

How to ensure unaccompanied youths have opportunities in school & access to higher education?

10)...unaccompanied youths are enrolled in school, have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youths, are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) (20 U.S.C. 1087vv), and their right to receive verification of this status from the local liaison.

- Unaccompanied youth must be **informed of their status as independent students** for college financial aid for the FAFSA.
- More info on FAFSA and sample verification letters are available at:
<http://www.naehcy.org/educational-resources/higher-ed>
- Liaisons must ensure that unaccompanied youth are enrolled in school and that procedures are implemented to **identify and remove barriers that prevent them from receiving credit for full or partial coursework** satisfactorily completed at a prior school, in accordance with State, local, and school policies.