

WHAT CAREGIVERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AB 12 FOR PROBATION INVOLVED YOUTH: GETTING & STAYING ELIGIBLE

February 20, 2013

Noon – 1:00 P.M.

Webinar



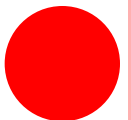
Caregiver Webinar Series:
AB 12 & Probation Supervised Foster Youth

SESSION OVERVIEW



- ☑ What is AB 12?
- ☑ What probation youth are potentially eligible?
- ☑ How does AB 12 help youth transition to adulthood?
- ☑ How does AB 12 affect permanency options?
- ☑ How does AB 12 affect other benefits?
- ☑ What can caregivers do?

WHAT IS AB 12?



AB 12 - CALIFORNIA'S FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS ACT

- ❖ Helps foster youth, including probation supervised foster youth, transition to adulthood and independence by extending support until age 21
- ❖ Establishes new supervised independent living options for foster youth 18 & over
- ❖ Provides new options for eligible probation supervised foster youth who have met rehabilitative goals and are ready to get off probation continue to receive support until age 21
- ❖ Allows youth to exit and re-enter foster care



GOALS OF EXTENDED FOSTER CARE

- Help youth establish lifelong connections to caring adults before transitioning to full independence
- Work proactively and collaboratively with youth in developing and reaching their independent living goals
- Allow youth to gain real life experience with independence and allow them to learn from their mistakes
- Provide a safety net for foster youth so they can be successful as independent adults



OTHER AB 12 PERMANENCY & TRANSITION SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

- Requires ongoing transition planning (TILCP, TILP & 90-day transition plan)
- Extends AAP and Kin-GAP funding for youth who enter Kin-GAP or AAP after age 16
- Extends foster care payments to age 21 for non-related legal guardianships established in Juvenile Court
- Establishes new requirements for maintaining SSI eligibility for youth with disabilities



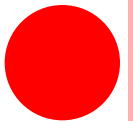
EXTENDED FOSTER CARE BENEFITS

- Continued foster care payment (in some cases paid directly to youth) in licensed or approved living setting
- Case management including monthly visits with probation officer or social worker & assistance with transition to independence
- Health Insurance*
- Independent Living Services*



*also available to former foster youth

WHAT PROBATION YOUTH
ARE POTENTIALLY
ELIGIBLE?



WHEN ARE PROBATION SUPERVISED YOUTH (602s) CONSIDERED “FOSTER YOUTH”?



IF THEY HAVE A
SUITABLE FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT ORDER

JUVENILE COURT ORDER

✓ Removing from parent or guardian

+

✓ Placing care, custody & control under probation for suitable foster care placement with non-parent

ORDER

RELEASING to RESPONSIBLE ADULT or
PLACING in HOME of REMOVAL **NOT**
SUITABLE PLACEMENT ORDER



➤ **RELEASE TO RESPONSIBLE ADULT**

(STRAIGHT RELEASE, NO REMOVAL ORDER FROM PARENT,
RELATIVE OR GUARDIAN)

➤ **PLACEMENT IN HOME OF REMOVAL**

(REMOVAL FROM PARENT, RELATIVE OR GUARDIAN AND
RETURN TO HOME OF REMOVAL)

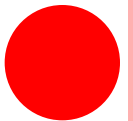
EXTENDED FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST



- Have foster care placement order on 18th birthday/meet age req.
- Meet a participation condition
- Sign a mutual agreement*
- Agree to meet with probation officer (or social worker)
- Agree to work on transitional independent living skills
- Live in a licensed or approved setting
- Have 6 month court review hearings

**Not a condition of payment*

HOW DOES AB 12 HELP YOUTH TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD?



CASE PLANNING

- ❖ Case Plan/TILCP Transitional Independent Living Case Plan
- ❖ TILP- Transitional Independent Living Plan
- ❖ 90 day Transition Plan



TRANSITIONAL INDEPENDENT LIVING CASE PLANS



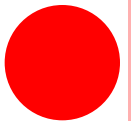
- Case plans shall have a goal of Permanent Placement with Planned Permanent Living Arrangement
- Regularly updated
- Be youth driven, team-based

TRANSITIONAL INDEPENDENT LIVING PLAN (TILP)

- Supportive Relationships & Community Supports
- Employment, Education & Training
- Housing
- Money Management
- Daily Living
- Personal Documents



HOW DOES AB 12
AFFECT
PERMANENCY
OPTIONS?



PERMANENCY PLANNING

❖ Options

❖ Reunification

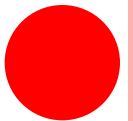
❖ Guardianship

❖ Adoption

❖ Planned Permanent Living Arrangement



HOW DOES
AB 12 IMPACT
BENEFITS?



KIN-GAP, AAP & NON-RELATED LEGAL GUARDIANSHIPS

OTHER PATHWAYS TO EXTENDED BENEFITS

AB 12 extends benefits to age 21 for:

- Kin-GAP**- Kinship Guardian Assistance Payment Program- youth entering a relative guardianship established by the *juvenile court* at age 16 or later
- AAP**- Adoption Assistance Program- youth entering the at age 16 or later
- NRLG**-- Non-related Legal Guardianship - youth with a NRLG established by the *juvenile court* are eligible for extended foster care benefits

*AAP available to age 21 for youth with disabilities regardless of age started



KIN-GAP

OTHER PATHWAYS TO EXTENDED BENEFITS



Promotes family preservation and stability by allowing youth to exit foster care to guardianship with a relative caregiver without loss of funding

- Kin-GAP extended to 21 if established after 16th birthday
- Child must be citizen, legal permanent resident, or other qualified immigrant
- Living with same relative at least **6 continuous months**
- Relative appointed as guardian **by juvenile court**
- Relative guardian and child welfare agency (or probation or tribe) enter into a written, signed **negotiated agreement**
- AND
- delinquency case dismissed *after* (or at the same time as) the court appoints the relative as guardian

AAP



OTHER PATHWAYS TO EXTENDED BENEFITS

AB 12 extends benefits to age 21 for youth entering the Adoption Assistance Program at age 16 or later

Promotes permanency through adoption by providing monthly cash assistance (up to the maximum foster family home payment child would have received in foster care) to caregivers who adopt foster youth.

*AAP available to age 21 for youth with disabilities regardless of age started

NON-RELATED LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP

OTHER PATHWAYS TO EXTENDED BENEFITS

AB 12 extends foster care benefits to age 21 for youth in non-related legal guardianships established in juvenile court.

Promotes permanency through exiting juvenile court system into legal guardianship. Non-related legal guardians are eligible to receive foster care payments on behalf of a child in their care.



SSI & FOSTER YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES- TRANSITION PLANNING

- Screen every youth for SSI eligibility between age 16.5 and 17.5
- Make an SSI application on behalf of likely eligible youth
- Assist youth in receiving direct payment or finding payee
- Inform youth of process of maintaining eligibility as adults

Goal to have SSI in place by age 18



AFTER PROBATION, THEN WHAT?

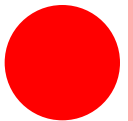
PATHWAYS TO BENEFITS AFTER PROBATION



Probation supervised foster youth(602s) who meet rehabilitative goals and are ready to have delinquency case terminated may qualify for extended foster benefits without being subject to delinquency (602) jurisdiction:

- 450 TRANSITION JURISDICTION (age 17, 5mo.↑)
- 300 DEPENDENCY JURISDICTION (↓ age 18)
- REENTRY age 18 ↑(reenter into 450 status)

WHAT CAN CAREGIVERS DO?



CAREGIVER DO'S



- Consider permanency options early & often
- Discuss Extended Foster Care options with youth at least one year prior to age 18
- Make sure agency screens & applies for SSI, if applicable
- Actively support youth in TILP activities
- “Assist” rather than “Do”
- Respect emerging adult status (privacy, right to make medical decisions etc..)

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Presenters:

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Session 2

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