



Home	Bill Information	California Law	Publications	Other Resources	My Subscriptions	My Favorites
------	------------------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------

AB-673 Unaccompanied homeless pupils: Unaccompanied Youth Transitional Housing Program. (2025-2026)

SHARE THIS:  

Date Published: 04/01/2025 09:00 PM

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 01, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 673

Introduced by Assembly Member Jackson

February 14, 2025

An act to add Article 11 (commencing with Section 54810) to Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to pupil services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 673, as amended, Jackson. Unaccompanied homeless pupils: Unaccompanied Youth Transitional Housing Program.

Existing law states the intent of the Legislature to ensure that all pupils in foster care and those who are homeless, as defined, have a meaningful opportunity to meet the challenging state pupil academic achievement standards to which all pupils are held. Existing law requires educators, county placing agencies, care providers, advocates, and the juvenile courts to work together to maintain stable school placements and to ensure that each pupil is placed in the least restrictive educational programs, and has access to the academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all pupils, as provided.

This bill would require the State Department of Education, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services and county offices of education, to administer ~~a competitive grant~~ *grants as part of a pilot* program, to be known as the Unaccompanied Youth Transitional Housing Program, for purposes of ~~providing enabling school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to partner with local nonprofits, as defined, and to offer~~ *5-year grants to fund transitional housing projects for unaccompanied homeless youth, as defined, in the San Joaquin Central Valley, the northern region of California, and in the southern region of California, youth who are 16 and 17 years of age, and would require grant funds to be used for, among other things, referrals to residential facilities with single-occupant units, provision of clothes, nutritious meals, and stipends for public transportation, and educational support services, as specified. The bill would also require funding preference under the program to be given to local educational agencies that partner with nonprofits that demonstrate certain characteristics,* as provided.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. *The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:*

(a) Youth who are experiencing homelessness include those who are runaways or unaccompanied minors, those who have left home for one or more nights or have been told to leave home, as well as those who have been abandoned or deserted. They survive without a trusted guardian or caretaker.

(b) In a 2023 national survey, California reported the largest number of unaccompanied youth, 10,173 people, accounting for more than one-third of all unaccompanied youth nationally.

(c) Local educational agencies, including charter schools, reported 286,853 enrolled homeless pupils for the 2023–24 school year as part of the annual End of Year 3 data submission in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System. Out of this total, 8,831 pupils were unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness. Approximately 74 percent were pupils enrolled in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, and 60 percent identified as Hispanic or Latino, 17 percent identified as White, 10 percent identified as African American, 5 percent identified as two or more races, 3 percent identified as Asian, and 2 percent identified as American Indian or Alaska Native.

(d) Children experiencing homelessness face extensive barriers to academic success. In comparison to their peers, homeless pupils are more likely to be suspended and chronically absent and are less likely to graduate from high school or attend college.

SECTION 1. ~~SEC. 2.~~ Article 11 (commencing with Section 54810) is added to Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 11. Unaccompanied Youth Transitional Housing Program

54810. (a) The department, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services and county offices of education, shall administer ~~a competitive grant~~ *grants as part of a pilot* program, known as the Unaccompanied Youth Transitional Housing Program, for purposes of ~~providing~~ *enabling local educational agencies to partner with local nonprofits and to offer* five-year grants to fund transitional housing projects for unaccompanied homeless youth ~~in one or more counties in the San Joaquin Central Valley, in one or more counties in the northern region of California, and in one or more counties in the southern region of California.~~ *who are 16 and 17 years of age.*

~~(b) As used in this section, "unaccompanied homeless youth" means a minor who is not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian and who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.~~

(b) Eligible uses of grant funds allocated under the program shall include all of the following:

(1) Referrals to a residential facility with single-occupant units that house minors separate from adults.

(2) Provision of clothes, nutritious meals three times per day, and stipends for public transportation.

(3) Educational support services and tutoring provided through an agreement with a local educational agency.

(4) Case management, preemployment and employment training and skill development, independent living, and health support and services.

(5) Subsidies or rental payments for residential facilities.

(c) Funding preference under the program shall be given to local educational agencies partnering with nonprofits that demonstrate the following:

(1) A record of providing effective services to unaccompanied homeless youth.

(2) Longstanding and successful partnerships with residential facilities.

(3) Significant experience working with unaccompanied homeless youth.

(d) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Local educational agency" means a school district, county office of education, or charter school.

(2) "Nonprofit" means a nonprofit public benefit corporation.

(3) "Unaccompanied homeless youth" refers to pupils who have been identified as homeless during the academic year and were not in the direct care of their parent or guardian at any time during that academic year at the selected reporting level.