

Education & Training

Every child in California has the right to a free public education, regardless of whether they are citizens, legal residents, or have no documents. Adults can get education and job training through community colleges, adult schools and Workforce Investment Boards.

► For Children

Children between the ages of 6 and 18 are required by California law to attend school and should do so.

The L.A. County Office of Education offers numerous programs for all family members, including:

- Literacy programs to help students as well as their parents learn to read, and to train parents to help their children learn
- Computer training for parents
- Early Advantage programs for children under age 3
- Head Start and State Preschool programs for children, with literacy classes, job readiness and substance abuse education for adults.

Call your local school district or ☎ (562) 922-6505 County-wide to find out about preschool programs and family literacy programs.

Especially if you are in CalWORKs, call your local elementary school to see if it has an after-school program. These programs feature tutoring in reading, math and language arts and provide snacks for the children.

Homeless Children

Homeless children:

- Do not need a permanent address to enroll in school
- May remain at the same school they attended before becoming homeless, or enroll at the school serving the place they are living temporarily
- Cannot be denied school enrollment just because any documents are not immediately available
- Have the right to participate in school

meals, special education, Title I and any other federal, state or local programs for which they are eligible

- Must be provided transportation if other children get transportation
- Cannot be isolated or separated from the main school environment just because they are homeless.

These special rights under federal McKinney-Vento law apply to all children and teens without a fixed, regular adequate residence **including** if you are staying with friends or relatives because you lost your housing, you are waiting for foster placement, or you are living in any kind of shelter, car, motel, campground, abandoned building, garage, or similar place.

► For Adults

Hundreds of organizations in LA County offer help in job training. Beware of private employment agencies that charge you fees for finding a job, and private trade schools that advertise and recruit you. Many give low quality training at high tuition, and encourage you to pay the tuition with expensive student loans that can ruin your credit if you can't repay them.

There are good, free and low cost training alternatives:

1. Workforce Investment Boards

Workforce Investment Board (WIB) offices use government money to help you with job training and placement. These offices each provide grants to fund community based jobs programs and can help you get placed in one.

City-wide: ☎ (800) 367-2562.

www.lacity.org

County-wide: ☎ (213) 738-2598

www.worksource.california.com

2. Community Colleges

East LA ☎ (323) 265-8650

www.elac.cc.ca.us

Harbor ☎ (310) 533-4000

www.lahc.cc.ca.us
L.A. City ☎ (323) 953-4000

www.lacity.edu

L.A. Mission ☎ (818) 364-7600

www.lamission.edu

L.A. Pierce ☎ (818) 347-0551

www.pierce.college.edu

L.A. Southwest ☎ (323) 241-5225

www.lasc.cc.ca.us

L.A. TradeTech ☎ (213) 744-9500

Valley ☎ (818) 781-1200 www.lavc.edu

West L.A. ☎ (310) 287-4200 www.wlac.edu

Antelope Valley (Lancaster)

☎ (661) 722-6300 www.avc.edu

Cerritos (Norwalk) ☎ (562) 860-2451

www.cerritos.edu

Citrus (Glendora) ☎ (626) 963-0323

www.citruscollege.edu

College of the Canyons (Santa Clarita)

☎ (661) 259-7800 www.canyons.edu

Compton ☎ (310) 900-1600

www.compton.edu

El Camino (Torrance) ☎ (310) 532-3670

www.elcamino.edu

Glendale ☎ (818) 240-1000

www.glendale.edu

Long Beach City ☎ (562) 938-4111

www.lbc.edu

Moorpark ☎ (805) 378-1400

www.moorparkcollege.edu

Mount San Antonio (Walnut)

☎ (909) 594-5611 www.mtsac.edu

Pasadena ☎ (626) 585-7123

www.pasadena.edu

Rio Hondo ☎ (562) 692-0921

www.riohondo.edu

Santa Monica ☎ (310) 434-4000

www.smc.edu

3. Adult Schools

For information about adult schools:

- L.A. Unified School District ☎ (213) 62-LEARN (213-625-3276),
- L.A. County Office of Education ☎ (562) 922-6111, or
- The public school in the community nearest you can give you information about job training, ESL (English as a Second Language) and GED classes.

4. Other Job Training:

- AmeriCorps ☎ (800) 942-2677 (California AmeriCorps info) www.americorps.org
- Job Corps (ages 16 to 24) ☎ (213) 741-5376 www.jobcorp.org