

Advancing Equitable Postsecondary Outcomes Using CaliforniaColleges.edu

California Association of School Counselors Conference

October 24, 2024



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The State of California's Official
College and Career Planning Platform

Today's Presentation



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Welcome & Introductions



Lisa Andrews
MSW, M.Ed, M.S., PPS
Lead School Counselor in
Residence



Julian McDaniels
Director, Engagement & Implementation
Inland Empire & San Diego



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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 ([California Education Code 60900.5](#)).
- ▶ A crucial component of **California's Cradle to Career Data System**

Who We Are Not

- ▶ A vendor or a grant-funded program.





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The California Standards



"The revised California School Counseling Standards is a powerful framework that centers the role of school counselors in advancing equity for all students."

- Tessa Carmen De Roy, president
The California College Guidance Initiative



Standard 3: School Counseling Domains

THE CALIFORNIA STANDARDS
FOR THE SCHOOL COUNSELING PROFESSION

The Standards: Standard Three

3

STANDARD THREE
SCHOOL COUNSELING DOMAINS:
Academic, Postsecondary, and Social Emotional Development
Encompasses Academic, Postsecondary, and Social Emotional Development, fostering a balanced and holistic approach to student development.



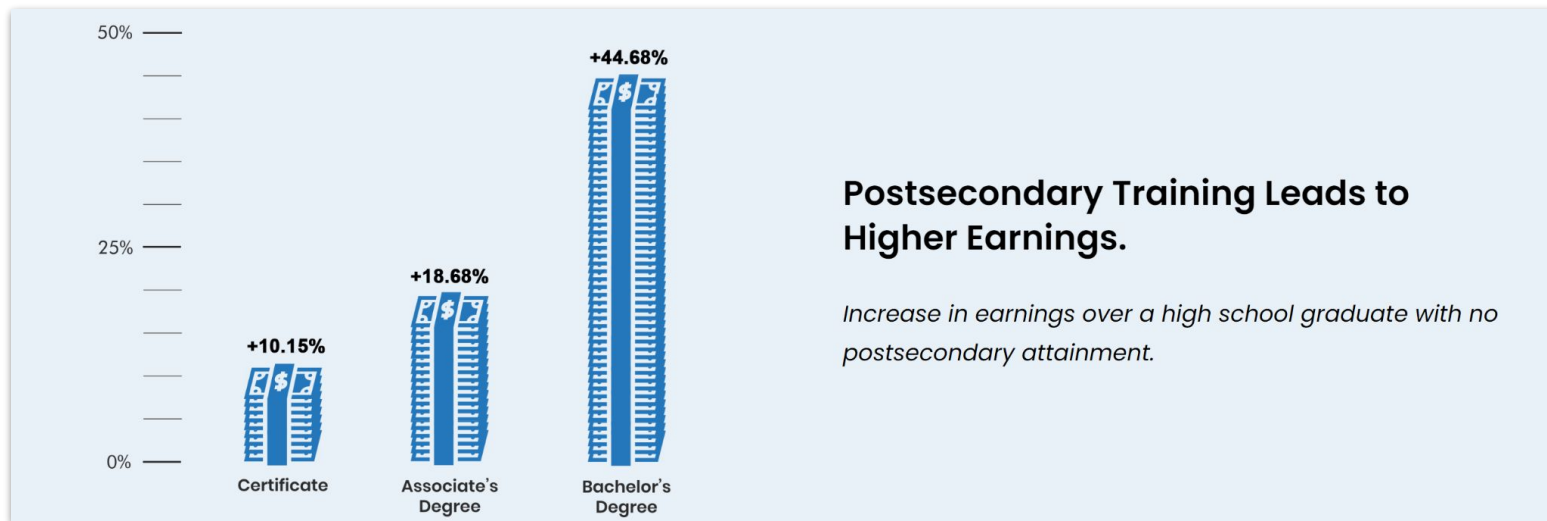
Today's Focus: Element 3B

ELEMENT 3B: POSTSECONDARY DEVELOPMENT - Effective school counselors work within a **cradle to career** support system. In a scope and sequence frame, they educate students at all grade levels and prepare students to access various **postsecondary options** and provide comprehensive information regarding **career pathways** and **financial aid** to support **informed decision making**. Additionally, they educate students and caregivers on the sequential steps needed to prepare for **admission into postsecondary institutions** and **workforce opportunities**.



The Impact of Postsecondary Education

Research shows that postsecondary education is strongly correlated to higher lifetime earning:

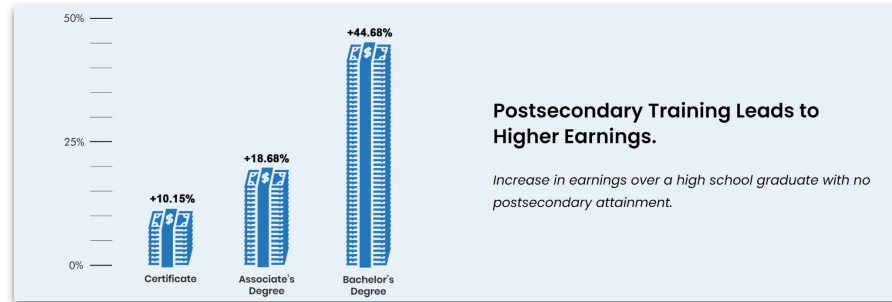




Differential Access & Outcomes

According to the Higher Education and Economic Opportunity in California report:

- ▶ 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.





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Discussion

**How can School Counselors help
to advance equitable outcomes
for students in the
postsecondary domain?**





CCGI: 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 monitor student progress and provide targeted interventions to move the needle on college and career readiness, eligibility, and application and enrollment rates.

Accounts for All Students

All 6-12th grade public school students have accounts on CaliforniaColleges.edu.

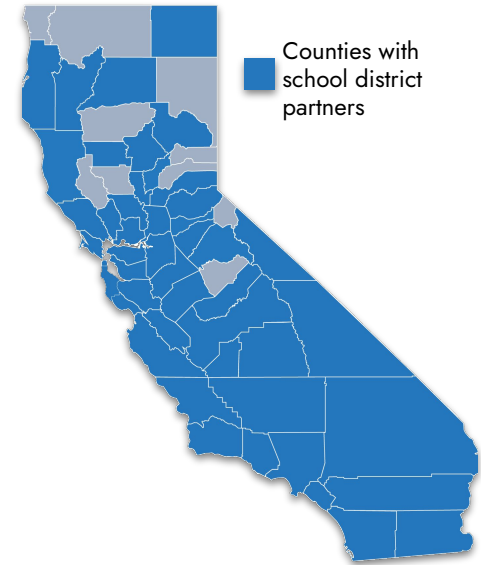
- ▶ In 2021, with the enactment of AB 132, CaliforniaColleges.edu tools and services were made free to all California school districts serving 6-12th grade students.
- ▶ Beginning in Fall 2024, a data-sharing agreement between CCGI and the California Department of Education (CDE) leverages Calpads to create Basic Accounts so that all students have access to the baseline college, career, and financial aid knowledge development tools of CaliforniaColleges.edu.
- ▶ [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.



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 public high school** students are enrolled in a school district that has partnered with CCGI.
- ▶ Our Partner Districts include more than **300 school districts** that serve more than **1.3 million 9th-12th grade students** in California public schools.



▼ See who our Partner Districts are ▼

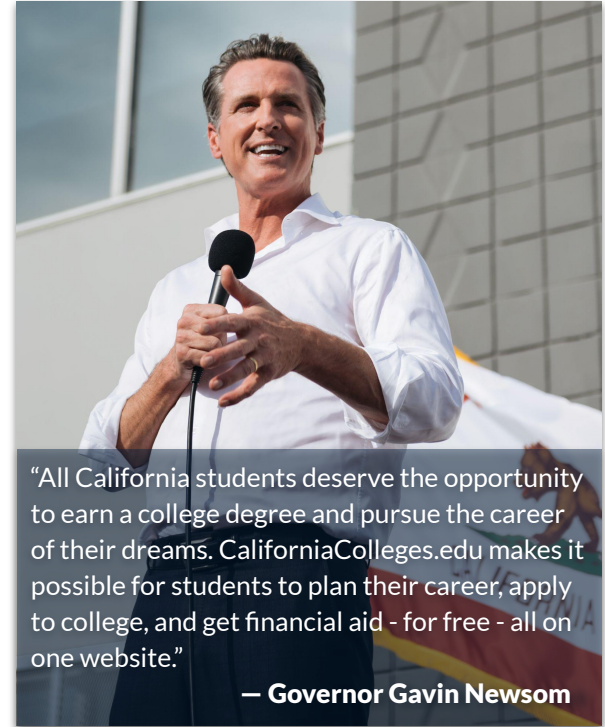
californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/list-of-partner-districts/



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.
- ▶ **\$493,000,000** is the estimated amount of federal Pell Grant dollars unclaimed by California graduates 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**.



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.



EDC § 41590

A-G Completion
Improvement Grant
Program



EDC § 60900(g)

SIS and CMP
Alignment for A-G



**EDC § 51225.8
(AB 469)**

Universal FAFSA/CADAA
for Graduating Seniors



**EDC § 51225.8
(AB 15)**

Financial Aid Information
Prior to Grade 12

Developing College, Career, and Financial Aid Knowledge for All Students



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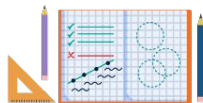
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One Place for College and Career



TOOLS

Support your progress



MAP OUT YOUR FUTURE

Tools to Plan, Set Goals, and Record Progress



BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

College, Career, and Financial Aid Lessons



INTENTIONAL EDUCATOR INTEGRATIONS

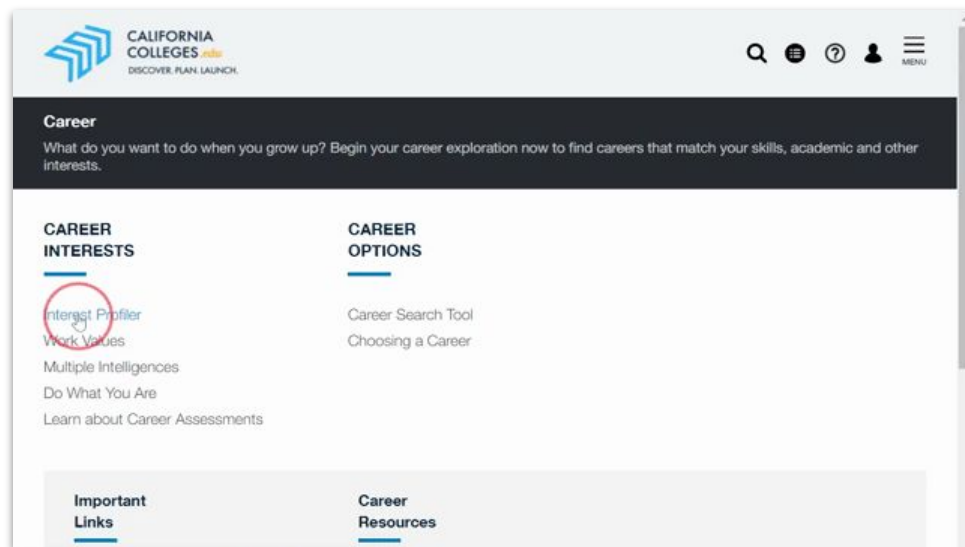
Reporting Tools to Inform Student Support

Career Assessments

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

Career 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

The 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.

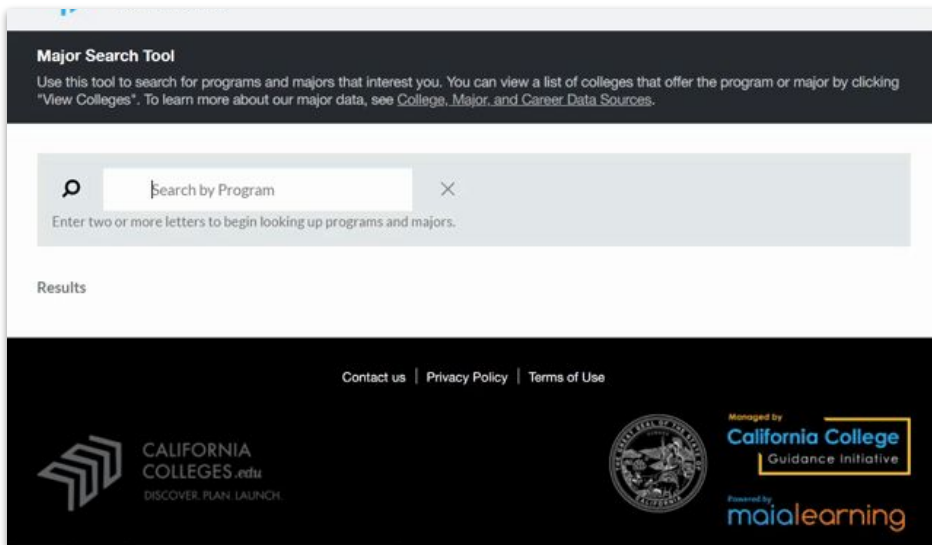
The screenshot shows the 'Career Search Tool' interface. At the top, a dark header contains the title 'Career Search Tool' and a brief description: 'Explore careers that match your interests. Find careers by using the keyword search or the Industry and Bright Outlook filters. To learn more about our career data, see [College, Major, and Career Data Sources](#).' Below the header, there are three search sections. The first section has a text input field with 'Scientist' and a blue 'Search' button. The second section has a dropdown menu labeled 'Select Industry' and a blue 'Search' button. The third section has a dropdown menu labeled 'Select Bright Outlook Occupation' and a blue 'Search' button. At the bottom left, it says 'Results 179' with a small 'Compare' button and an information icon. At the bottom right, there is a large dark 'Compare' button.

College and Major Search Tools

The 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.

The **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.

The **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, a text input field containing 'Search by Program', and a close button (X). Below the search bar, it says 'Enter two or more letters to begin looking up programs and majors.' Below that is a 'Results' section. 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 text 'CALIFORNIA COLLEGES.edu DISCOVER. PLAN. LAUNCH.', the California State Seal, and logos for 'Managed by California College Guidance Initiative' and 'Powered by maialearning'.



Career-Major-College Exploration

Career Assessment

Students take Interest Profiler, Learning & Productivity, Work Values, Intelligences, Personality, and/or Skills assessment(s).



Career Exploration

Based on assessment results, students click on matching careers, go to corresponding fact sheets, and use Career Search.



Major Exploration

Based on career interests, students explore programs and majors that interest them & learn more about what they involve.



College Exploration

Based on major exploration and using College Search, students find colleges that match their needs.



Provide more than one opportunity to take Career Assessments (i.e. 7th, 9th & 11th)



Students favorite careers they like.
Connect careers to career pathways



Connect majors to careers and courses in high school to prepare



Ensuring student's academic planners match their desired career, college and major choices

The Financial Aid Lessons

Foundational Knowledge

Lessons help students start early in building financial aid literacy and understanding their college-going options



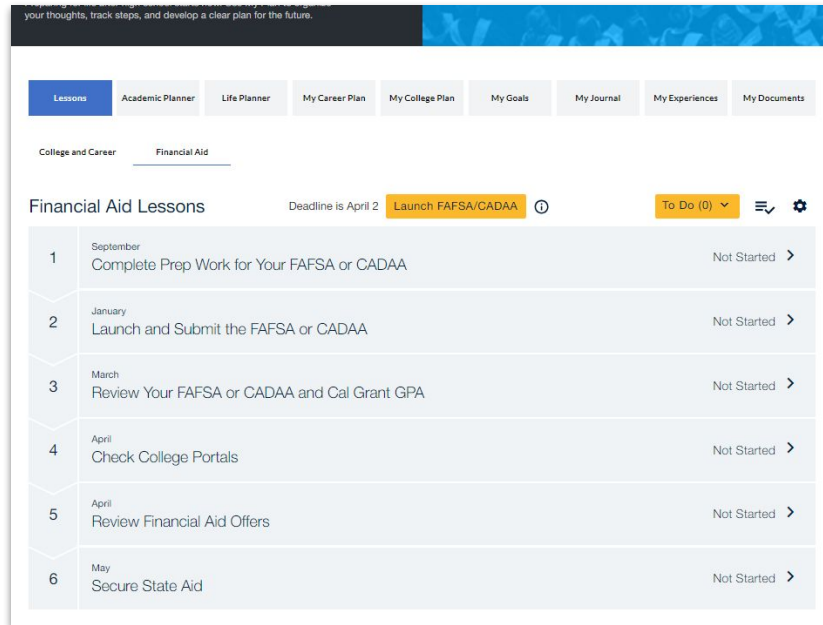
California-Specific Guidance

State-specific financial aid information is designed to meet California student needs



Aligned to State Policy

Lesson content and tracking features provide support for educators in meeting legislative requirements (AB 2015 and AB 469)



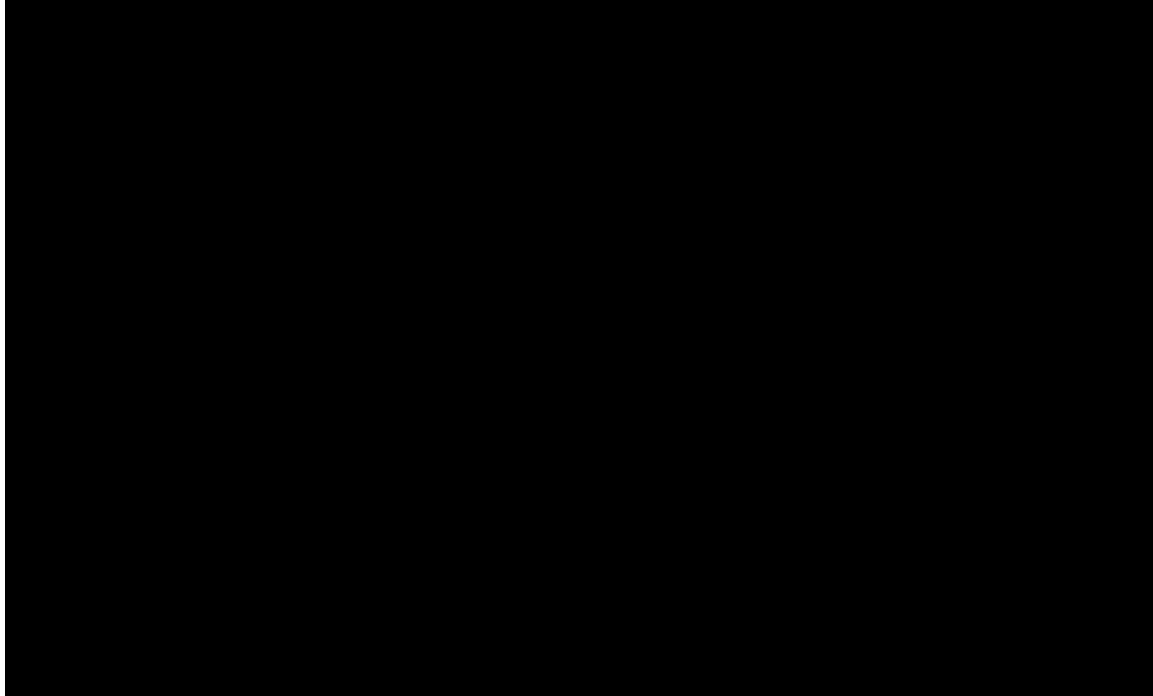
The screenshot shows the 'Financial Aid Lessons' interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs: Lessons, Academic Planner, Life Planner, My Career Plan, My College Plan, My Goals, My Journal, My Experiences, and My Documents. Below this, the 'Financial Aid' section is active. It displays a list of lessons with a deadline of April 2. A 'Launch FAFSA/CADAA' button is visible. The lessons are numbered 1 through 6, each with a month and a description, and a 'Not Started' status with a chevron icon.

Lesson Number	Month	Description	Status
1	September	Complete Prep Work for Your FAFSA or CADAA	Not Started
2	January	Launch and Submit the FAFSA or CADAA	Not Started
3	March	Review Your FAFSA or CADAA and Cal Grant GPA	Not Started
4	April	Check College Portals	Not Started
5	April	Review Financial Aid Offers	Not Started
6	May	Secure State Aid	Not Started



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The Financial Aid Tools



vimeo.com/997820877

Financial Aid Application Status

What is the status of
FAFSA/California Dream
Act Application launched
from
CaliforniaColleges.edu?

- Includes FAFSA and
CADAA

Report: What is the status of FAFSA/California Dream Act Application launched from CaliforniaColleges.edu?

Filters Selected:

Actions: [Print](#) [Download PDF](#) [Download XLSX](#) [Download CSV](#)

Summary

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) provides [CaliforniaColleges.edu](#) with a FAFSA/CADAA status if the student launched their application from CaliforniaColleges.edu and their account includes SSID. CSAC last provided this information on 07/23/2024.

- **Not Launched:** These students have not launched their FAFSA/CADAA applications from [CaliforniaColleges.edu](#).
- **Launched:** These students have launched their FAFSA/CADAA from [CaliforniaColleges.edu](#), but submission is unverified because the student did not complete their application OR we have not received an update from CSAC.
- **Submitted:** These students have launched their FAFSA/CADAA from [CaliforniaColleges.edu](#) and CSAC says the application is being processed OR may be incomplete. If incomplete, the student will receive an email from the Department of Education asking them to make corrections. Also, if incomplete, the student's Student Aid Report (SAR) will not include a Student Aid Index (SAI) and will indicate unresolved issues.
- **Completed:** These students have launched their FAFSA/CADAA from [CaliforniaColleges.edu](#) and CSAC confirms the application is complete. A completed application has a calculated Student Aid Index (SAI) and can be used to determine Cal Grant eligibility if the GPA is matched.

	Number of Students
Seniors who have Not Launched a FAFSA/CADAA	67
Seniors who Launched a FAFSA/CADAA	32
Seniors who Submitted a FAFSA/CADAA	0
Seniors who Completed a FAFSA/CADAA	0
Unregistered	0

Partner Tools to Drive A-G Completion and Application Completion



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Partnership with CCGI

Districts/LEAs that serve high school students partner with CCGI to provide students and educators with the full suite of tools and supports available on the platform:

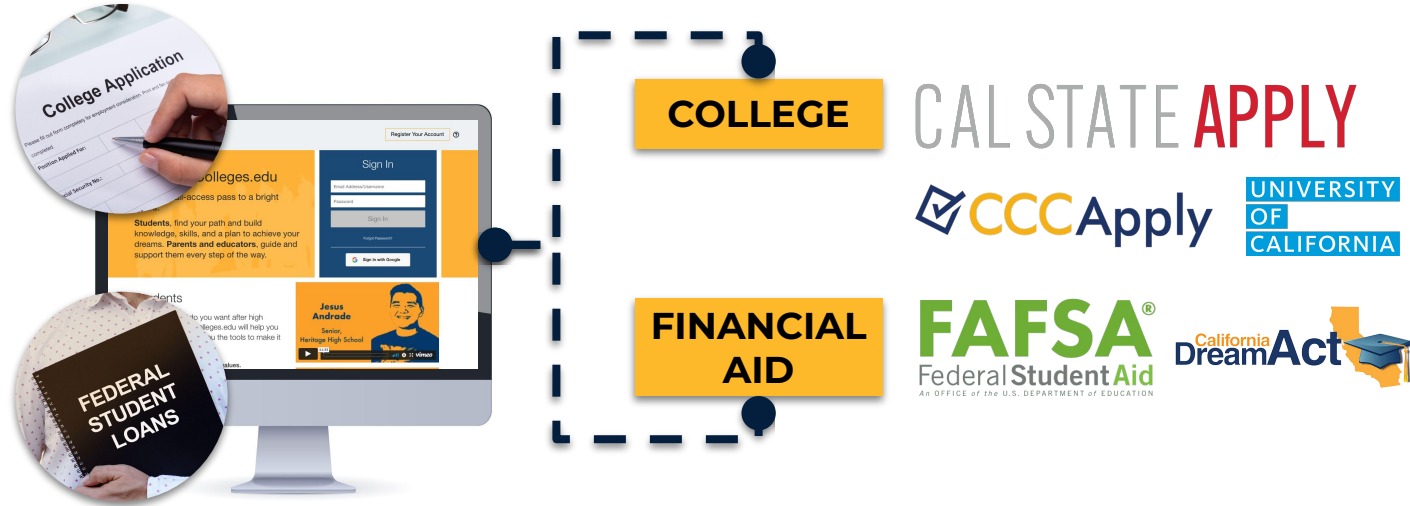
- ▶ **Transcript-Informed Accounts for students,** which include:
 - **California Community Colleges (CCC) Tool** which helps students to identify the five CCCs closest to their high school and to learn more about program options.
 - **CSU and UC Eligibility Tools** that allow students to see their progress 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.
- ▶ **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.
- ▶ **Enhanced Educator Reporting** to support ongoing progress monitoring and intervention.



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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).



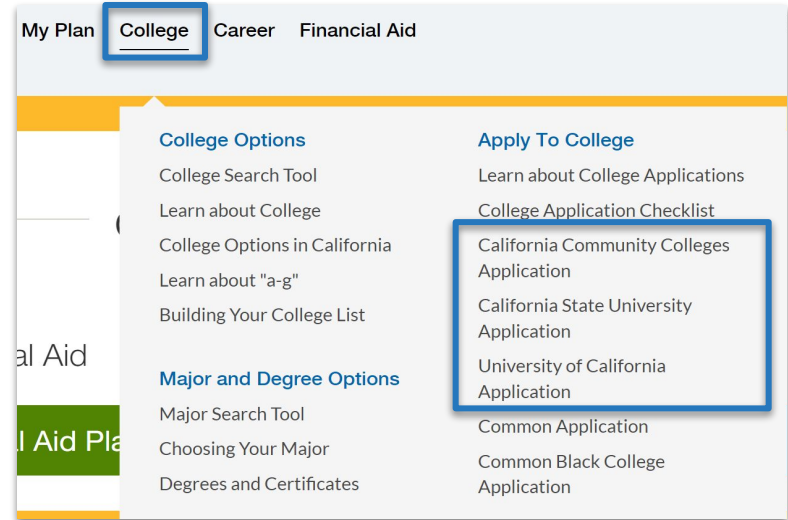


Launching Applications

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.



California Community Colleges

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

Academic Planner
CCCs
CSU Eligibility
UC Eligibility
CSU Application Info
UC Application Info

There are lots of great reasons to attend a California Community College (CCC). A CCC may be the best fit for you if:

- You need an **associate degree or certificate** for the career you want.
- You want to **start your career sooner**. Associate degree programs usually take two years. Certificate programs take even less time.
- You want to **prepare to transfer** to a four-year college.
- You want to **spend less money** on college tuition. CCCs have the lowest fees in the nation.
- You want to **stay close to home**. With 115 campuses across California, there is probably a CCC close to you.
- You need **flexible classes** in the evening, on weekends, or online so you can fit college into your life.
- You want to **get a head start on earning college credit** while you're still in high school.

Requirements

To attend a CCC, all you have to do is fill out an application and pay any required fees. You don't have to complete A-G requirements or take any special classes.

Learn more about the [Benefits of California Community Colleges](#).

Transfer Options

You can start at a CCC and transfer to a CSU, UC, or independent college after two years. Complete one of the programs below at your CCC to secure your spot.

- The [Associate Degree for Transfer \(ADT\)](#) guarantees you a spot at a CSU or an independent college.
- The [Transfer Admission Guarantee \(TAG\)](#) program guarantees you a spot at one of six UCs.

Learn more about [Transferring Schools](#).

Five Closest CCCs to Your School

Laney College	1.5 miles
College of Alameda	2.83 miles
Merritt College	3.95 miles
Berkeley City College	4.86 miles
Contra Costa College	12.65 miles

[View All CCCs](#)

How to Apply

Nearly all CCCs use CCCApply for online applications. When you're ready, learn how to [launch CCCApply from your CaliforniaColleges.edu account](#).

[Launch CCCApply Now](#)



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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 Educator Dashboard on the California Colleges.edu website. The top navigation bar includes links for Educator Dashboard, College, Career, and Financial Aid. The main content area features a section titled "Academic Plan: CCC Demo" with a description: "Keep track of your completed classes, grades earned, and also plan for high school classes using your Academic Plan." Below this is a horizontal menu with tabs for Academic Planner, My College Plan, My Career Plan, My Financial Aid Plan, My Goals, My Journal, My Experiences, and My Documents. The Academic Planner tab is active, showing a sub-menu with Academic Planner, California Community Colleges, CSU Eligibility, UC Eligibility, and CSU Application Info. The CSU Eligibility section is highlighted, displaying a CSU GPA of 3.35 and a progress indicator for "a-g" courses. The progress indicator shows a target of 1 year of "a-g" courses, with a note that the user is not making progress toward completing recommended courses.

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

A-G Alignment Support

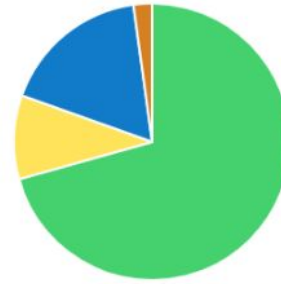
CCGI provides technical assistance to help LEAs ensure that courses indicated as fulfilling A-G requirements match the Course Management Portal.

- ▶ 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 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?**

CMP Mismatch

Which district courses are flagged A-G BUT do not match against CMP?

- ▶ Organized by course and number of impacted students
- ▶ Prioritize CMP clean-up
- ▶ Identify impacted students



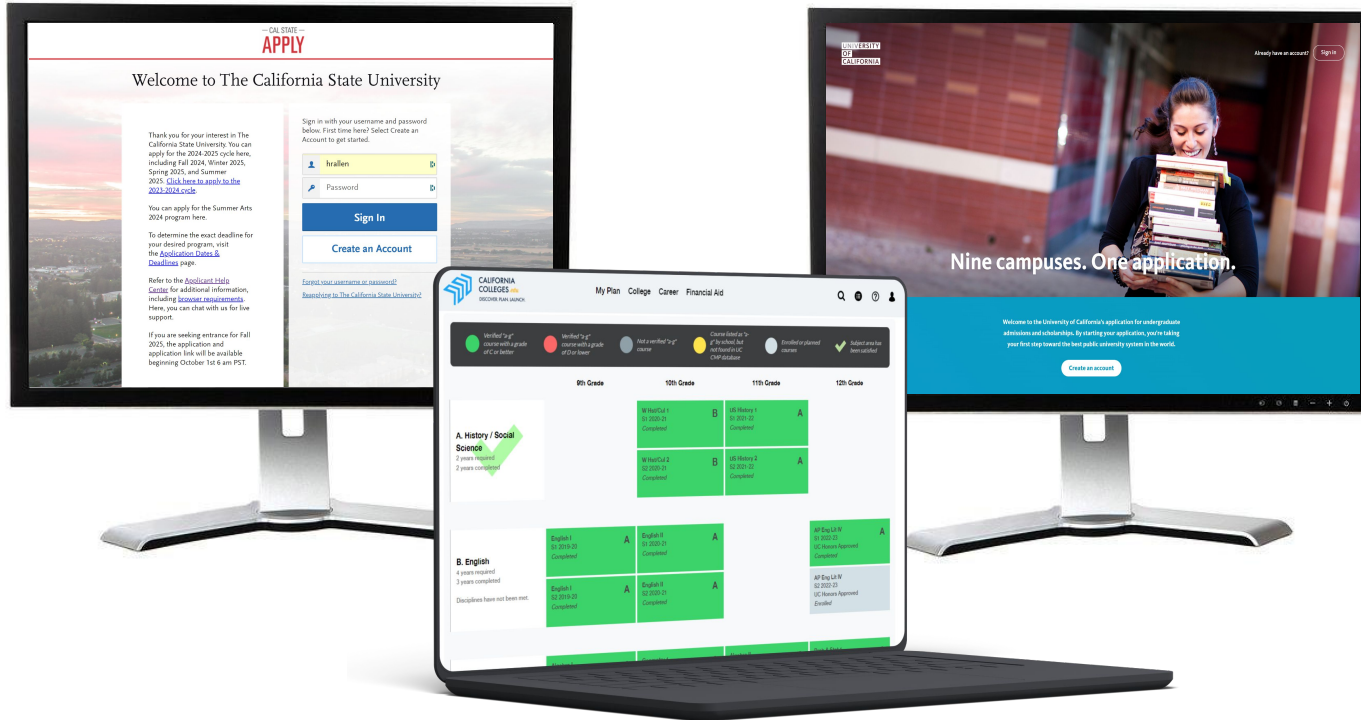
- "a-g" flagged courses taken in the district that were matched successfully to CMP: 65
- "a-g" flagged courses taken in the district that were not matched successfully to CMP: 9
- "a-g" flagged courses taken outside the district that were matched successfully to CMP: 16
- "a-g" flagged courses taken outside the district that were not matched successfully to CMP: 2

(Enrolled) District	(Enrolled) School	(Course) School	(Course) Academic Year	(Course) Subject Area	(Course) Transcript Abbreviation	(Course) Local Course ID	(Course) Number of Students Impacted
Demonstration Only Unified	Demo Partner High	Demo Partner High	2021-22	E	Heritage Spanish II	1111	40
Demonstration Only Unified	Demo Partner High	Demo Partner High	2021-22	B	Basic English Lit III		14
Demonstration Only Unified	Demo Partner High	Demo Partner High	2018-19	C	Algebra I-1	3331	1
Demonstration Only Unified	Demo Partner High	Demo Partner High	2018-19	C	Algebra I-2	3332	1
Demonstration	Demo Partner	Demo Partner					



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Importing Verified Transcript Data





All-in-one Application Report

Download Only: Current
College Eligibility and
Application Statuses (CSV)

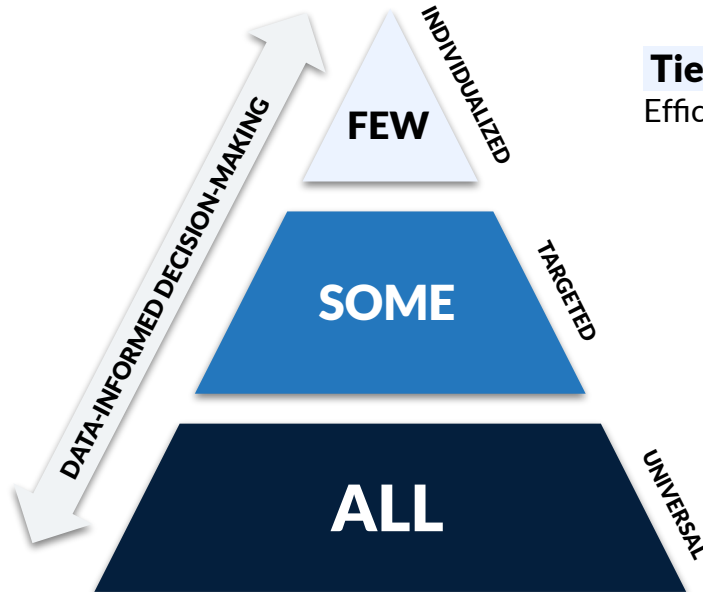
- ▶ By student
- ▶ CSU and UC Eligibility
- ▶ Status of CCC, CSU,
and UC Applications
- ▶ Status of Financial Aid
Applications

Formatted Eligibility Report						
Student Name	CSU GPA	CSU Eligibility (CMP)	Completed CSU Applications	In-progress CSU Applications	FAFSA/CADAA Status	
Demo 1		4 On Target	California State University-Fresno; California State University-Long Beach; San Jose State University; California State University-San Marcos	California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo; California State University-Bakersfield; California State University-Stanislaus; California State University-San Bernardino; California State Polytechnic University-Pomona; California State University-Chico; California State University-Dominguez Hills; California State University-Fresno; California State University-Fullerton	Launched	
Demo 2	3.86	On Target	California State University-Fullerton; California State University-Long Beach; California State University-Northridge; San Diego State University; California State University-Monterey Bay	California State University-Northridge; California State University-Sacramento; California State University-Maritime Academy; California State University-San Marcos	Launched	
Demo 3	2.5	Off Target deficient subjects		Bakersfield; California State Polytechnic University-Humboldt	Launched	
Demo 4	3.92	Off Target deficient subjects		California State University-Bakersfield	Launched	
Demo 5	4.04	On Target		California State University-Bakersfield	Launched	
Demo 6	4.05	On Target			Launched	
Demo 7	4.09	On Target		California State University-Bakersfield; California State University-Stanislaus; California State University-Chico; California State University-Fresno	Launched	
Demo 8	4.13	Off Target deficient years and subjects			Launched	
Demo 9	4.04	On Target			Launched	
Demo 10	4.04	On Target			Launched	
Demo 11	4.18	Off Target deficient subjects			Launched	
Demo 12	4.04	On Target		California State University-Fresno	Launched	
Demo 13	4.04	Off Target deficient subjects			Launched	
Demo 14	4.13	On Target			Launched	
Demo 15	4.05	Off Target deficient subjects		Bakersfield; California State University-Bakersfield	Launched	



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.



Reflection on Practice

How might you use application reports to drive outcomes?

How might you use educator reports to inform your programming?



Promising Practices

Hemet Unified School District



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Check Out the Resource Hub

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

Visit

[californiacolleges.edu/
resourcehub/resources/](https://californiacolleges.edu/resourcehub/resources/)



About Partner Student Accounts

A Partner Student Account allows you to use all of the tools available to students on CaliforniaColleges.edu. If you're enrolled in one 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

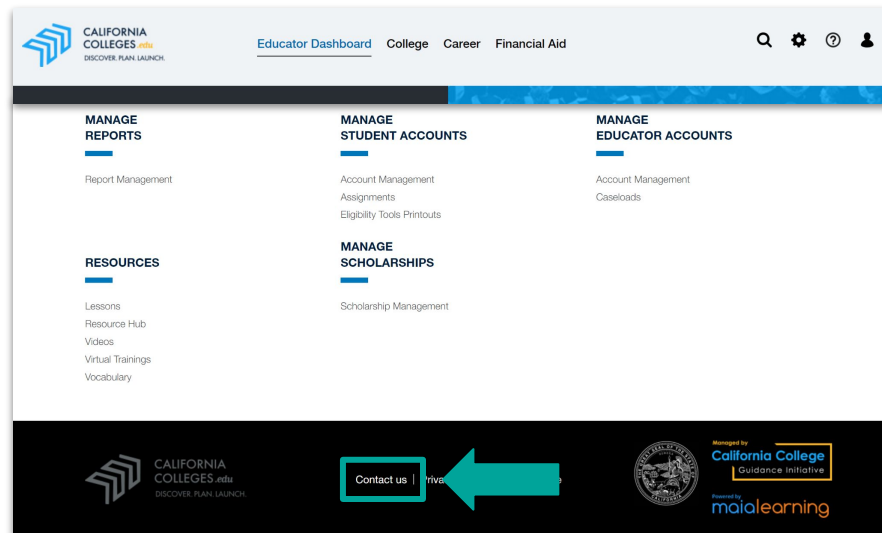


Need help? Contact Us

There are multiple ways to Contact Us when you have questions or need support:

1 Click the “Contact Us” link at the bottom of every page on the platform

2 Visit californiacolleges.edu/#/contact-us or scan the QR code:



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/



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