Migratory and Youth Student Rights Policy

America’s Finest Charter School wants all our students to successfully finish high school and go onto college or career training.

Students in foster care, homeless students, former juvenile course students and students from military families who transfer between schools any time after the completion of the pupil’s 2nd year of high school are exempt from all locally adopted coursework and requirements that are supplemental to statewide coursework requirements. The amended law extends these provisions to migratory students and newly arrived immigrant students.

An eligible pupil who transfers after their second year of high school shall be notified of their eligibility to be exempt from all coursework and other requirements adopted by the governing board of the school district that are in addition to the statewide coursework requirements, unless the school district makes a finding that the youth is reasonably able to complete the additional requirements within 4 years of high school.

Any graduation requirements that are in addition to the California Department of Education (CDE) requirements (e.g., additional course completion, service-learning requirements, or the requirement of a grade above a D, etc.) do not apply to youth graduating under the circumstances listed above.

Notwithstanding any other law, America’s Finest Charter School shall accept coursework satisfactorily completed by a pupil in foster care, a pupil who is a homeless child or youth, a former juvenile court school pupil, a pupil who is a child of a military family, a pupil who is a migratory child, or a pupil participating in a newcomer program while attending another public school, juvenile court school, charter school, school in a country other than the United States, or a nonpublic, nonsectarian school or agency even if the pupil did not complete the entire course and shall issue that pupil full or partial credit for the coursework completed. Partial credits must be honored.

1. Migratory Students

The child is not older than 21 years of age and the child is entitled to a free public education (through grade 12) under state law. The child is not yet at a grade level at which the LEA provides a free public education. The child made a qualifying move in the preceding 36 months as a migratory agricultural worker or a migratory fisher or did so to join a parent/guardian or spouse who is a migratory agricultural worker or a migratory fisher. The child moved due to economic necessity from one residence to another residence and from one school district to another or moved in a state that is comprised of a single school district. The student may have moved from one administrative area, or to another district or resides in a school district of more than 15,000 square miles and migrates. However, only those children who are between the ages of three and 22 (i.e., have not had a 22nd birthday) are counted for state funding purposes.
2. Newcomers

Newcomers are foreign-born EL students who have been enrolled in a U.S. school for three years or less. If a pupil participating in a newcomer program is exempted from local graduation requirements pursuant to this section, the exemption shall continue to apply after the pupil no longer meets the definition of a “pupil participating in a newcomer program” while he or she is enrolled in school or if the pupil transfers to another school, including a charter school, or school district. This is purposely broad because time in a newcomer program should be based on the student’s needs, which look different for each newly arrived immigrant student. The goal is to ensure that their academic and transitional needs are met and that they develop English language proficiency.

3. Military Families and students in foster care, homeless students and former juvenile course students

Military Families and students in foster care, homeless students and former juvenile course students will be identified during student enrollment. AFCS will look at their high school transcripts and identify students who transferred between schools any time after the completion of the pupil’s 2nd year of high school.