

AB 1806: PUPIL SERVICES-HOMELESS CHILDREN OR YOUTH

This Assembly Bill was signed into law on September 29th, 2014. It extends some of the protections that were recently issued to foster youth, to homeless youth as well. There are new mandates with regards to partial credit, exemption from LAUSD graduation requirements, and expulsion recommendations for homeless youth. Below are some important highlights of this new law.

Partial Credit Issuance
If a homeless student moves during the middle of the semester, the student shall be issued partial credit for coursework completed.
When partial credit is issued for a specific course, the student shall be enrolled in the same/equivalent course, so they may continue and complete the entire course.
Prohibits requiring students to retake a course if it was satisfactorily completed.
However, homeless students cannot be <i>prevented</i> from retaking a course in order to meet CSU or UC eligibility requirements.
Prohibits requiring students to retake the portion of the course that they already completed, unless the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate from high school. (This determination shall be made in consultation with the student and his/her parent/guardian.)
Exemption from Graduation Requirements
Exempts a homeless student who transfers schools any time after the completion of the student's 2 nd year of high school, from coursework/requirements that are <i>in addition to</i> statewide requirements (unless the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements by the end of their 4 th year of high school).
To determine eligibility for this exemption, for students in their 3 rd or 4 th year of high school, the district may use <i>either</i> the number of credits the student has earned by the date they transferred high schools, <i>or</i> the length of time the student has been enrolled in high school.
Within 30 days of the date that the student may qualify for this exemption, the student (and parent/guardian, if the student is under 18) shall be notified, along with the LAUSD Homeless Liaison.
If a homeless student is exempt from LAUSD graduation requirements before the end of his/her 4 th year in high school, and the student would otherwise be entitled to remain in school, LAUSD cannot <i>require or request</i> that the student graduate before the end of 4 th year of high school.
If the student graduates with reduced requirements, LAUSD shall inform the student of how this will affect admission to postsecondary schools.
The district shall take specified actions if the student is reasonably able to complete LAUSD's graduation requirements within the student's 5 th year of high school. These actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Notifying the student of their option to remain in school for a 5th year. ○ How staying the 5th year will affect postsecondary school admission. ○ Informing the student of transfer opportunities through the CA Community Colleges.
Students who are eligible for the exemption <i>shall not be required</i> to accept the exemption or be denied enrollment.
If a student previously declined the exemption, the student can request the exemption at a <i>later time</i> .
Once accepted, the exemption cannot be revoked.
LAUSD cannot require a homeless student to transfer high schools in order to qualify for the exemption.
Students and/or parent/guardians cannot request to transfer high schools in order to qualify for the exemption.
Expulsion Recommendations
In cases where an expulsion recommendation is at the <i>discretion of the principal</i> , the LAUSD Homeless Liaison shall be notified at least 10 days prior to the expulsion hearing.
In cases where an expulsion recommendation is <i>mandatory</i> , the LAUSD Homeless Liaison may be notified at least 10 days prior to the expulsion hearing.
In cases where an expulsion recommendation is at the <i>discretion of the principal</i> and the student has an IEP, the LAUSD Homeless Liaison shall be invited to the IEP where a manifestation determination is made.