

## Education & Foster Youth Reference Sheet

### Advocacy Tips

- Be Your Child's Advocate <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/parent-teacher-partnerships/be-your-childs-advocate>
- Tips for Talking With Teachers <http://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/FSFCS207.pdf>
- Twenty Ways to Help Your Child Succeed in School <http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/twenty-ways-you-can-help-your-children-succeed-school>
- Special Education Advocacy <http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/advo.index.htm>
- Understanding Common Education Terms <http://www.schoolfamily.com/school-family-articles/article/10775-understanding-common-education-terms>

### IEP Basics

- SPED law calls for a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.
- IEPs are legally binding documents that specify the type and frequency of services that will be provided. <http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/specialed/navigatingthecourse.pdf>
- Foster youth applications:
  - 10 day rule – The CCC must meet within 10 days of transition to new district for existing IEP (services begin immediately); the school must respond (in writing) to request for initial evaluation.
  - Other timelines may apply – 50 days for eval normally; 20 days for RTI & discipline.
  - Consent is required for initial testing & implementation of services.

### Right to Transportation Services

- Schools must provide children with transportation to their school, if feasible. Parents who need this service for their children should request it from the McKinney-Vento Liaison.

#### *IC 20-50-3-5 Transportation of students in foster care*

Sec. 5. (a) If a student in foster care temporarily stays in the student's original school corporation but outside the attendance area of the student's school of origin, the original school corporation shall provide transportation for the student from the place where the student is temporarily staying to the school of origin and from the school of origin to the place where the student is temporarily staying.

(b) If:

- (1) the school of origin of a student in foster care is located in a school corporation other than the school corporation in which the student is temporarily staying;
  - (2) the school of origin is located in a school corporation that adjoins the school corporation in which the student is temporarily staying; and
  - (3) the student does not elect to attend a school located in the school corporation in which the student in foster care is temporarily staying;
- the original school corporation and the transitional school corporation shall enter into an agreement concerning the responsibility for and apportionment of the costs of transporting the student to and from the school of origin.

(c) If the original school corporation and the transitional school corporation described in subsection (b) are unable to reach an agreement under subsection (b), the responsibility for transporting the student in foster care to and from the school of origin is shared equally between both school corporations, and the cost of transporting the student to and from the school of origin is apportioned equally between both school corporations.

### Child Care Assistance

- CCDF is a federal program that assists low-income families in obtaining child care so that they can work or attend school.
  - <https://secure.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/3900.htm>
  - To identify intake agent: [https://secure.in.gov/fssa/files/20150928\\_CCDF\\_Intake-Policy\\_Map\\_8-2015\\_-\\_Color.pdf](https://secure.in.gov/fssa/files/20150928_CCDF_Intake-Policy_Map_8-2015_-_Color.pdf)
  - Apply for CCDF funds then identify child care provider
    - ✦ Foster parents are automatically eligible – do not have to meet income requirements

## Indiana Graduation Requirements <http://www.doe.in.gov/ccr/indianas-diploma-requirements>

- Determine local requirements in addition to those required by the state
- Core 40 vs. General Diploma
  - Formal opt-out process
    - ✦ Meet to review Graduation Plan & student progress
    - ✦ Discuss effects on career & postsecondary opportunities
  - ECA failure 2x
  - Indiana Online Academy for credit recovery - \$\$ by district
- Assessments to pass/take <http://www.doe.in.gov/assessment>
  - For current 10-12<sup>th</sup> graders: ECAs for Alg 1 & Eng 10 (course content)
  - For current 9<sup>th</sup> graders (& lower): ISTEP+ 10 (ELA & Math content, will take as 10<sup>th</sup> graders)
  - PSAT (10<sup>th</sup>), ACCUPLACER (11<sup>th</sup>), SAT/ACT (11<sup>th</sup>, 2x for baseline)
- Fee waivers for AP Exams, SAT, ACT, college applications
  - To be completed through school guidance counselor
- Indiana's Double-Up Program
  - Tuition waiver for dual enrollment in college courses for students in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars Program

- Enroll & complete Scholar Success program @ <http://www.in.gov/21stcenturyscholars/>
  - 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> but through HS for foster youth
  - If FY enroll in the program and fulfill pledge of good citizenship, they are guaranteed to receive up to 4 years of undergraduate tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana
    - ✦ No illegal drugs/alcohol, crimes/delinquent acts
    - ✦ Cumulative 2.5/4.0 GPA
    - ✦ Core 40 (+ with Academic or Technical Honors)
    - ✦ Annual FAFSA starting senior year through college
    - ✦ Enroll within 1 year, complete 30 credit hours/year (maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress as defined by college), finish within 8 years, \$ equivalent of 4 years at full time
  - Can also get help finding free tutoring, a mentor and a part-time job, and support to finish postsecondary degree (once in college)
- Other scholarship/grant opportunities: Horatio Alger, Letendre Education Fund, Pell Grant, Foster Care to Success, NFPA, Chafee Grant, Guardian Scholars, FastWeb & College Board for lists, <http://www.unitedfriends.org/resources/links-resources/foster-youth-scholarships>

## Resources:

- Indiana Department of Education (DOE) <http://www.doe.in.gov/>
- Indiana Youth Institute (IYI) <http://www.iyi.org/>
- About Special Kids (ASK) <http://www.aboutspecialkids.org/>
- IN\*Source <http://insource.org/resources/>
- National Resource Center for Permanency & Family Connections <http://www.nrcpfc.org/is/education-and-child-welfare.html>
- Learn More Indiana <http://www.learnmoreindiana.org/>
- Connected by 25 [http://www.fostersuccess.org/programs\\_services](http://www.fostersuccess.org/programs_services)
- Indiana Afterschool Network <http://www.indianaafterschool.org/>
- Indiana Student Financial Aid Association <http://www.isfaa.org>
- Academic websites/remediation:
  - ABCya, Cool Math, Edutopia, FunBrain, International Children's Digital Library, Jumpstart, Khan Academy, Kids.gov, National Geographic, PBS for Kids, Read to Me, Scholastic, Storyline Online, TIME for Kids, Wonderopolis