

# The California College Guidance Initiative

Stanislaus State Regional Convening

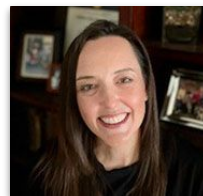
March 12, 2024



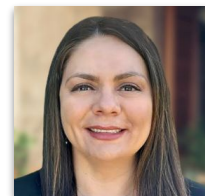
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The Official College & Career Planning  
Platform of the State of California



**Heather Allen**  
Chief Programs  
Officer



**Selma Gonzalez**  
Director  
Central 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

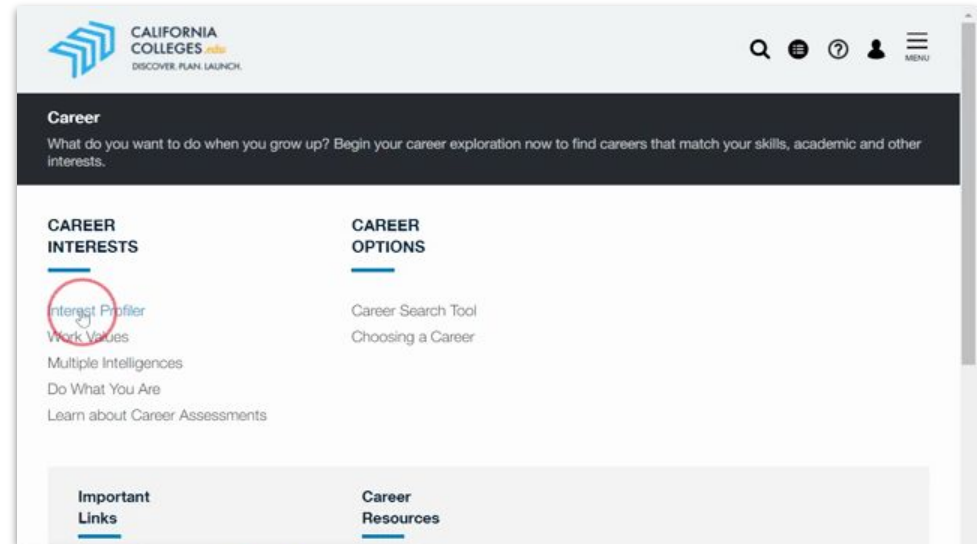


# Career Assessments

**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.

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'. At the bottom right, there is a dark button labeled 'Compare'. A small 'Compare' button with an information icon is also visible at the very bottom left.



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# 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.

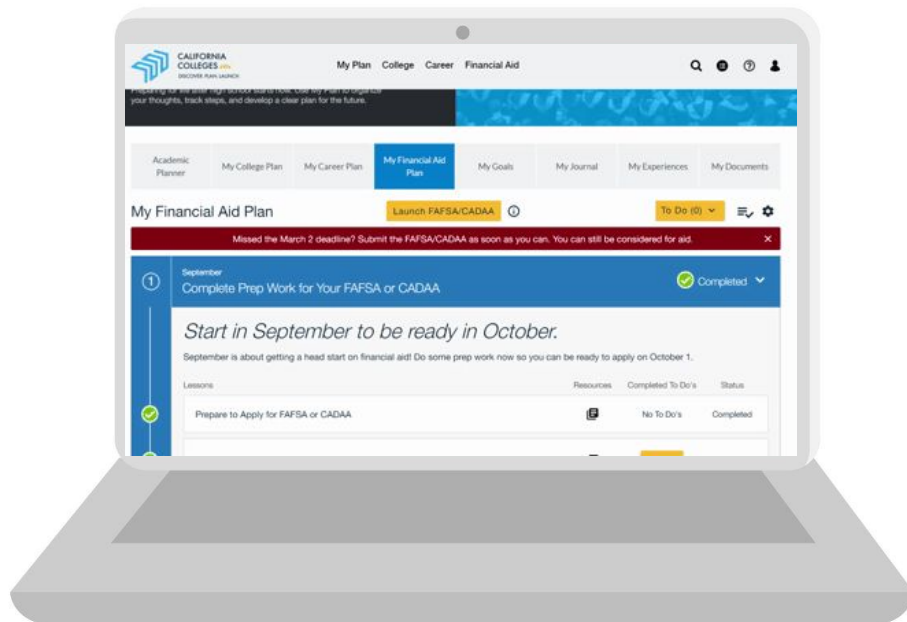
Our **College Search Tool** helps students find the best colleges in California and across the country, based on the factors that matter most to them.

The screenshot shows the 'Major Search Tool' interface. At the top, a dark header contains the title 'Major Search Tool' and a brief instruction: '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 the header is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon on the left, a text input field containing 'Search by Program', and a close 'X' icon on the right. Underneath the search bar is a light gray提示 box that says 'Enter two or more letters to begin looking up programs and majors.' Below this is a section labeled 'Results'. At the bottom of the interface is a dark footer containing links for 'Contact us', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Terms of Use'. On the left side of the footer is the California Colleges.edu logo. On the right side, it says 'Managed by' followed by the 'California College Guidance Initiative' logo, and 'Powered by' followed by the 'maialearning' logo.

# 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 walks 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 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 is titled "Academic Plan: CCC Demo" and includes 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 selected. Below the menu, 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 paragraph is another horizontal menu with tabs for Academic Planner, California Community Colleges, CSU Eligibility, UC Eligibility, and CSU Application Info. The CSU Eligibility tab is selected. This tab displays two main sections: "CSU GPA" and "Your 'a-g' Progress for CSU". The CSU GPA section shows a green circle with the number 3.35 and text stating that the user is currently meeting the minimum GPA requirement of 2.0 or above. The "Your 'a-g' Progress for CSU" section shows a red target icon and text stating that the user is missing the following number of years of "a-g" courses: 1. It also mentions that the user appears to not be making progress toward completing courses recommended for their grade level in the following subject areas: B, D, E, F.

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

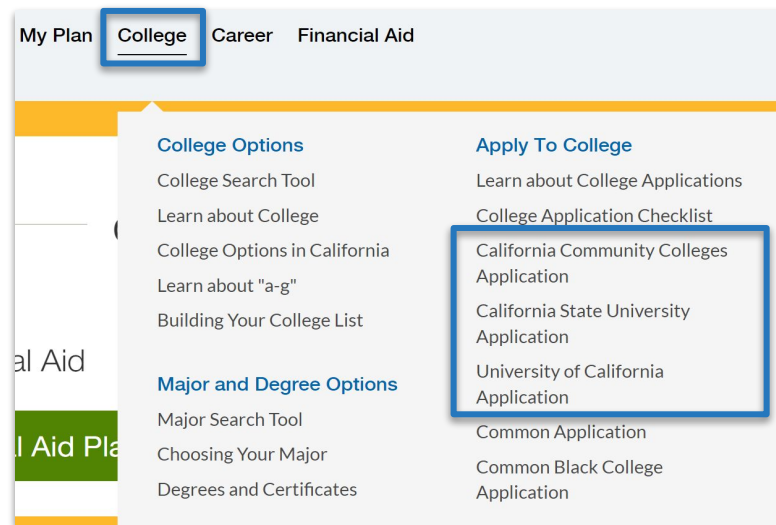
You appear to not be making progress toward completing courses recommended for your grade level in the following subject areas: B, D, E, F

# 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?

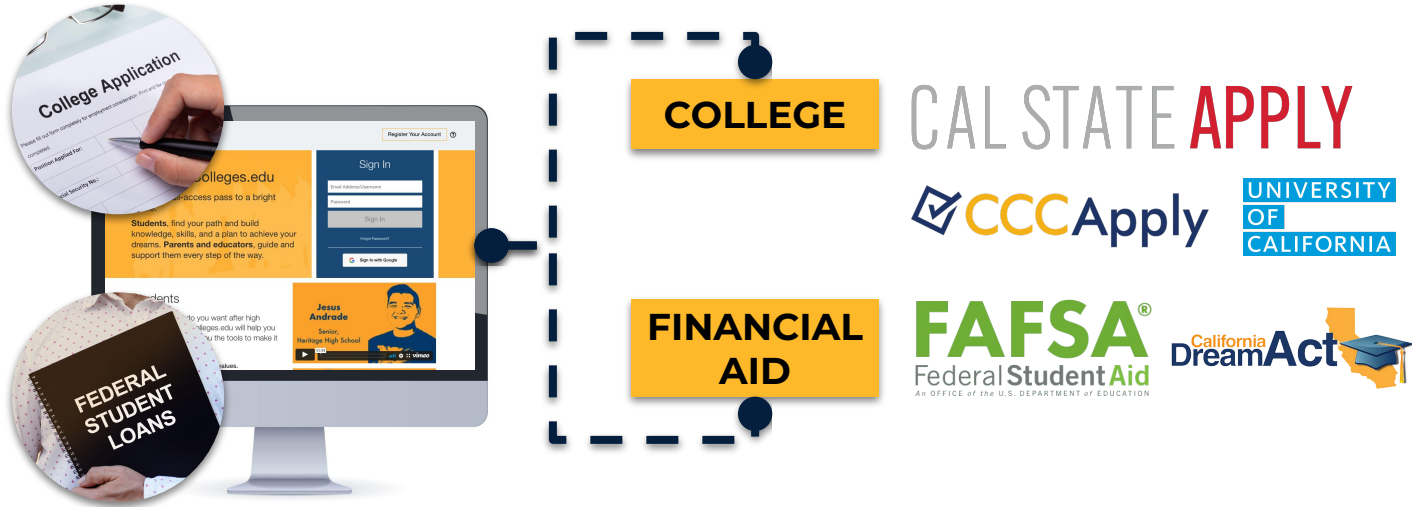




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# Uniquely Designed for California

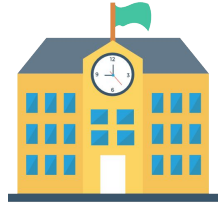
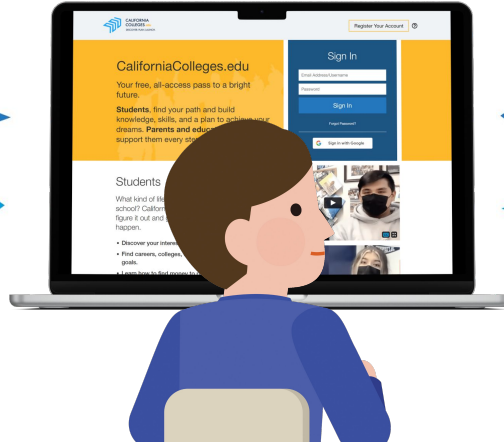
- ▶ **We partner with K-12 districts** to bring high school transcript data to CaliforniaColleges.edu.
- ▶ **We connect California systems**, including integrations with all three public higher education systems (**CCC, CSU, UC**) and the California Student Aid Commission (**CSAC**).



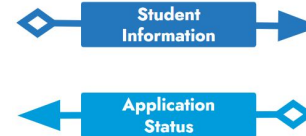
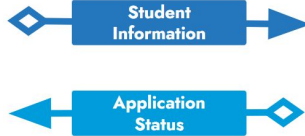


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# Connecting California's Systems



Partner District



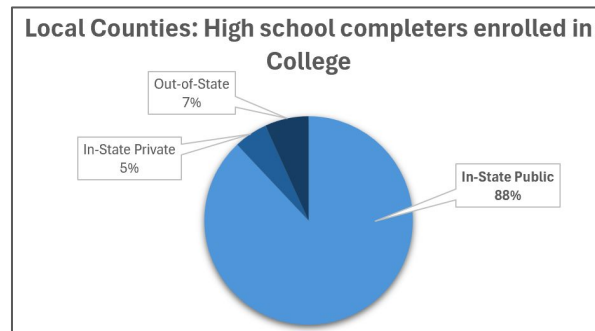
- California State University
- California Community College
- University of California



# Why It Matters

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

According the most recent [DataQuest College-Going Rate report](#), **88% of high school completers** from local counties who **enrolled in college** did so **at a UC, CSU or CCC**.



## Report Totals

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)
<a href="#">Mariposa</a>	117	57	7	9	33	0	7	1
<a href="#">Merced</a>	4,293	2,291	281	354	1524	37	77	18
<a href="#">San Joaquin</a>	10408	6149	555	802	3788	538	392	74
<a href="#">Stanislaus</a>	7,735	4,502	394	969	2724	113	260	42
<a href="#">Tuolumne</a>	434	229	9	23	175	5	24	4

College Enrollment Timeframe: 16 Months



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# CCGI Partner Districts

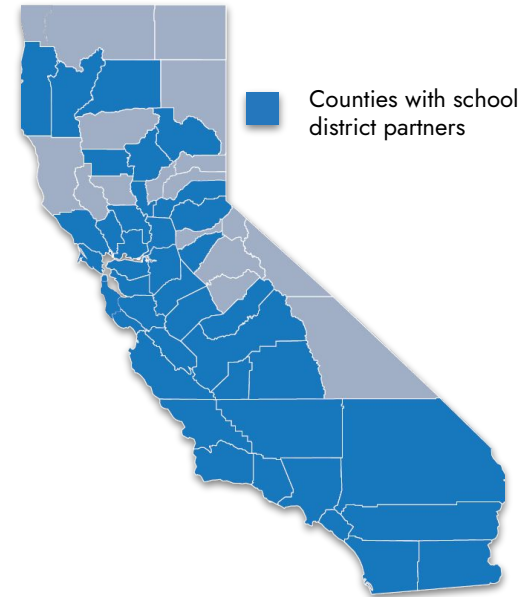
**More than 50% of California's high school students are enrolled in a school district that has partnered with CCGI.**

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 Stanislaus State Local Service Area

▶ **Partner** ▶ **In Contracting** ▶ **Non-Partner**

## Mariposa County

- ▶ Mariposa County Unified School District

## Stanislaus County

- ▶ Ceres Unified School District
- ▶ Denair Unified School District
- ▶ Hughson Unified School District
- ▶ Modesto City High School District
- ▶ Newman-Crows Landing Unified School District
- ▶ Oakdale Joint Unified School District
- ▶ Patterson Joint Unified School District
- ▶ Riverbank Unified School District
- ▶ Turlock Unified School District
- ▶ Waterford Unified School District

## Tuolumne County

- ▶ Big Oak Flat-Groveland Unified School District
- ▶ Sonora Union High School District
- ▶ Summerville Union High School District

## Merced County

- ▶ Delhi Unified School District
- ▶ Dos Palos Oro Loma Joint Unified School District
- ▶ Gustine Unified School District
- ▶ Hilmar Unified School District
- ▶ Le Grand Union High School District
- ▶ Los Banos Unified School District
- ▶ Merced Union High School District

## San Joaquin County

- ▶ Escalon Unified School District
- ▶ Lammersville Joint Unified School District
- ▶ Lincoln Unified School District
- ▶ Linden Unified School District
- ▶ Lodi Unified School District
- ▶ Manteca Unified School District
- ▶ Ripon Unified School District
- ▶ Stockton Unified School District
- ▶ Tracy Joint Unified School District





# 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.**

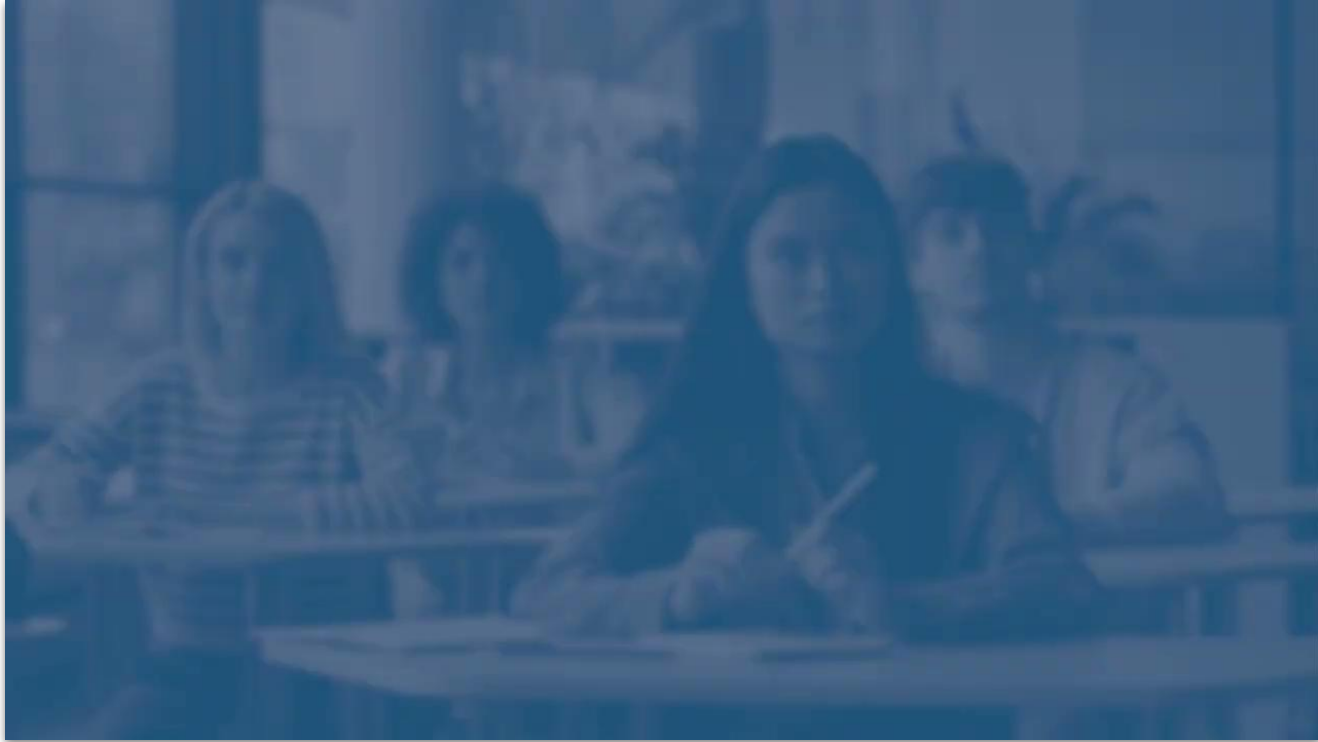
Unique features for Partner Districts include:

- ▶ **“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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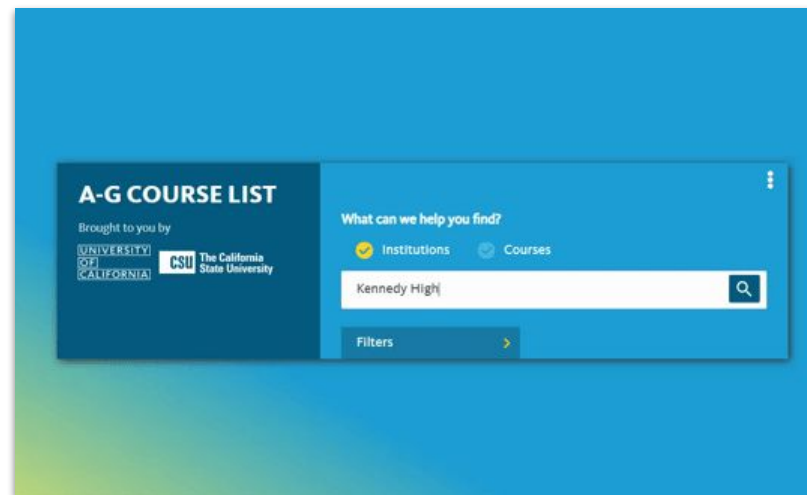
# A Partner District Example



# “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?





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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'. On the right side of the navigation bar are icons for search, help, and user profile. Below the navigation bar is a dark grey section with a 'Select Report:' label. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'Applications' as the selected option. To the right of the dropdown is a text input field containing the text 'What are students' current college eligibility and application status'. A red arrow points to the right side of the dropdown menu. Below the 'Select Report' section is a 'Select Filters:' section with a dropdown menu showing '12'. To the right of the filters 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.



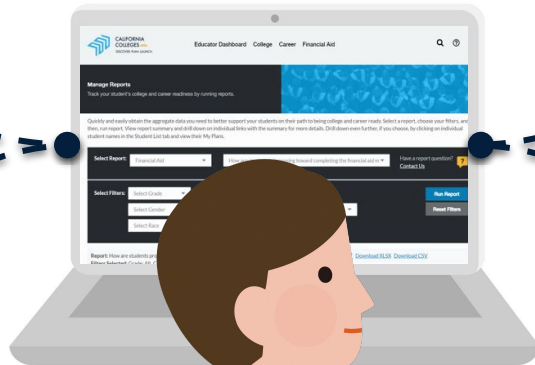
## AB 132

Cradle-to-Career  
Data System



## AB 130

A-G Completion  
Improvement Grant  
Program



## AB 469

Universal FAFSA/CADAA  
for Graduating Seniors



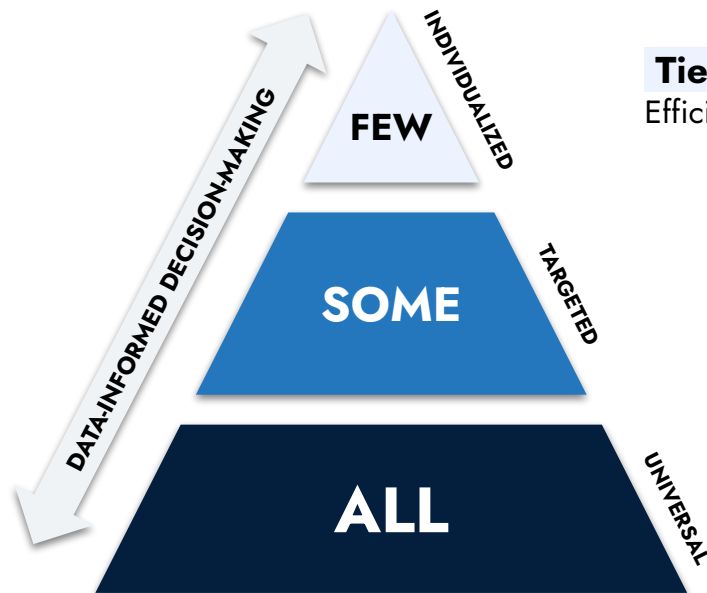
## AB 2015

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**

# Implementation Support

**CCGI has team members dedicated to serving the Central California region:**

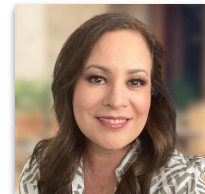
Our **Engagement and Implementation** team leads outreach, training and implementation support for CaliforniaColleges.edu.



**Selma Gonzalez**  
Director



**Geraldina Espinoza**  
Senior Manager



**Anna Lorena Garcia**  
Senior Manager



**Ashley Shaffer**  
Training Manager

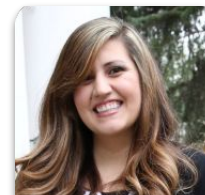
Our **Data Services** and **Technical Assistance** teams help districts bring their data files to CaliforniaColleges.edu and support CMP alignment.



**Maria Cavallaro**  
Position



**Ryan Cameron**  
District Data  
Support Analyst



**Amy Martinez**  
Technical Assistance  
Manager



**Miguel Lua-Reyes**  
Technical  
Assistance Manager



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# Not Yet a Partner?

**We partner with public school districts that serve high school students.**



To learn about bringing CaliforniaColleges.edu to your district, visit:  
**[californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/partnership/](https://californiacolleges.edu/learnmore/partnership/)**



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



When your district is ready to explore partnership, email us at:  
**[CommunityEngagement@CaliforniaColleges.edu](mailto:CommunityEngagement@CaliforniaColleges.edu)**

# Questions?



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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.





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# 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)



**Visit the Resource Hub**  
[californiacolleges.edu/resourcehub/resources/](https://californiacolleges.edu/resourcehub/resources/)



**Find Answers to Common Questions on Our Help Page**  
[californiacolleges.edu/resourcehub/help/](https://californiacolleges.edu/resourcehub/help/)



**Check Out Our Videos on Vimeo**  
[vimeo.com/californiacolleges/](https://vimeo.com/californiacolleges/)



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



**Thank You!**