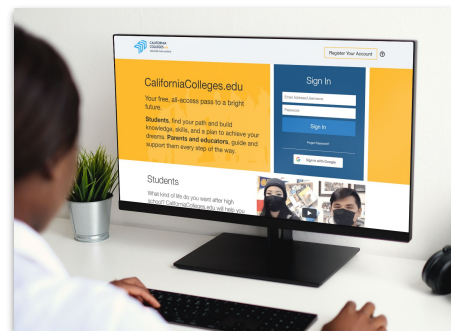


### About CaliforniaColleges.edu

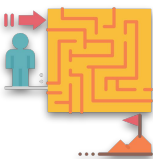
CaliforniaColleges.edu, the State of California's official college and career planning platform, is managed by the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI). Founded in 2013, CCGI is an equity-focused nonprofit that seeks to:

- ▶ Ensure that all California high school seniors graduate with a plan for life after high school.
- ▶ Simplify and streamline college and financial application processes.
- ▶ Provide K-12 educators and postsecondary systems with the data they need to make accurate and timely decisions that impact student success.



### What We Are Trying to Solve

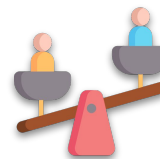
Students and parents, particularly those in underserved communities, face numerous hurdles throughout the journey from K-12 to postsecondary education. These include:



**California-specific** college and financial aid processes are often **complex**, especially for students from underserved communities.



**Counselor-to-student ratio** is **1:509**—**more than twice** the recommended ratio of 1:250, making it difficult to provide individualized attention to student needs.



**Persistent equity gaps** in access to information about college and career, “a-g” completion rates, college matriculation, and financial aid uptake.



**Enrollment** at California State Universities (CSUs) and California Community Colleges (CCCs) has **declined** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>1</sup>



California “ranks **number one across the nation in unused aid**, leaving the most Pell Grant dollars on the table due in part to **low financial aid application completions**.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Smith, A. A. (2022, November 23). Pandemic impact continues at Cal State with fall 2022 enrollment decline. EdSource. Retrieved January 4, 2023, from <https://edsources.org/2022/pandemic-impact-continues-at-cal-state-with-enrollment-decline-for-fall-2022/681687>.

<sup>2</sup> The Education Trust-West. (2022). All In For Financial Aid. Implementation Resources. Retrieved January 4, 2023, from <https://west.edtrust.org/all-in-for-financial-aid/>.

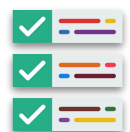
## How CaliforniaColleges.edu Provides Solutions

CaliforniaColleges.edu helps to solve the aforementioned problems through:



### Streamlining and simplifying college and financial aid processes.

"I used CaliforniaColleges.edu for everything college-related. It helped me find what career I was interested in and what major I'd need to get there. I was able to research colleges and find which ones offered the program I needed. I even used it to launch my college applications and my FAFSA." — Katrina Cating, Heritage High School



### Making it easier for students and educators to track "a-g" completion.

"[Before CaliforniaColleges.edu], we were still doing things with paper, pencil, and relying upon that because in our own systems, things wouldn't show correctly ... the tools weren't accurate. That's where I appreciate [CaliforniaColleges.edu], [because] it has pushed us not only to clean up our data, but [also] ... identified for us exactly where those mistakes were so we could easily go back and correct, versus having to go find the problem ourselves." — Eddie Nolan, Kings Canyon Unified School District



### Providing educators with data to target interventions.

"[CaliforniaColleges.edu] not only supports students success academically ... it's a tool for people that are in the trenches—that's your teachers, that's your counselors, that's your administrators—to be able to support the initiatives that you have in your district [and] ensure your students are college and career ready." — Lisa Castillo, Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified School District



### Providing higher education institutions and the California Student Aid Commission data to inform key decisions about admissions, placement, guidance, financial aid and supportive services.

"Data from CaliforniaColleges.edu ... can be very helpful in really advancing our equity student success work, because ... we can do the targeted outreach directly to those students [who need help navigating] the process of matriculation ... helping them to identify their programs of study, their careers, their courses get them enrolled. Without that support, those students are left to navigate those systems on their own." — Tenisha James, Norco College



### Provides user friendly lessons and tools on a single platform that students can use to manage through all steps of the planning and college/financial aid application process.

"It's a built-in user-friendly system. I was able to click on it with the students. We did it together. We did those first two modules, which took 20 minutes. Our students often comment, "That was easy," and that's really the best commentary that we can get." — Melina Gonzalez, Perris Union High School District

## Learn More

Interested in learning more about CaliforniaColleges.edu?

- ▶ For general information about the platform, visit the [californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/](https://californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/).
- ▶ For more information about CCGI's purpose and function, see [Ed Code section 60900.5](#)
- ▶ To learn more about the presence of these tools in your legislative district or problems that they can help to address, contact [Executive@californiacolleges.edu](mailto:Executive@californiacolleges.edu).