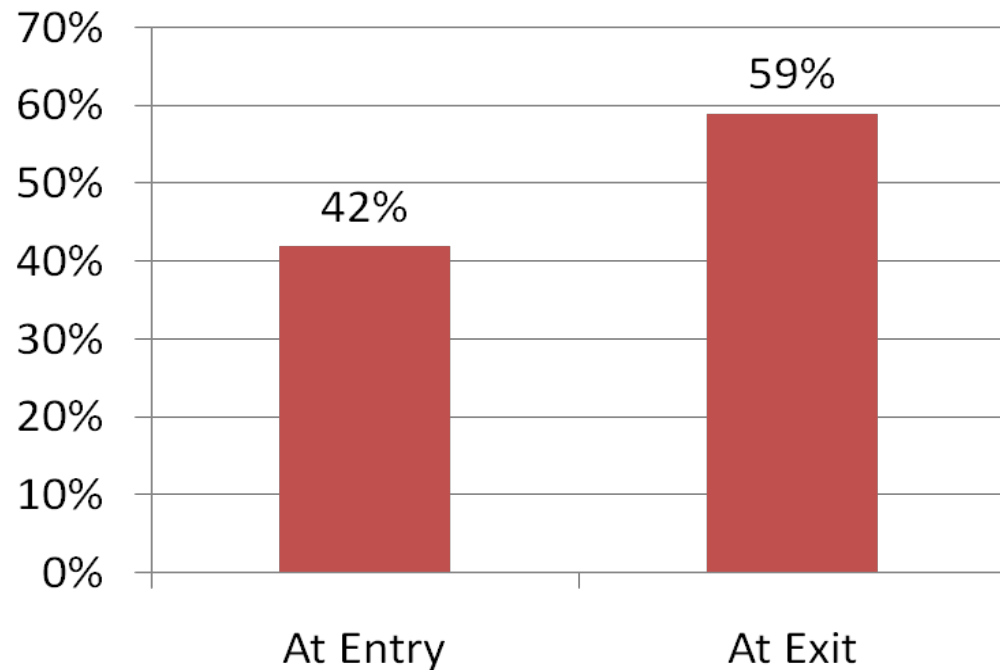


Midwest Study



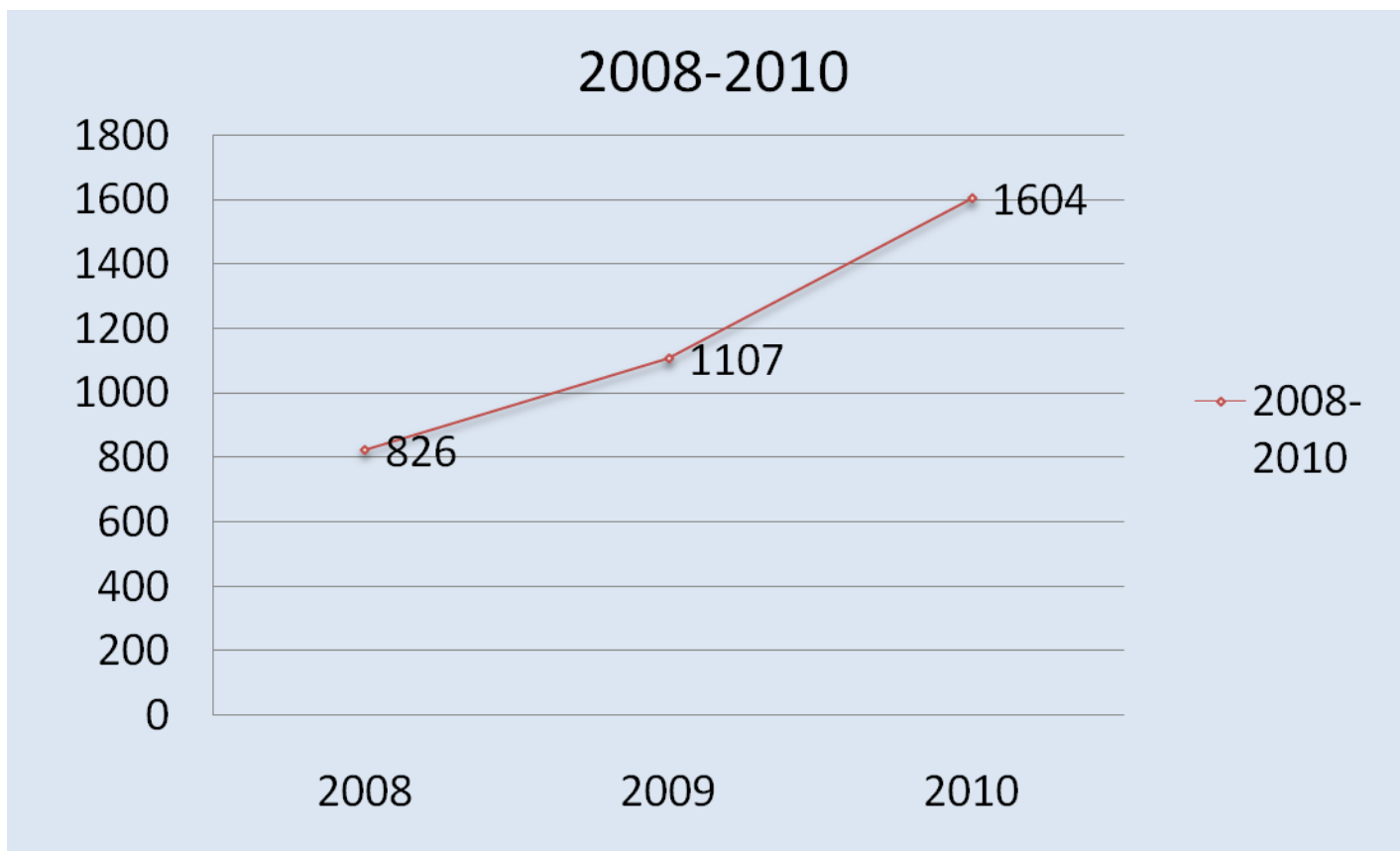
- 38% reduction in the risk of becoming pregnant at age 19.
- 25 to 34 year olds who had at least a bachelor's degree earned, on average, 61 percent more than those with only a high school diploma or GED.

Increase in Educational Attainment: 59% exited THP-Plus with high school diploma



Students Served in Campus Support Programs

CSU and UC Data Only



Extended Foster Care is Voluntary

- Participation in foster care after age 18 under AB 12 is voluntary
- Youth may decide to exit at anytime before they turn age 21
- Youth have the option to return before they turn 21 through re-entry provision

Basic Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for extended foster care, the youth must:

- sign a mutual agreement with the county child welfare or probation agency or tribe that has a IV-E agreement with the state for supervision and support;
- continue under the supervision of the juvenile court as a dependent or a ward,
- meet one of the five participation conditions, and agree to live in a supervised placement that is licensed or approved under new standards for 18 to 21 year olds.

Extended Foster Care Includes Juvenile Court Oversight and Child Welfare Supervision

- Youth continues to have a six-month review hearing in court or an administrative review
- Court will ensure the youth continues to meet one of the participation conditions
- Each youth has a child welfare worker, who completes case plan and prepares court reports.

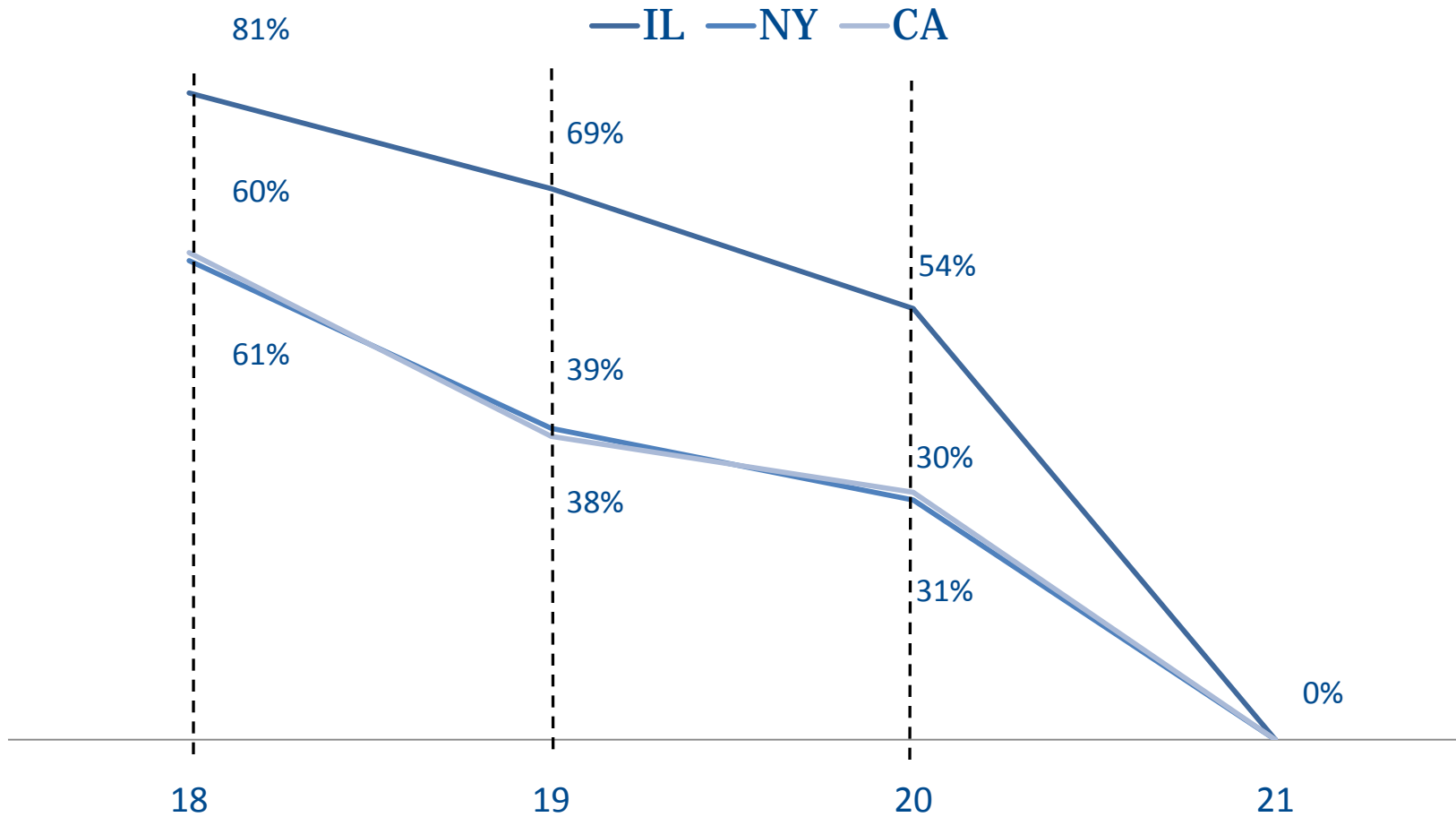
Five Participation Conditions of AB 12

- (1) Completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential,
- (2) Enrolled in an institution which provides post-secondary or vocational education
- (3) Participating in a program or activity designed to promote, or remove barriers to, employment
- (4) Employed for at least 80 hours per month.
- (5) Unable to do one of the above requirements because of a medical condition.

Factors that Exclude Youth from Eligibility

- Youth who:
 - Do not meet 1 of 5 participation conditions ~ 24%
 - Elect to receive TANF (CalWORKS)~ 5%
 - Elect to receive Supplemental Security Income ~ 15%
 - Are incarcerated ~ 7%
 - Get married ~ 2%
 - Join the military ~ 2%
 - Die ~ 1%

Estimated Uptake Rate for Extended Foster Care



Importance of Re-Entry Provision

- Youth who elect to exit may be put on trial discharge
- Youth may petition to re-enter foster care system until age 21
- No limit on number of times
- Evidence shows this is rare ~4% in NY
- Important to make process accessible

Placement Options for Extended Foster Care

- Approved home of a relative or NREFM (approved);
- Foster family home (licensed);
- Foster Family Agency certified home (licensed);
- Group home, subject to new limitations (licensed);
- Home of a non-related legal guardianship (approved by the juvenile court);
- THP-Plus Foster Care (approved);
- Supervised Independent Living setting (approved).

What is a Supervised Independent Living setting?

- New placement option for youth age 18 to 21
- Is a supervised setting as specified in TILP
- Must meet health and safety standards (TBD)
- May receive all or part of the foster care benefit directly
- Basic rate paid (~ \$700 per month)
- Not eligible for specialized care increment

Examples of Implementation

Issues Related to Education

- How extended foster care benefits impact financial aid
- Defining and verifying higher ed. enrollment for eligibility purposes
- Standards for supervised independent living settings
- Coordination and collaboration between higher education and child welfare
- Training needs for child welfare and higher education personnel

Timeline and Process

- Draft regulations to be issued by DSS by October 1, 2011
- Focus groups, individual interviews and surveys of youth, administrators and educators
- JBF to compile recommendations regarding higher education and issue report by April 15
- Collaboration with higher education community and DSS to advocate for inclusion of recommendations in regulations

How to Provide Input

Contact Debbie Raucher at the John Burton Foundation
for more information

debbie@johnburtonfoundation.org
(510) 593-8382

AB 12 Sponsors Will be Collecting Input in Two Ways

- Proactively collecting input
 - Surveys
 - Focus groups
 - Community forums
- Soliciting your response to draft proposals

Proactively Collecting Input

Stakeholder Group	AB 12 Lead
Child welfare & eligibility workers	CWDA & SEIU
Judicial officers	Children's Law Center of LA
Youth	California Youth Connection
Providers (FFAs, THP-Plus, GHs)	CA Alliance and JBF
Foster parents	Youth Law Center
Relative caregivers	Alliance for Children's Rights
Education stakeholders	John Burton Foundation
Juvenile probation system	Youth Law Center
Legal service organizations	Alliance for Children's Rights

Soliciting Your Response to Draft Proposals

- Wednesday, March 23rd 1 to 4
- Wednesday, April 27th 1 to 4
- Wednesday, May 25th 1 to 4
- Wednesday, June 22nd 1 to 4
- Wednesday, July 27th 1 to 4

If you are on this web seminar, you will receive an email notification about these meetings

All available information will be posted on the www.cafosteringconnections.org website. Sign-up for the listserv today

Question & Answer

Announcements & Resources

Budget Subcommittee Hearings

Express opposition to \$19 million reduction to THP-Plus, which will result in 1,000 former foster youth becoming homeless

- * Assembly: Today at 1:00 in Room 4202 in State Capitol
- * Senate: February 8th at 1:00 in Room 4202 in State Capitol
- * Email simone@johnburtonfoundation.org if you can attend

Foster Youth Education Summit,

- Feb. 7-8, 2011 Sacramento , CA
- Register today at www.fosteredconnect.org

New! Educational Planning Guide

- Download a copy or contact jvinopal@calstate.edu for copies

Two Primers: General AB 12 & THP-Plus

- Download copies at www.cafosteringconnections.org or contact simone@johnburtonfoundation.org for copies

