

# The California College Guidance Initiative

## CSU San Marcos Superintendents Breakfast

March 28, 2024



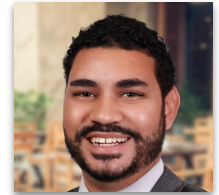
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The Official College & Career Planning  
Platform of the State of California



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# California College Guidance Initiative

## Who We Are

- ▶ **Manager of CaliforniaColleges.edu**, the State of California's official college and career planning platform.
- ▶ A **legislatively-designated**, authorized service provider to all California school districts ([California Education Code 60900.5](#)).
- ▶ A crucial component of **California's Cradle-to-Career Data System**, as established by AB 132.

## Who We Are Not

- ▶ A vendor.
- ▶ A grant-funded program.





# Our Role in the Cradle-to-Career Data System

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

AB 132 outlines specific steps in order to implement the Cradle-to-Career (C2C) Data System and realize its objectives, which include:

- ▶ Making CaliforniaColleges.edu tools and services **free to all California school districts serving 6-12th grade students**, with a goal of full participation by June 30, 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](#)



"It's on us to make it easy for students to navigate education and job choices.

The Cradle-to-Career system provides the data and support infrastructure that will make it possible for every California student to thrive."

— Governor Gavin Newsom





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# The Tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu



The State of California's official college and career planning platform

We provide students with:



Career Exploration

College and Major Search

CSU and UC Eligibility Tools

Financial Aid Lessons

College and Financial Aid  
Application Integrations

We provide educators with:



Data Alignment Support

"a-g" Progress Monitoring

College and Financial Aid  
Application Tracking

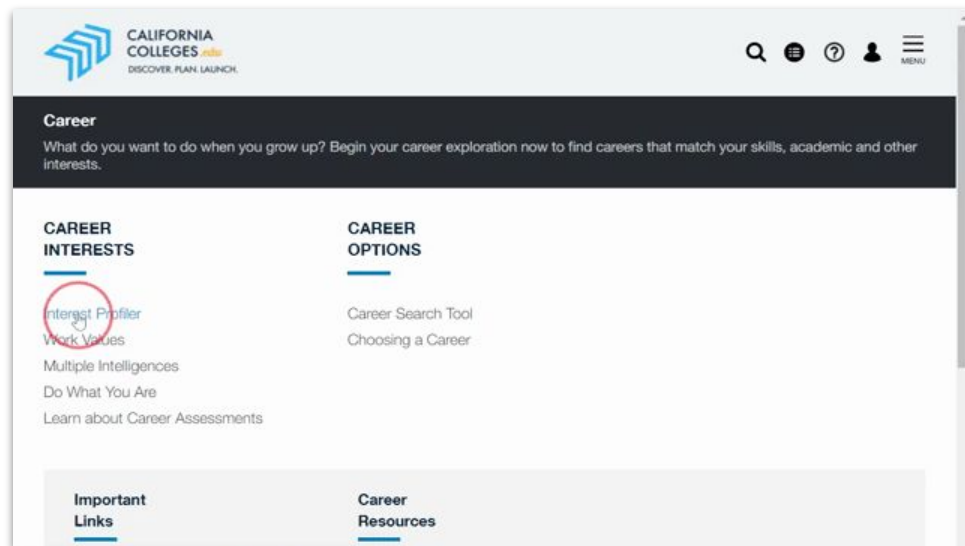
Reporting Tools  
to Support Timely and  
Intentional Intervention

# 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 Search Tool

**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.

**Career Search Tool**  
Explore careers that match your interests. Find careers by using the keyword search or the Industry and Bright Outlook filters. To learn more about our career data, see [College, Major, and Career Data Sources](#).

Scientist

Select Industry

Select Bright Outlook Occupation

Results 179

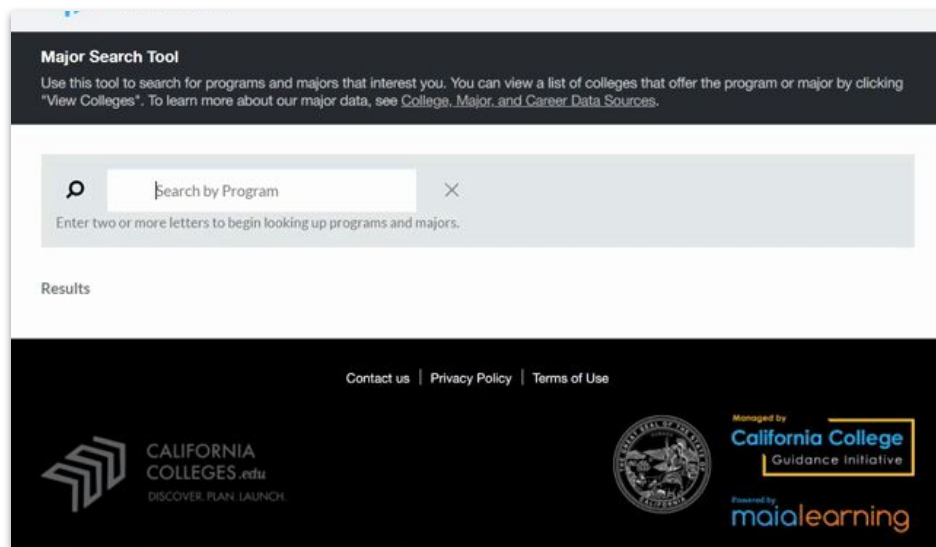
Compare

# 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.



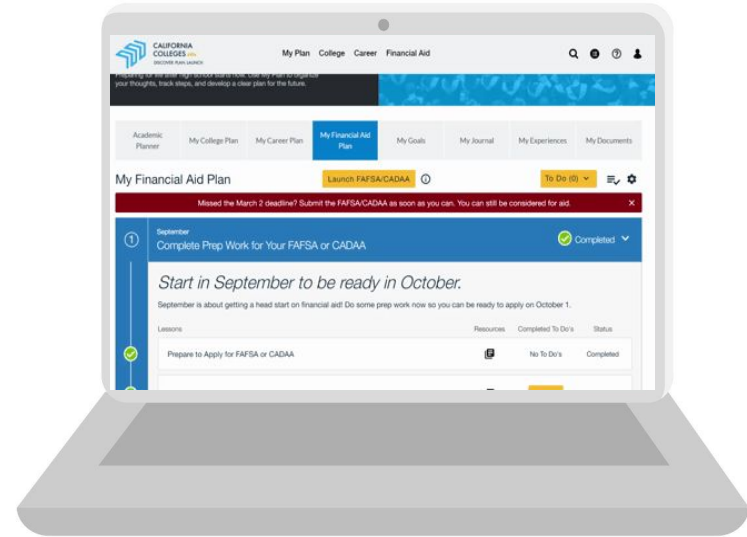
The screenshot shows the 'Major Search Tool' interface. At the top, it says 'Major Search Tool' and provides instructions: 'Use this tool to search for programs and majors that interest you. You can view a list of colleges that offer the program or major by clicking "View Colleges". To learn more about our major data, see [College, Major, and Career Data Sources](#).' Below this is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon on the left and a close 'X' icon on the right. The placeholder text is 'Search by Program'. Below the search bar, it says 'Enter two or more letters to begin looking up programs and majors.' Underneath the search bar is a section labeled 'Results'. At the bottom of the interface, there are links for 'Contact us', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Terms of Use'. The footer includes the California Colleges.edu logo, the California State Seal, and logos for 'Managed by California College Guidance Initiative' and 'Powered by maialearning'.



# Financial Aid Tools

Our Financial Aid Tools offer a sequence of lessons that can be used with students to learn about the cost of college and how financial aid can help to pay for it.

In **Grade 12**, the lessons help students prepare for FAFSA/CADAA, launch their FAFSA or CADAA application, and walk them through the steps to secure aid.







# 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.

The screenshot displays the 'Academic Planner' section of the California Colleges.edu website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Educator Dashboard', 'College', 'Career', and 'Financial Aid'. Below this, a header area includes the site logo and a 'Back to Expert Management' link. The main content area features a row of tabs: 'Academic Planner' (selected), 'My College Plan', 'My Career Plan', 'My Financial Aid Plan', 'My Goals', 'My Journal', 'My Experiences', and 'My Documents'. A paragraph explains that CSU uses three factors to determine eligibility: graduation from high school, completion of 'a-g' courses, and grades achieved in 'a-g' courses and test scores on college entrance exams. Below this, there's a row of buttons: 'Academic Planner', 'California Community Colleges', 'CSU Eligibility' (selected), 'UC Eligibility', and 'CSU Application Info', with a 'Back to Academic Planner' link on the right. The 'CSU Eligibility' section shows a 'CSU GPA' of 3.35, indicating the user is meeting the minimum requirement of 2.0 or above. It also shows 'Your "a-g" Progress for CSU', noting that the user is missing the required number of 'a-g' courses (1) and is not making progress toward completing recommended courses in specific subject areas (B, D, E, F).

California Colleges.edu

Educator Dashboard College Career Financial Aid

Back to Expert Management

Academic Planner: CCC Demo

Keep track of your completed classes, grades earned, and also plan for high school classes using your Academic Plan.

Academic Planner My College Plan My Career Plan My Financial Aid Plan My Goals My Journal My Experiences My Documents

CSU uses three factors to determine eligibility—graduation from high school, completion of “a-g” courses, as well as grades achieved in a-g courses and test scores on college entrance exams. The Eligibility Tool below includes your completed and enrolled courses (uploaded by your school district) and measures your progress towards meeting the “a-g” requirements for CSU.

Academic Planner California Community Colleges CSU Eligibility UC Eligibility CSU Application Info Back to Academic Planner

**CSU GPA**

3.35

You are currently meeting the minimum GPA requirement of 2.0 or above. Your CSU GPA reflects “a-g” coursework submitted by your school district completed in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, including the summers following 9th, 10th, and 11th grades.

Courses that have UC Honors Approved under the title

**Your “a-g” Progress for CSU**

Based upon successful completion of coursework this term, for your grade level, you are missing the following number of years of “a-g” courses: 1

You appear to not be making progress toward completing courses recommended for your grade level in the following subject areas: B, D, E, F

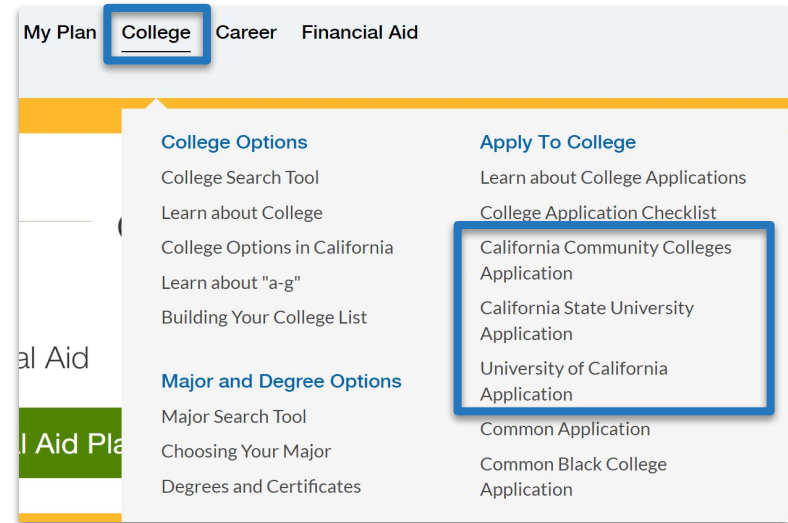


# Launching College Applications

Students can launch applications to all of California's public higher education systems –

- ▶ **116** California Community Colleges
- ▶ **23** California State University campuses
- ▶ **9** University of California campuses

...all in one place.





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# What is CaliforniaColleges.edu?

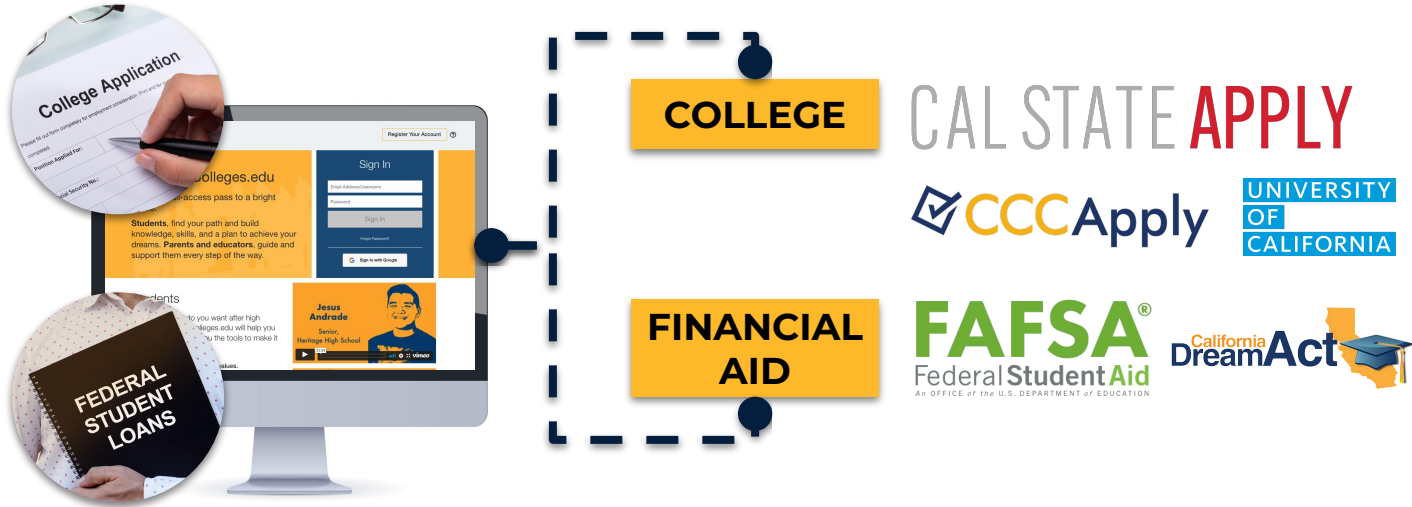




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# Uniquely Designed for California

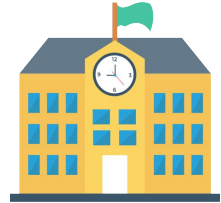
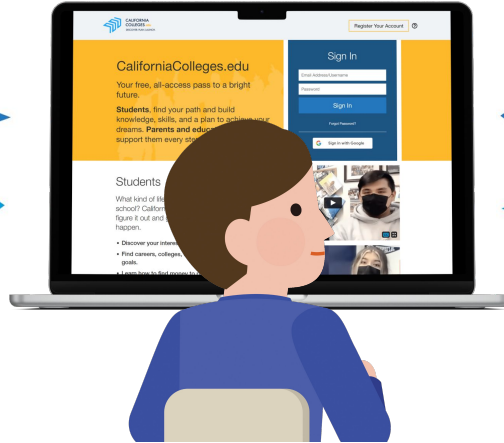
- ▶ **We partner with K-12 districts** to bring high school transcript data to CaliforniaColleges.edu.
- ▶ **We connect California systems**, including integrations with all three public higher education systems (**CCC, CSU, UC**) and the California Student Aid Commission (**CSAC**).



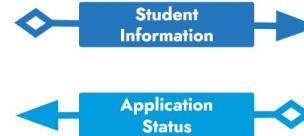
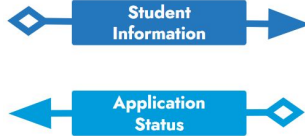


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# Connecting California's Systems



Partner District



- California State University
- California Community College
- University of California

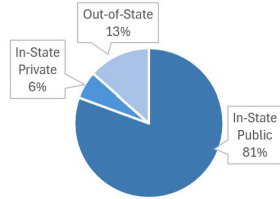




# Why It Matters

**Most California high school students will attend a California public higher education institution.**

Local Counties: High school completers enrolled in college



■ In-State Public ■ In-State Private ■ Out-of-State

According the most recent [DataQuest College-Going Rate report](#), **81% of high school completers** from local counties who **enrolled in college** did so **at a UC, CSU or CCC**.

Name	High School Completers	High School Completers Enrolled in College	Enrolled In-State				Enrolled Out-of-State	
			University of California	California State University	California Community College	Private 2- and 4-Year College	4-Year College (Public/Private)	2-Year College (Public/Private)
Riverside	30,491	16,998	2,454	2,520	8,803	1,241	1,698	282
Imperial	2,616	1,985	117	106	1,606	21	86	49
San Diego	35,624	23,744	3,328	4,055	11,448	1,261	3,385	267

Filters Enabled:

College Enrollment Timeframe: 16 Months



# Partnership With CCGI

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

Unique features for Partner Districts include:

- ▶ **“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.
- ▶ **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 (beginning Fall 2024).



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# CCGI Partner Districts

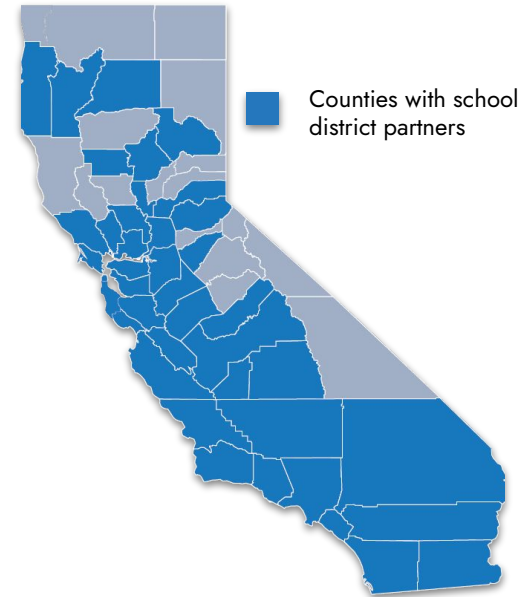
**More than 50% of California's high school students are enrolled in a school district that has partnered with CCGI.**

Our Partner Districts include over **200 school districts** and serve more than **1 million 9th-12th grade students** in California.

And each year, our Partner list continues to grow!

▼ **See Who Our Partner Districts Are** ▼

[californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/list-of-partner-districts/](https://californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/list-of-partner-districts/)







# CCGI Districts in the San Marcos Local Service Area

► **Partner**    ► **Data Onboarding**    ► **Non-Partner**

## Riverside County

- Hemet Unified School District
- Lake Elsinore Unified School District
- Murrieta Valley Unified School District
- Temecula Valley Unified School District
- Val Verde Unified School District

## Imperial County

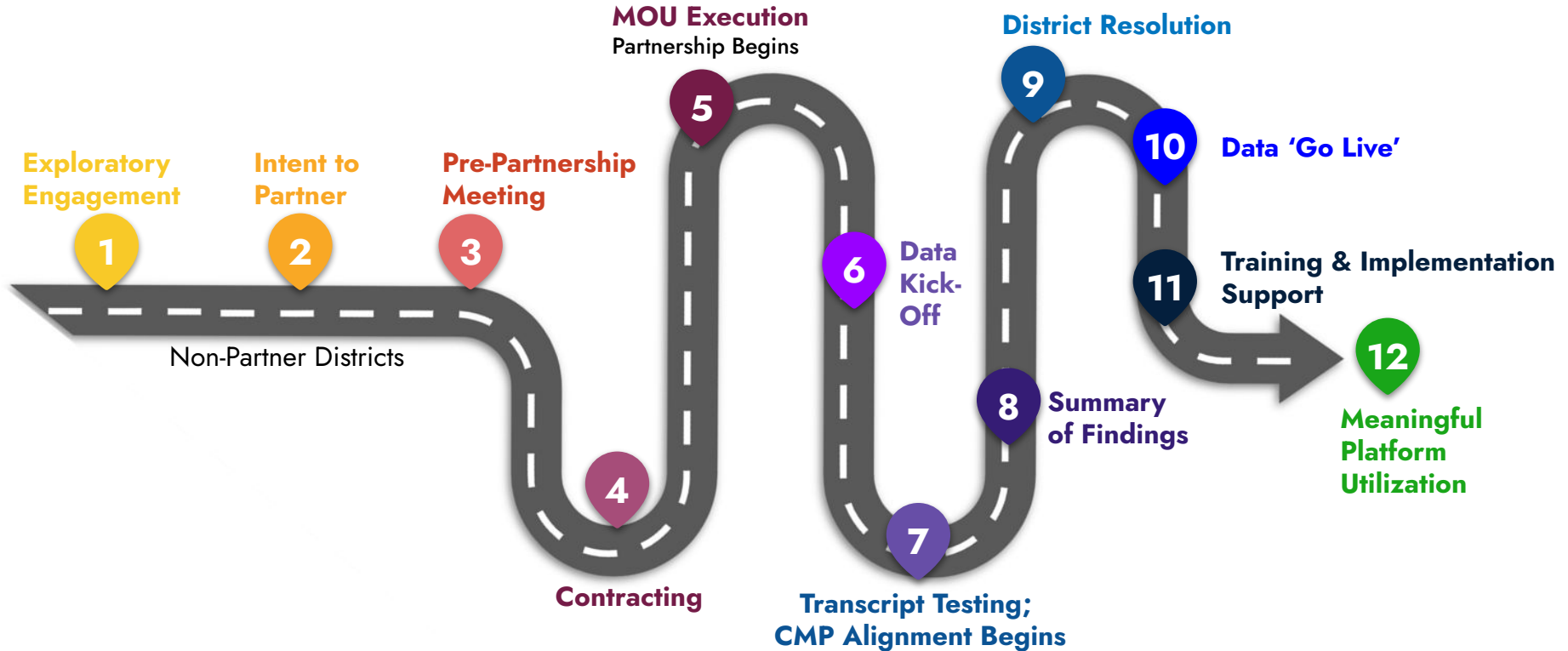
- Calexico Unified School District
- San Pasqual Valley Unified School District

## San Diego County

- ▷ Bonsall Unified School District
- ▷ Carlsbad Unified School District
- Escondido Union High School District
- ▷ Fallbrook Union High School District
- Oceanside Unified High School District
- ▷ Poway Unified High School District
- ▷ Ramona Unified School District
- San Dieguito Union High School District
- San Marcos Unified School District
- ▷ Valley Center - Pauma Unified School District
- Vista Unified School District



# District Partnership Roadmap





# Partner District: Data Onboarding

5

**MOU  
Execution**

Once the MOU is fully executed and received by CCGI, the District is officially our partner.

6

**Data  
Kick-Off  
Meeting**

**CCGI** leads meeting with District to walk them through the data onboarding process and technical requirements.

7

**Transcript  
Testing;  
CMP Alignment  
Begins**

**District** provides data files and PDF transcripts. **CCGI** reviews the files against the transcripts and the CMP, then works with the **District** team to refine data files and improve CMP match

8

**Summary of  
Findings**

**CCGI** schedules meeting with district to review the Transcript Testing Summary, which surfaces remaining high priority action items.

9

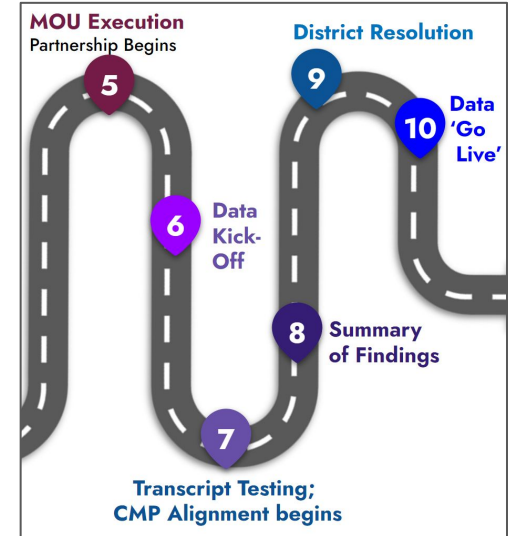
**District  
Resolution**

**District** works to address remaining findings, such as CMP mismatch and data items. **CCGI** provides continued technical assistance and data support.

10

**Data  
'Go Live'**

**District** confirms they are ready to push data into Production. **CCGI** confirms CMP match rate and Go Live Date and turns on the tools.





# Data Onboarding Team

## Leadership Team

A cross-functional team that sets goals and drives progress based on data analysis.

## Point-of-Contact (POC)

Oversees partnership efforts and focuses on strategy development, execution, educator support, and logistics.

## Data Lead

Works on data files, establishes regular upload routines, and collaborates with colleagues in necessary updates in the SIS.

## CMP Lead

Works to ensure necessary updates are made to the UCOP CMP “a-g” list.





# When Data is “Live/In Production”

## Students Can:

- ▶ View their coursework in the CSU and UC Eligibility Tools.
- ▶ Import high school courses and grades into their Cal State Apply and/or UC Application.
- ▶ Launch and track their applications to any of California’s higher education system campuses and FAFSA/CADAA.

## Educators Can:

- ▶ Access reporting features to monitor students progress and maintain “a-g” alignment.
- ▶ Track student applications statuses by CCC, CSU, and UC campus, as well as FAFSA/CADAA.
- ▶ Use data to provide targeted intervention and support.

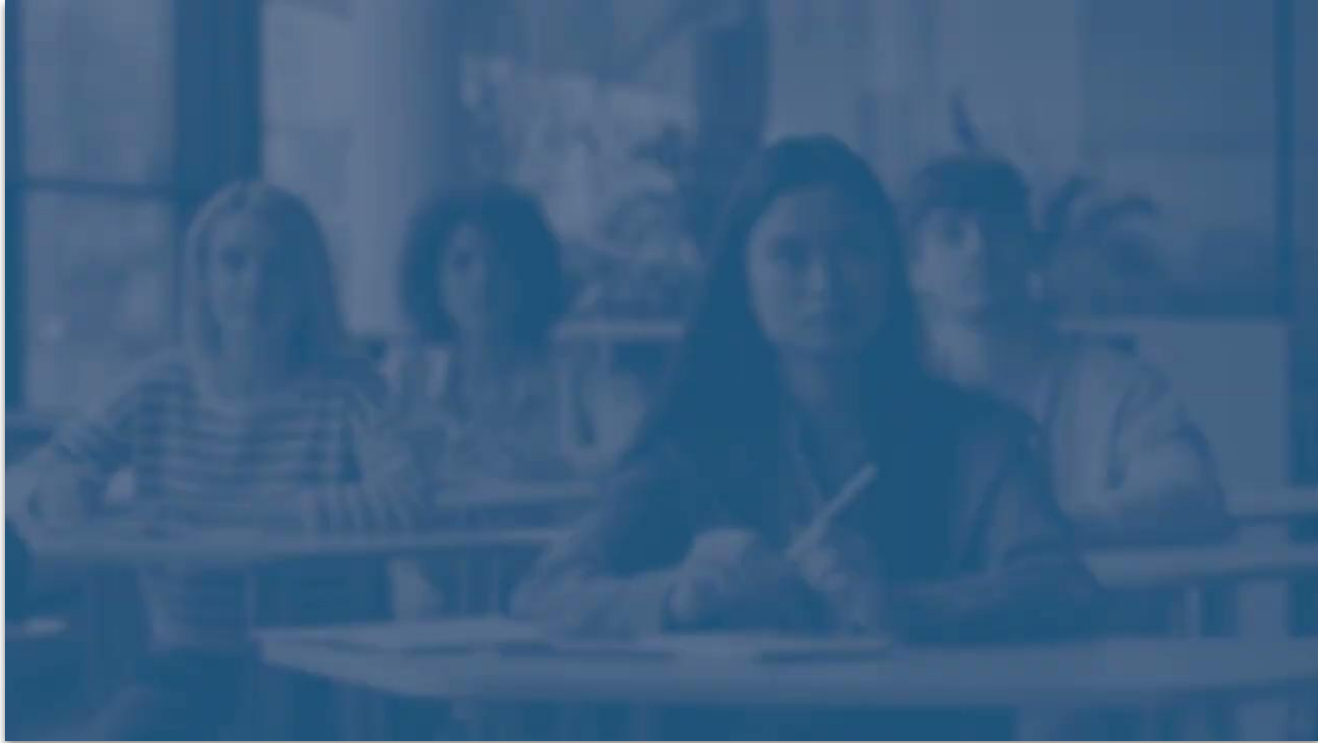


**Student accounts, and the schools they are associated to, are updated by your district files for your sites in partnership.**



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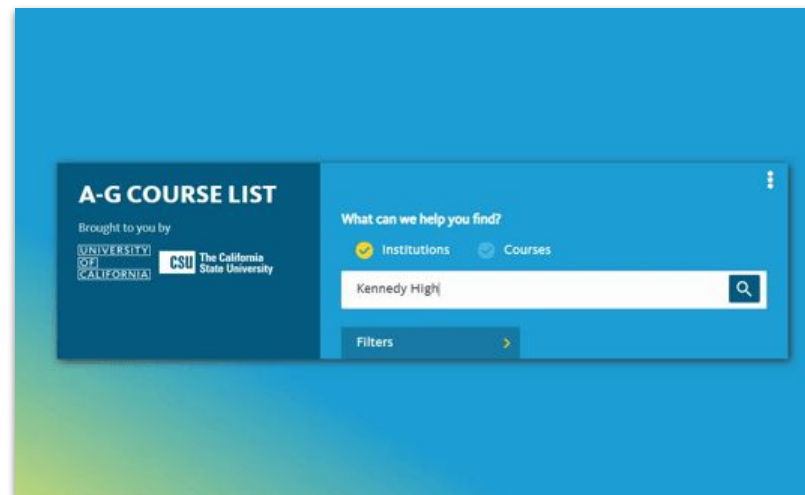
# A Partner District Example



# “a-g” Alignment Support

**CaliforniaColleges.edu matches the course grade records provided by school districts against the Course Management Portal (CMP).**

- ▶ The CMP course list is what determines which courses fulfill an “a-g” subject area.
- ▶ CaliforniaColleges.edu uses the official CMP course list for each school to **verify the transcript data** shared by districts.
- ▶ CaliforniaColleges.edu helps educators identify and resolve issues with their CMP list that may impact eligibility for students:
  - ▶ CaliforniaColleges.edu Report: Which district courses are flagged as “a-g” but do not match against the CMP?





# What is “a-g” Misalignment?

**“a-g” misalignment occurs when the way a course is listed in a district’s SIS doesn’t align with the way it is listed in the Course Management Portal (CMP).**







# CMP “a-g” Matching Criteria

Data Element	To Verify/Confirm	Matching Requirement
<b>County-District-School (CDS) Code OR College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) Code</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ CDS Code Example: 01928778780987</li><li>▶ CEEB Code Example: 050387</li></ul>	<b>Where</b> the course was taken	Same School
<b>Academic Year</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Example: 2023-2024</li></ul>	<b>When</b> the course was taken	Same Year
<b>Subject Area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Example: A, B, C, D, E, F, G</li><li>▶ Non A-G = Z</li></ul>	<b>Which</b> subject area the course is approved under	Same Subject Area
<b>Local Course ID OR Transcript Abbreviation</b> <p>The system will look for Course ID first, but if there is no match, it will look at Transcript Abbreviations. Please keep in mind transcript abbreviations are an EXACT match. Course IDs are case sensitive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Local Course ID Example: 1200A</li><li>▶ Transcript Abbreviation Example: English 9</li></ul>	<b>What</b> specific course was taken	Same Local Course ID or Transcript Abbreviation

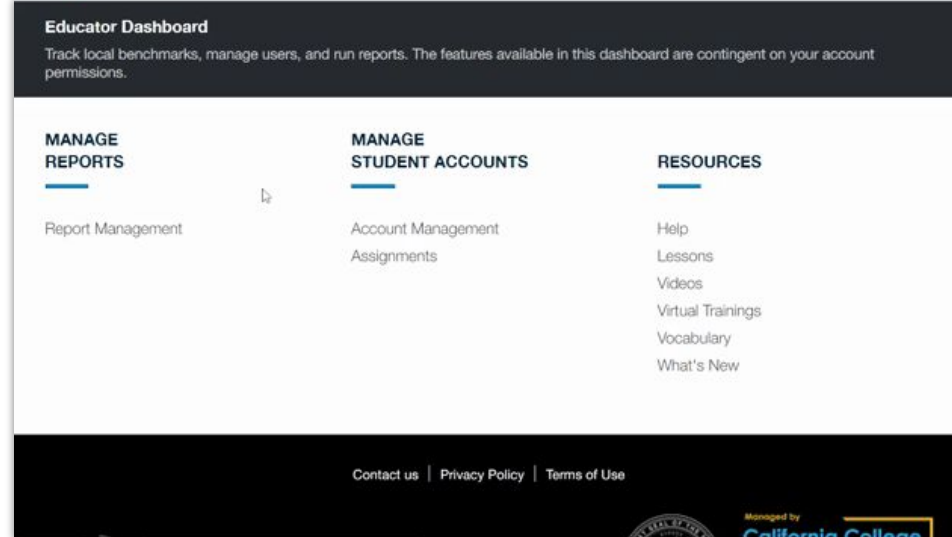


# CMP Alignment Report

**Partner Districts can view their CMP alignment and which in and out of district courses are not matching to the CMP through the Educator Dashboard.**

## How to Run Reports:

- ▶ Select **Category:** Academic Report
- ▶ Select **Name:** Which district courses are flagged “a-g” BUT do not match against CMP?
- ▶ Click **Run Report.**





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# CMP-Verified Courses and Grades in CaliforniaColleges.edu

https://www.californiacolleges.edu

Academic Planner California Community Colleges **CSU Eligibility** UC Eligibility CSU Application Info

Verified "a-g" course with a grade of C- or better Verified "a-g" course with a grade of D or lower Enrolled or planned courses Subject area has been satisfied

<b>C. Mathematics</b> 4 years recommended 3 years required 3.5 years completed  Higher level courses have satisfied some lower courses.	MATH I A S1 2020-21 Completed C	MATH II A S1 2021-22 Completed D	OLR MATH I B SS2 2021-22 Completed C	MRWC A S1 2023-24 Enrolled
		MATH II B S2 2021-22 Completed C	MATH III A S1 2022-23 Completed B+	
			MATH III B S2 2022-23 Completed A	



# Validation for CMP-Verified Courses

https://www.californiacolleges.edu

Academic Planner | California Community Colleges | **CSU Eligibility** | UC Eligibility | CSU Application Info

**Verified "a-g" course with a grade of C- or better** | **Verified "a-g" course with a grade of D or lower** | **Enrolled or planned courses** | **Subject area has been satisfied**



<b>C. Mathematics</b> 4 years recommended 3 years required 3.5 years completed  Higher level courses have satisfied some lower courses.	MATH I A S1 2020-21 Completed	<b>C</b>	MATH II A S1 2021-22 Completed	<b>D</b>	OLR MATH I B SS2 2021-22 Completed	<b>C</b>	MRWC A S1 2023-24 Enrolled
			MATH II B S2 2021-22 Completed	<b>C</b>	MATH III A S1 2022-23 Completed	<b>B+</b>	
					MATH III B S2 2022-23 Completed	<b>A</b>	

**In this example, a Grade of D in Math IIA has been validated by higher level courses and grades.**



# Courses That Are Not CMP-Verified

Courses in **yellow** are those where the district indicates the course as meeting an “a-g” subject area, but the course **cannot be verified** against the CMP.

	 Not a verified "a-g" course	 Course listed as "a-g" by school, but not found in UC CMP database
<b>Additional Coursework</b> Unmatched "a-g" Courses Other High School Graduation Requirements Community College Preparatory Courses CTE Pathways Courses	Health Ed S1 2020-21 Completed	A+
	History of Rock S1 2020-21 Completed	A
	*PE 1 S2 2020-21 Completed	A+



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# Cal State Apply Course Import



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# CaliforniaColleges.edu Course Import to Cal State Apply

What It Does	What It Does NOT Do
<b>Saves time:</b> Can <u>significantly reduce</u> the time required to complete Cal State Apply applications.	It does <b>NOT</b> replace the need to review all course records for accuracy prior to Cal State Apply application submission.
<b>Reduces errors:</b> Verifies high school course records against the CMP and pre-populates that information into a Cal State Apply application.	
<b>Supports intentional review:</b> Allows counselors and college access staff to identify and focus time and energy on students records that are the most complex.	It does <b>NOT</b> replace the need for counselors and/or college access staff to support students.



# School-Level and District-Level Data

To view the status of all applications (CCC, CSU, and/or UC) connected to CaliforniaColleges.edu, use the following reports—updated nightly—located in the Educator Dashboard:

- ▶ Which students are eligible, but have not yet applied?
- ▶ Which students have applications in progress, but not yet submitted?
- ▶ What campuses have students applied to?
- ▶ Which students have not applied to any segment?

The screenshot shows the Educator Dashboard interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the California Colleges.edu logo, the text 'Educator Dashboard', and links for 'College', 'Career', and 'Financial Aid'. Below this is a search bar and a user profile icon. The main content area has a dark background. On the left, there is a 'Select Report:' dropdown menu with 'Applications' selected. To the right of this is a search bar containing the text 'What are students' current college eligibility and application status?'. A red arrow points to this search bar. Below the search bar is a 'Select Filters:' dropdown menu with '12' selected. At the bottom right, there is a blue button labeled 'Run Report'.





# Implementing Equity-Focused State Policies

Districts can use the data and reporting tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu to make it easier to implement and comply with equity-focused state policies.



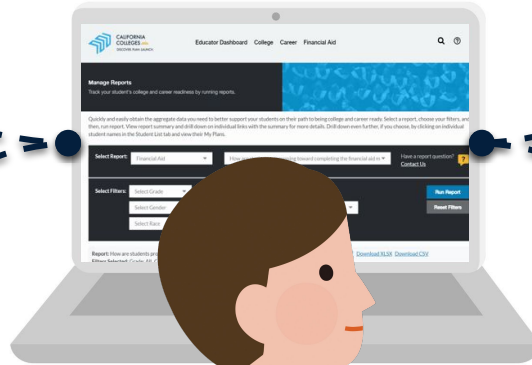
**AB 132**

Cradle-to-Career  
Data System



**AB 130**

A-G Completion  
Improvement Grant  
Program



**AB 469**

Universal FAFSA/CADAA  
for Graduating Seniors



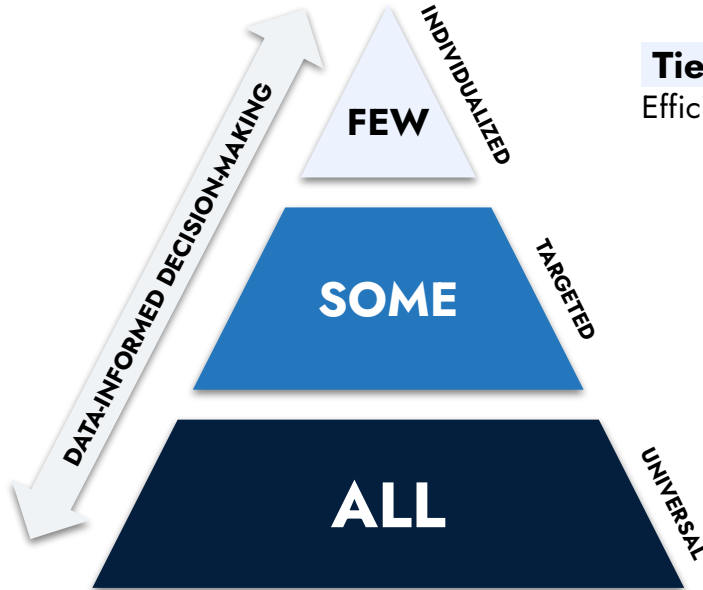
**AB 2015**

Financial Aid Information  
Prior to Grade 12



# 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.



# Alignment to District Goals and Priorities

**Through strategic implementation, CaliforniaColleges.edu can support with:**

- ▶ Expanding career/college exploration and knowledge for all students.
- ▶ Increasing “a-g” completion for high school students.
- ▶ Reducing the burden on students when applying to college through CMP course alignment.
- ▶ Increasing college application support and completion for all students.
- ▶ Increasing CSU and UC application support and completion for CSU/UC-eligible students.
- ▶ Expanding awareness of financial aid and increasing financial aid completion.

**How do these align to your site/district goals, priorities or initiatives?**

**LCAP**



**SPSA**

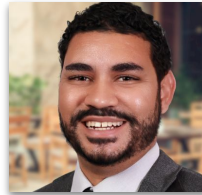


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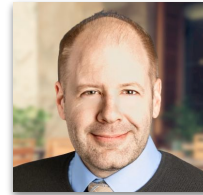
# Implementation Support

**CCGI has team members dedicated to serving Riverside, San Bernardino, Imperial, and San Diego Counties:**

Our **Engagement and Implementation** team leads outreach, training and implementation support for CaliforniaColleges.edu.



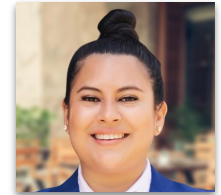
**Julian  
McDaniels**  
Director



**Chris Dech**  
Senior Manager



**Shardai  
Zaragoza**  
Senior Manager



**Kat Zevallos Pastor**  
Senior Training  
Manager

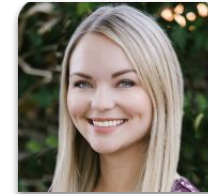
Our **Data Services** and **Technical Assistance** teams help districts bring their data files to CaliforniaColleges.edu and support CMP alignment.



**Shannon  
Bilton-Terrell**  
District Data Support  
Analyst



**Carmen Harris**  
District Data  
Support Analyst



**Cheyenne Zamora**  
Technical Assistance  
Manager



**Christine Cortez**  
Technical Assistance  
Manager

# Questions?



CALIFORNIA  
COLLEGES.*edu*



The Official College & Career Planning  
Platform of the State of California



# Appendices

- ▶ **[Introducing CaliforniaColleges.edu](#)** — View this joint announcement from the California Department of Education, California Cradle-to-Career Data System, University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges, and California Student Aid Commission.
- ▶ **[California Education Code 60900.5](#)** — Review the Ed Code that names CCGI as an authorized provider of an institutional service to all California public school districts and that outlines the role of CaliforniaCollege.edu in the state's work to make college-going a more streamlined experience for students.
- ▶ **[AB 132 and the Cradle-to-Career Data System](#)** — Learn about AB 132 and the role of CaliforniaColleges.edu in the California Cradle-to-Career Data System.
- ▶ **[The California College Guidance Initiative](#)** — Learn more about the work and mission of CCGI, our partnerships, and team members.
- ▶ **[CCGI Newsroom](#)** — See where our work has been featured by local, state, and national media outlets, as well as numerous studies and reports that feature our approaches and impact.

# Additional Resources



**Get On-Demand Training on How to Use CaliforniaColleges.edu**  
[californiacolleges.edu/#/virtual-trainings-partner-districts](https://californiacolleges.edu/#/virtual-trainings-partner-districts)



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**Contact Us Directly for Assistance**  
[californiacolleges.edu/#/contact-us](https://californiacolleges.edu/#/contact-us)





**Thank You!**