Leveraging California Colleges.edu to Advance Equity Work

Ed Trust West Equity Forum

September 24, 2024





California College Guidance Initiative

Who We Are

- Manager of CaliforniaColleges.edu, the State of California's free and official college and career planning platform.
- A legislatively-authorized service provider to all California school districts (<u>California Education Code</u> 60900.5).
- A crucial component of California's Cradle to Career Data System, as established by AB 132.

Who We Are Not

A vendor or a grant-funded program.

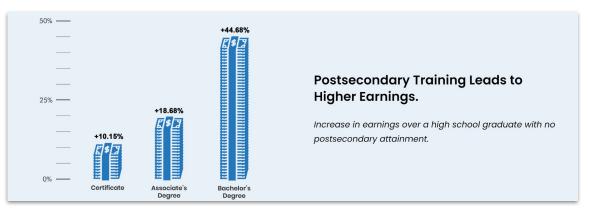




Differential Access & Outcomes

While we know that post-secondary education results in higher lifetime earning, we also know that:

- Students from higher-income backgrounds are more than twice as likely to earn a bachelor's degree than their lower-income peers.
- ► The vast majority of low-income Latinx and African-American students never attend a 4-year college.





Reflection

What can be done to disrupt to persistent disparities in postsecondary enrollment among low-income, students of color?





Our Three Big Goals

CaliforniaColleges.edu is a 6th-12th grade college and career guidance platform and data infrastructure which can be used to close equity gaps by:

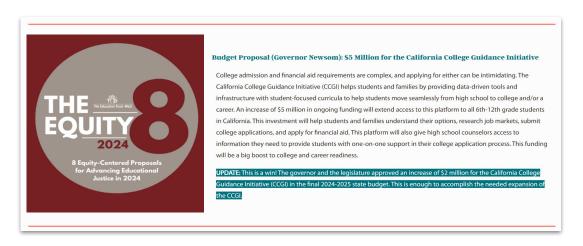
- 1. **Systematizing college and career knowledge development** and access to high quality information for all 6-12th public school students.
- 2. **Streamlining the college and financial aid application process** for students and the educators supporting them.
- 3. **Providing educators with the data they need** to:
 - a. Monitor student progress and provide targeted interventions to move the needle on college and career readiness, eligibility, application and enrollment rates.
 - b. Inform high stakes decisions about admissions, placement, advising, financial aid, and supportive services as students transition to college.



Ed Trust West – The Equity 8

Each year, the Ed Trust-West analyzes proposals for the state budget and new legislation and identifies the top eight opportunities to advance educational equity and justice:

In 2024, the Equity 8 included proposed investments in the California College Guidance Initiative to extend access to all 6-12th grade public school students in California.





Why has California Invested in a Common Platform?

Key Facts:

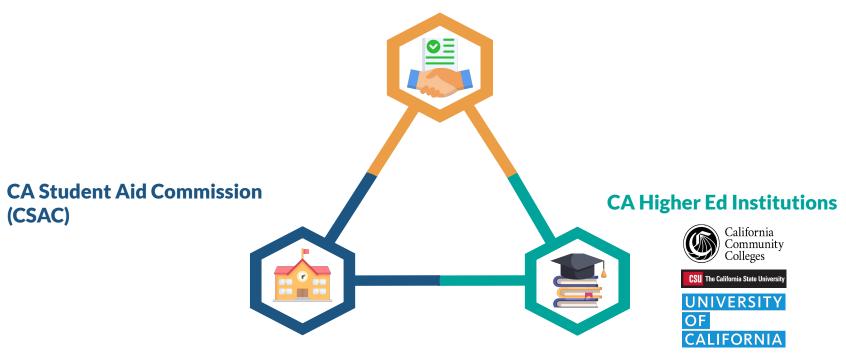
- ▶ 80% of K-12 students in California stay in-state for training and education after high school.
- ▶ 56% of high school seniors did not meet A-G requirements for CSU or UC admission in 2023.
- Students have to navigate California-specific processes and therefore need California-centric tools and resources.
- Districts likewise need tools to support implementation of policies and investments aimed at increasing student success.





We Connect California Systems

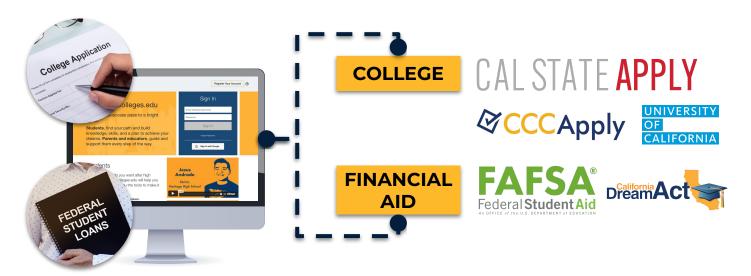
CA Public School Districts/LEAs





Unique Tools for California

CaliforniaColleges.edu features integrations with all three of California's public higher education systems (CCC, CSU, UC) and the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC).





Our Role in the Cradle-to-Career Data System

CaliforniaColleges.edu is a crucial component of the C2C Data System tools

In 2021, the enactment of AB 132 outlined specific steps in order to implement the Cradle-to-Career (C2C) Data System and realize its objectives, including:

- Making California Colleges.edu tools and services <u>free</u> to all California school districts serving 6-12th grade students , with a goal of full participation by 2026.
- Designating CaliforniaColleges.edu as the preferred starting point for all applications to California public colleges (CCC, CSU, UC), FAFSA, and CADAA.

Visit the Cradle-to-Career Website





Scaling CCGI

Significant work has been done since 2021 to bring CaliforniaColleges.edu to all 6-12th grade public school students in California:

- ▶ **Fall 2024**: A data-sharing agreement executed between CCGI and the California Department of Education (CDE) leverages Calpads data to bring at least the **Basic account** features of CaliforniaColleges.edu to all 6th-12th grade public school students.
- ► California Education Code 60900(f)(3) now requires that all LEAs that enroll 9-12 grade students enter into a data sharing agreement with CCGI by **January 2026** in order to bring **Transcript-informed accounts** to students.



Basic Accounts

Students with Basic Accounts are able to use many of the tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu:

- Students with Basic accounts have access to:
 - Career Assessments & Exploration
 - College & Major Search tools
 - Financial Aid Lessons
 - Ability to launch applications to California's systems
- Students with Basic accounts cannot:
 - View their progress towards meeting CSU or UC eligibility requirements
 - Import verified course data into their applications.





Statutory Requirements

Under Ed Code Section 60900.5, the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) is charged with:

- 1. Developing college, career and financial aid lessons and tools, that facilitate college and career planning for students in Grades 6-12, families and the educators serving them.
- 2. Ensuring all 9th-12th grade students have transcript-informed accounts on CaliforniaColleges.edu.
- 3. Pre-populating applications to the CCC, CSU and UC systems with students' SSID, course and grade information.
- 4. Providing final transcripts to the public higher education systems and transcript level data to CSAC.



Transcript-Informed Accounts

Partner Districts have a formal data-sharing agreement (MOU) with CCGI in order to bring their high school transcript data to CaliforniaColleges.edu.

- More than 70% of California's high school students are enrolled in a school district that has already partnered with CCGI.
- Our Partner Districts include more that 265 school districts that serve more than 1.3 million 9th-12th grade students in California.

▼ See who our Partner Districts are

californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/ list-of-partner-districts/





Partner Districts

Partnership with CCGI allows for full access to the tools of CaliforniaColleges.edu.

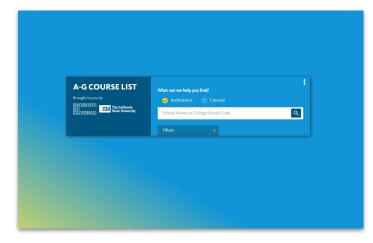
- ► Transcript-Informed Accounts for students, which include:
 - California Community Colleges (CCC) Tool which helps students to identify the 5 CCCs closest to their high school and to learn more about program options.
 - **CSU and UC Eligibility Tools** that allow students to see their progress towards meeting the minimum requirements for admission to a CSU and UC.
 - The ability to import verified transcript data to their Cal State Apply application and UC Application.
- **Enhanced Educator Reporting** to support ongoing progress monitoring and intervention.
- ▶ **A-G Alignment Support** for districts to ensure that students get correct A-G credit for high school courses and grades in their college applications.



A-G Alignment Support

The Course Management Portal (CMP) is where all California districts and/or their schools manage their public-facing "A-G Course List"

- ► The approved course list from the CMP is what determines which courses fulfill an A-G subject area for the purpose of CSU and UC admissions processes.
- CaliforniaColleges.edu uses the official CMP course list for each school to verify the transcript data shared by the district/LEA from it's Student Information System (SIS).
- When course information contained in the CMP does not match how course records are recorded in a district's SIS and on student's transcripts, it may impact CSU and UC admissions eligibility.





Technical Assistance

CCGI provides technical assistance help to LEAs to ensure that courses indicated as fulfilling A-G requirements match the Course Management Portal.

- ► California Education Code 60900(g) requires that LEAs maintain at least a 90% rate of alignment between A-G coursework, as listed in the local SIS, and how those courses are registered in the UC Course Management Portal A-G course list.
- CCGI has a dedicated Technical Assistance team to support districts in improving their CMP match rate.
- ► CaliforniaColleges.edu reporting features help educators in partner districts to identify and resolve issues with their CMP list that may impact eligibility for students:
 - Academic Report: Which district courses are flagged as A-G but do not match against the CMP?

The Tools of CaliforniaColleges.edu





The Tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu

The State of California's <u>free</u> and official college and career planning platform

We provide <u>students</u> with:



We provide <u>educators</u> with:

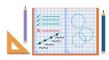




One Place for College and Career







MAP OUT YOUR FUTURE Tools to Plan, Set Goals, and Record Progress



BUILD YOUR
KNOWLEDGE
College, Career, and
Financial Aid Lessons



INTENTIONAL EDUCATOR
INTEGRATIONS
Reporting Tools to Inform
Student Support

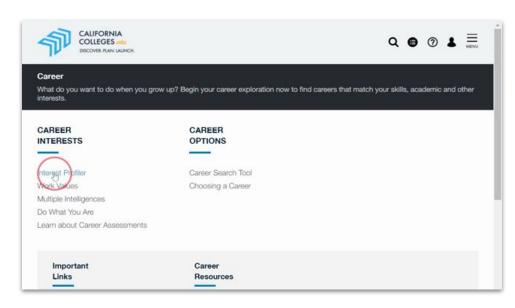


Career Assessments

Our Career Assessments can help students identify their values, interests, learning styles, and personalities and learn how they can connect to fulfilling careers.

Our assessments include:

- Interest Profiler (All Students)
- Learning & Productivity (Middle School Students)
- Intelligences (High School Students)
- Personality (High School Students)
- Skills (High School Students)
- Work Values Survey (High School Students)



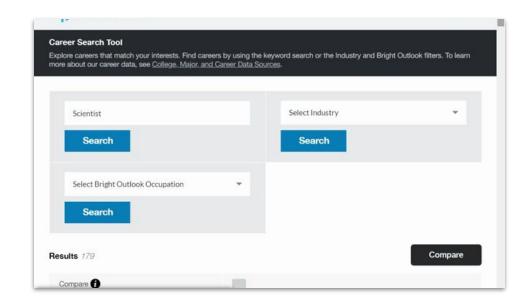


Career Exploration

Our Career Search Tool helps students find the right career path by figuring out what they want to be and what it will take for them to get there.

CaliforniaColleges.edu allows students to:

- Explore careers that match their interests.
- See what kind of pay and growth potential jobs offer.
- Tie career assessment results to career pathways, majors, and colleges.
- Understand what education and skills they will need to pursue their career of choice.



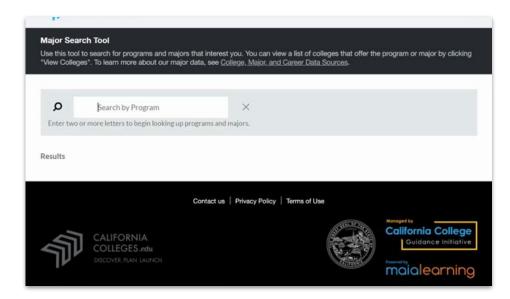


College and Major Search Tools

Our College and Major Search Tools allow students to find what majors will help them achieve their career goals and what colleges best meet their needs.

Our **Major Search Tool** allows students to discover programs and majors that interest them, learn more about what they involve, and find colleges that offer them.

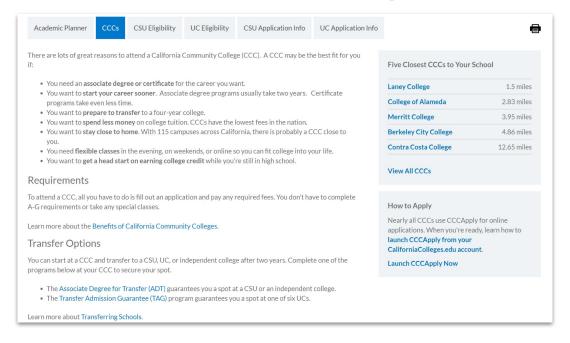
Our College Search Tool helps students find the best colleges in California and across the country, based on the factors that matter most to them.





California Community Colleges

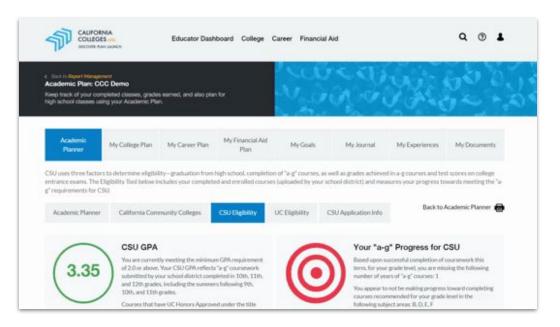
Students in Partner Districts see a list of the 5 CCCs closest to their school, with easy links to learn more about each campus and transfer options.





CSU and **UC** Eligibility Tools for Students

Students in Partner Districts can use CSU and UC Eligibility Tools to continuously progress monitor their GPA and "a-g" eligibility.

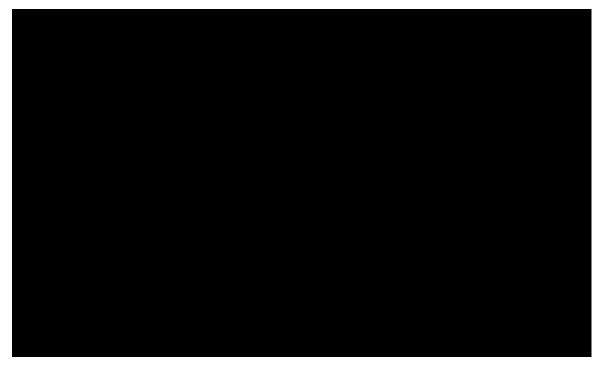


Demonstration





The Financial Aid Tools



vimeo.com/997820877



Launching Applications

Students can launch applications to California's financial aid and public higher education systems –

- ▶ 116 California Community Colleges
- 23 California State University campuses
- 9 University of California campuses
- FAFSA or CADAA

...all in one place.





Why Launch from CaliforniaColleges.edu?



CAL STATE APPL'





Start from a Trusted Source:

Minimize students' guesswork and exposure to unofficial websites









Connect Data:

SSID linking helps facilitate identity matching between systems to smooth the process for students









Stay Informed:

Track the status of student applications and submissions









Save Time and Minimize A-G Errors:

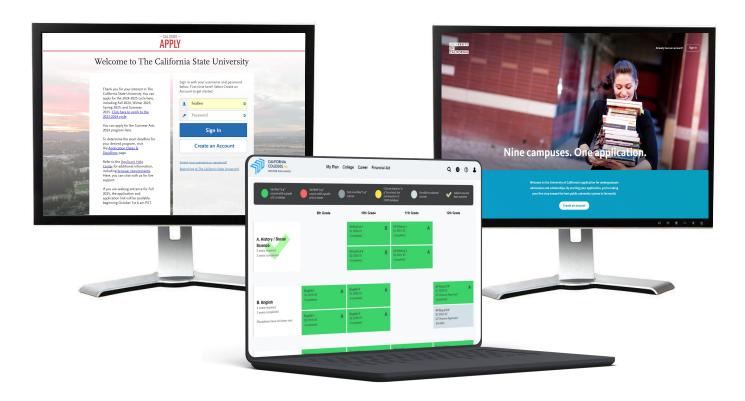
Import transcript courses and grades directly into students' applications







Importing Verified Transcript Data

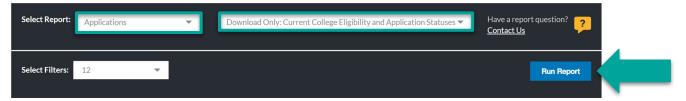




Data-Informed Decision Making

District educators can view application statuses to all CCC, CSU and/or UC campuses – updated nightly - and Financial Aid application status

► The "Download Only: College Eligibility and Application Statuses" report offers a single, downloadable file to help educators identify students for intervention and/or opportunities:



- Filter this report in multiple ways to answer questions, such as:
 - Which students have an eligible CSU or UC GPA, but have not applied?
 - Which students have applications in progress, but not yet submitted?
 - Which students have not applied to any segment?
 - Which students have applied to a specific campus?
 - Which students have not completed FAFSA or CADAA?



A Student & Educator View



https://vimeo.com/607591317

Javier & Yvonne

Student & Educator



A Review: Features of California Colleges.edu



A One-Stop Shop for Students and Educators

Everything in one place, from a student's first career exploration in 6th grade to college and financial aid applications in 12th grade.



Designed for California Students

The platform moves with students within the state, and unique integrations with the CCC, CSU, UC, and CSAC systems streamline the college application process.



Intentional Educator Integrations

Timely educator reports help K-12 educators provide universal student support, identify targeted interventions, and meet statewide standards.



Tailored Support for Districts

Individualized partnership and training designed to meet your district's individual needs and goals.



Reflection

How can the tools of CaliforniaColleges.edu be leveraged to advance equity work within California's educational systems?



Oakland Unified School District

Vinh Trinh

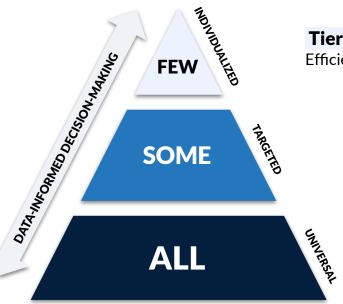
Manager, Master Scheduling and Comprehensive Student Supports





Within a MTSS Framework

CaliforniaColleges.edu can be leveraged to support Tier 1 learning for all students, while increasing efficiency and ability for educators to strategically intervene with those who need support at Tier 2 and 3.



Tier 3 - Intensive Interventions

Efficiencies at Tier 1 and 2, free time for educators to provide 1:1 support.

Tier 2 - Targeted Interventions

Educator tools and reports on CaliforniaColleges.edu allow for targeted interventions with individuals or groups of students.

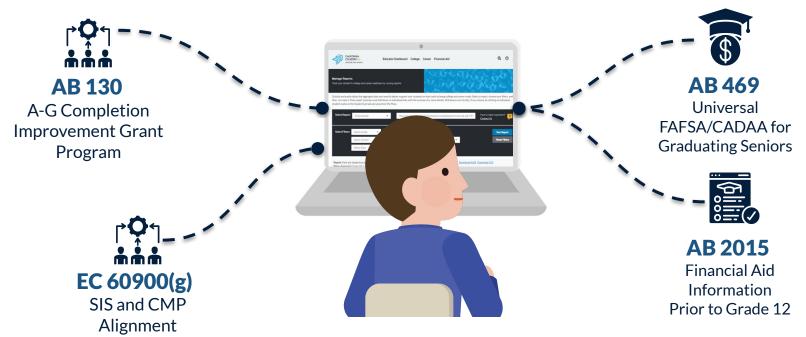
Tier 1 - Universal Interventions

CaliforniaColleges.edu is the state's official college and career planning platform, designed for all 6th-12th grade students.



Implementing Equity-Focused State Policies

Districts can use the data and reporting tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu to support successful implementation of equity-focused state policies.





What about Dual Enrollment?

- ▶ Dual Enrollment (DE) refers to college courses taken while in high school. The do not appear on the high school "A-G Lists" in the CMP, as these are college courses.
- DE courses can be used to meet CSU and UC eligibility requirements.
- ▶ DE courses must be manually entered into college applications, but students and educators may be unfamiliar with which college courses are recognized as meeting which A-G requirements.
- Our goal is for students DE courses to be included on students records in CaliforniaColleges.edu, in order to:
 - More accurately represent CSU/UC Eligibility
 - Integrate college coursework into the application integrations with public colleges
 - Deliver a unified final transcript at the point of high school graduation



New Ed Code (Summer 2024)

The following subsections of code is a <u>policy anchor</u>, which establish CaliforniaColleges.edu as the <u>future state infrastructure</u> for the work outlined below:

EDC § 48800(c) A pupil shall receive credit for community college courses that the pupil completes at the level determined appropriate by the governing boards of the school district and community college district. Using available funding apportioned to the community college district pursuant to Section 84750.4, the governing board of the community college district shall report the pupil's completed courses and grades received through eTranscript California, also referred to as "eTranscriptCA," for purposes of enabling the uniform integration of the pupil's completed courses and grades received into the pupil's universal and electronic high school transcript that is housed on the **CaliforniaColleges.edu** platform.

The implementation timeline for the code section above is not yet determined, but the opportunity and intent is clear.



Moving Forward



CONSIDER

Consider how a district's efforts to leverage CaliforniaColleges.edu supports the work you do with students.



CONNECT

Consider connecting with your points of contact to learn about how they are leveraging CaliforniaColleges.edu.



LEARN

Continue to learn about CaliforniaColleges.edu via our Resource Hub.



Check Out the Resource Hub

The CaliforniaColleges.edu Resource Hub contains ondemand resources, including step-by-step tutorials for each of our student-facing tools

Visit

californiacolleges.edu/ resourcehub/resources/





A Partner Student Account allows you to use all of the tools available to students on CaliforniaColleges.edu. If you're enrolled in of our Partner Districts, then you should already have a Partner Student Account created for you. You will need to register your account before you can access CaliforniaColleges.edu.



Partner Districts have established a formal data-sharing agreement with California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI), which makes it possible for your school district to securely upload your transcript data into CaliforniaColleges.edu.

Student Tools Tutorials

Our interactive tutorials give you step-by-step instructions for how to use and navigate the student tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu. To access the tutorials, simply click on the dark blue bars below for the type of resource you're looking for. This will expand each section and allow you to see the different tutorials we have available to help you explore the platform. Clicking on the "Start the Tutorial" button will launch the tutorial in a new tab/window on your browser.

Interactive Tutorials Guide	+
Managing Your Student Account	+
Career Assessments	+
Career, College, and Major Exploration Tools	+
College and Career Planning Tools	+
College Application Tools	+
Financial Aid Tools	+



Not Yet a Partner?

California districts/LEAs that serve 9th-12th grade students are required to enter into a data-sharing agreement with CCGI by January 2026 (per EDC § 60900).



To learn about bringing CaliforniaColleges.edu to your district, visit: californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/partnership/



Share your interest and enthusiasm about CaliforniaColleges.edu with your district leader and/or partnership decision-maker.



When your LEA is ready to explore partnership, <u>Contact Us</u> at <u>www.californiacolleges.edu/#/contact-us</u>

Questions?



Thank You!



