



Most college students study and work in the region they call home. Their success in obtaining a post-secondary certificate or degree can be promoted by alignment and collaboration across all educational segments in their region.

College Next is a joint effort of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and the California State University, Office of the Chancellor to unify how K-12 districts and higher education institutions help students successfully plan for and transition to their next steps after high school. College Next enables K-12 districts to partner **free of charge** with the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI).



The partnership taking place in the Central Valley represents a vital inter-segmental collaboration that will bolster the college-going culture in key regions of the state and pave the way for improved educational outcomes for students. Together, the chancellor's offices of the California Community Colleges and the California State University are investing in **a unified approach** to help students prepare for and successfully transition to college.

ELOY ORTIZ OAKLEY

Chancellor,
California Community Colleges



The **California College Guidance Initiative** (CCGI) manages the state of California's college and career planning platform, **CaliforniaColleges.edu**, and provides technical assistance to maximize the use of the platform's data-informed tools. CCGI aims to:

- Help all high school students graduate with clear post-secondary goals and a plan for how to achieve them, and
- Ensure that students' academic transcript data follow them so that it can inform key decisions about admissions, academic course placement, guidance and financial aid.



As a first-generation student, like so many in California, my undergraduate experience started at Diablo Valley College before continuing to the California State University and University of California.

The **new partnerships taking place**

in the College Next regions today represent what is possible when students' college and career goals are met with the tools to achieve them. I celebrate school districts, colleges and universities for creating these new opportunities. This is a clear example of our transformative power when we work together for students and communities.

TIMOTHY P. WHITE

Chancellor,
California State University



Data-Informed Tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu

CaliforniaColleges.edu and its associated 6th-12th grade college and career planning curriculum help students and families navigate the college planning and application process, while providing K-12, community college and CSU educators with actionable data to support decision making that impacts students' trajectories.

- During high school, students and families can track progress on key college eligibility standards such as the completion of a-g coursework. Educators can run reports that summarize college preparation and application activities and support critical interventions.
- When students apply to **California Community Colleges** or **California State University** campuses through their account on **CaliforniaColleges.edu** their coursework is shared with the receiving institution to support important decisions about admissions, placement and guidance.
- Students can begin the financial aid process by launching their **FAFSA** or **CA Dream Act** application on **CaliforniaColleges.edu**, which can help to reduce the time it takes the California Student Aid Commission to determine **Cal Grant** eligibility.

How to Get Involved

To learn more about becoming a College Next partner district or affiliated college, email:

partnership@californiacolleges.edu

College Next brings the data-informed tools and services of CCGI to your region free of charge for a four-year period. Time frames vary across region.

To find the specific period for your region, go to <https://CollegeNext.org>, click on Regional Approach, and find your region.

CSU GPA
3.11

Your Eligibility for CSU

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 are approved as honors in the UC CMP database. Eligible courses receive an extra one point in the CSU GPA calculation.

Your CSU GPA is based on CSU guidelines. Learn more here.

Transcript data most recently submitted on 04/02/2018

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade				
A History/Social Science 2 years required 2 years completed		W Hst/Cul 1 S1 2014-15 Completed	B	US History 1 S1 2015-16 Completed	A			
B English 4 years required 4 years completed	English I-1 S1 2013-14 Completed	B	English II-1 S1 2014-15 Completed	A	English III-1 S1 2015-16 Completed	C	Eng IV-1 ERWC S1 2016-17 Completed	B
C Math 4 years recommended 3 years required 3 years completed	English I-2 S2 2013-14 Completed	A	English II-2 S2 2014-15 Completed	B	English III-2 S2 2015-16 Completed	B	Eng IV-2 ERWC S2 2016-17 Completed	
D Laboratory Science 2 years required 1 years completed	Algebra I-1 S1 2013-14 Completed	B	Geometry S1 2014-15 Completed	A	Algebra II-1 S1 2015-16 Completed	C		
E Language other than English 2 years required 2 years completed	Algebra I-2 S2 2013-14 Completed	B	Geometry 2 S2 2014-15 Completed	C	Algebra II-2 S2 2015-16 Completed	B		
F Visual and Performing Arts 1 years required 1 years completed			Chemistry 1 S1 2014-15 Completed	B				
G College-Preparatory Electives 1 years required 1 years completed			Chemistry 2 S2 2014-15 Completed	A				
			Spanish I-1 S1 2013-14 Completed	B	Spanish II-1 S1 2014-15 Completed	A		
			Spanish I-2 S2 2013-14 Completed	A	Spanish II-2 S2 2014-15 Completed	B		
			MultimediaDsgn1 S1 2013-14 Completed	B				
			MultimediaDsgn2 S2 2013-14 Completed	A				

What's Available to CCGI Partner Districts?

OPEN ACCESS (NON-PARTNER) VS. PARTNER DISTRICTS

CaliforniaColleges.edu, the State's college and career planning platform, provides 6th - 12th grade students, families, and educators with an all-inclusive guide to college and career, free of charge. CaliforniaColleges.edu is managed by the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI).

In addition, K-12 districts may partner with CCGI to upload verified transcript data into CaliforniaColleges.edu and unlock enhanced, data-informed features on the platform. Partner districts receive support from CCGI staff to maximize the use of these data-informed features, including professional development trainings and capacity building for continuous learning and improvement, in service of their local college and career readiness goals.

Comparison of Functionality Available on CaliforniaColleges.edu	Open Access	Partner District
COLLEGE, CAREER, AND FINANCIAL PLANNING		
Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curated college, career, and financial aid planning content that guides 6th - 12th grade students through the step-by-step development of a postsecondary plan 	X	X
Search Tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> College, major, and career Scholarship (future release)¹ 	X	X
Career Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest Profiler (all students) Learning Styles Inventory (middle school students) Multiple Intelligences and Do What You Are (high school students) 	X	X
My Plan <p>Student progress and activities are stored in a personalized digital portfolio, which is broken up into eight sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Planner (plan high school courses and track grades) My College Plan (track favorite colleges and majors, college application deadlines and submissions, and test scores) My Career Plan (track favorite careers and completion of assessments) My Financial Aid Plan (track federal and state financial aid applications, including FAFSA, Dream Act, Cal Grant, California College Promise Grant, and Chaffey Grant; favorite scholarships; EFC calculation; and Financial Aid comparisons) My Goals (create SMART goals for academics, college, career, and financial aid) My Journal (complete journal prompts and self-reflections) My Experiences (log volunteer, work, or extracurricular activities) My Documents (up to 50MB of free storage space per student for resumes, college essays, financial aid award letters, assignments, or other documents) 	X	X
ACADEMIC PLANNING		
Basic Academic Planner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed, enrolled, and planned coursework is self-reported by students Type look-ahead menu to select "a-g" courses from UCOP's Course Management Portal (CMP) 	X	
Advanced Academic Planner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed and enrolled course data comes directly from district student information system (SIS) via the transcript file and cannot be changed by students Type look-ahead menu to plan future high school courses using the school's course catalog 		X
CSU and UC Eligibility Tools² <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considers CSU and UC validations and exceptions Considers test scores when the district includes them in file submissions Considers repeated coursework and college coursework when such coursework is accurately entered in the CMP and the district includes them in file submissions³ 		X

¹ CCGI will curate a scholarship database to ensure students only get high quality matches and reliable information.

² Accuracy is dependent on the quality of district file submissions.

³ See CSU & UC Counselor Handbooks for more information on acceptable coursework.

Comparison of Functionality Available on CaliforniaColleges.edu	Open Access	Partner District
APPLICATION INTEGRATIONS		
FAFSA and CADAA – Application Launch from CaliforniaColleges.edu <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students’ statewide identifier (SSID) can be associated with their FAFSA or CADAA launch, preventing data mismatches that can delay Cal Grant verification⁴ Launch date and submission status is tracked in My Financial Aid Plan 	X	X
CCCApply – Application Launch from CaliforniaColleges.edu <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time and date of application submission is tracked in My College Plan 	X	X
CCCApply – Data Informed Placement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For students who apply to a California Community College, the college can access transcript information to support a multiple measures approach to first-year academic placement 		X
Cal State Apply – Application Launch from CaliforniaColleges.edu <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students can link their Cal State Apply and CaliforniaColleges.edu accounts. When accounts are linked, submission is tracked in My College Plan 	X	X
Cal State Apply – Basic Import of Academic Planner Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All coursework from the basic Academic Planner is imported into Cal State Apply as unverified data 	X	
Cal State Apply – Advanced Import of Transcript Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All “a-g” coursework from the advanced Academic Planner is imported into Cal State Apply, and CMP-aligned coursework is considered pre-verified for the purposes of admission⁵ 		X
STUDENT ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT		
Manual Account Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student accounts are created or released manually 	X	
Batch Account Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student accounts are created and released with each transcript file upload 		X
REPORTING		
Student Account Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Academic Plan and college and career planning activities 	X	X
Educator Account Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available based on permissions 	X	X
Exports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export results into usable formats 	X	X
Basic Filtering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By grade level and by date range 	X	X
Advanced Filtering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By gender, ethnicity, or special population where if data provided by district in transcript file upload 		X
CSU and UC Eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deficiencies by subject area and deficiencies in units Courses flagged as “a-g” by school but not found/matched in CMP 		X
College Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who have applied to a CCC or CSU using their CaliforniaColleges.edu account Seniors who have linked their CaliforniaColleges.edu and Cal State Apply accounts, and who have started or completed at least one CSU application 	X	X
Capacity Building		
DATA SERVICES AND IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT		
Data Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of “a-g” courses in CMP database and assistance with clean-up as needed 		X
Implementation Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate four meetings per year with a cross-functional Leadership Team comprised of district, counseling, data, and site leadership staff to support districts in achieving desired student outcomes and build capacity for continuous organizational learning and improvement Partner with District Lead to prepare for Leadership Team meetings, plan professional development trainings, and provide ongoing consultation support 		X

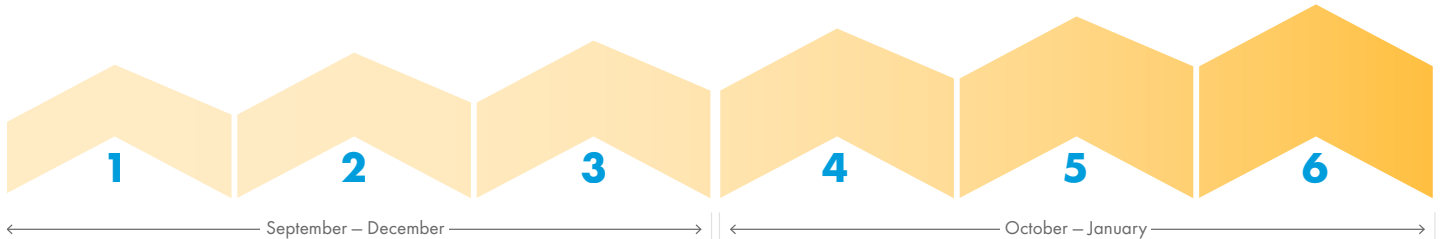
4 Applies to Open Access only in certain circumstances when the account is created by an educator.

5 Courses edited by the student after import are no longer considered pre-verified.



Partnership Development

CCGI partners with K-12 and high school districts to identify the ways that CCGI's tools, CaliforniaColleges.edu and its associated curriculum and services, can help to advance districts' college and career readiness goals. District partnerships focus on building the capacity of district and school leadership, administration, counseling and data staff to sustain this work over time. To learn more about partnership, contact CCGI at partnership@californiacolleges.edu.



Pre-Partnership Process

(3-9 MONTHS DEPENDING UPON THE DISTRICT)

- 1 A district-level administrator initiates an **exploratory conversation** with CCGI staff, in which they discuss the level of support required and the best timeline to begin the process of partnership development.
- 2 The district representative then **submits an application** to officially indicate the intention to partner.
- 3 The district identifies two key partnership leads: a **District Lead**, responsible for oversight and implementation, and a **Data Lead**, responsible for preparing and transmitting files that inform student accounts on CaliforniaColleges.edu.
- 4 District data team member(s) meet with CCGI's Data Services team to review the file upload process and draft a **data implementation timeline**.
- 5 At the **Partnership Launch** meeting, the district convenes a cross-section of district and site level educators to identify current college and career readiness goals, as well as capacity and constraints around integrating CCGI's tools into practice.
- 6 Once a Partnership Launch meeting is scheduled, CCGI begins the **contracting** process.

OPTIONAL: CCGI can facilitate an Informational Meeting for educators in the district that includes an overview of partnership and demonstration of CaliforniaColleges.edu. This may not be needed in districts where staff have attended College Next Kick-Off sessions.

Implementation (Year-round)

Implementation is an ongoing process that begins upon execution of the MOU. Implementation consists of four key components grounded in continuous organizational improvement.

DATA SERVICES

Data Services support combines regular feedback loops with district Data Leads to ensure scheduled uploading of transcript data to CaliforniaColleges.edu, as well as ongoing review for data accuracy. The latter includes, but is not limited to, review of “a-g” courses and examination of out-of-district course transcription.

CCGI has experience supporting districts on various student information systems, including **Aeries** (Desktop and Web), Illuminate, **Infinite Campus**, **PowerSchool**, **Q** (Zangle), and **Synergy**, as well as district-specific systems.

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS

Partner districts convene a cross-functional work group, comprised of district, counseling, data, and site leadership staff, to develop and oversee the Implementation Plan. Each year, CCGI and the District Lead facilitate **4 Leadership Team Meetings** with this work group to support districts in achieving desired student outcomes. Through these meetings, districts identify clear goals and targets, review data, and develop and iterate an **Implementation Plan**. Additionally, the Leadership Team hosts an annual **Community Meeting** where participants explore gaps, patterns, and action items related to their district’s completion data on CaliforniaColleges.edu.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING & USER SUPPORT

CCGI facilitates professional development training for counselors, teachers, career technicians, and other educators to ensure their ability to confidently and effectively use CaliforniaColleges.edu with students. On average, CCGI facilitates **4-5 professional development trainings** during the first year of partnership. Centralized training is supplemented by individual school-site visits as needed, which may include further training, individual user support, or implementation planning. In subsequent years of partnership, CCGI facilitates an average of 2-3 professional development trainings each year, plus school site visits as needed.

PROGRESS TRACKING

To facilitate continuous improvement and assess the partnership work, CCGI collects data over the course of the academic year for each partner district. Each tool targets a different level of change:

1. **Student Activity Reports:** Data from CaliforniaColleges.edu is systematically reviewed ahead of and during each Leadership Team Meeting.
2. **Exit Tickets:** At the end of every Leadership Team Meeting and professional development training, participants complete an Exit Survey that assesses what they have learned, as well as their team’s progress towards building capacity to successfully implement the use of CaliforniaColleges.edu.
3. **Partner District Assessment of Progress (PDAP):** is a tool designed to discern what policies and practices within districts are aligned with successful implementation of CaliforniaColleges.edu and partnership with CCGI. This helps districts and CCGI staff collectively think about data and guidance practices that promote systematic and effective usage of CCGI’s tools and services.



Frequently Asked Questions

PARTNERSHIP WITH CCGI

Costs

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST MY DISTRICT TO PARTNER WITH CCGI?

Through the College Next campaign, the Chancellor's Offices of the California Community Colleges and the California State University have made partnership with CCGI **free of charge** for a four year period to all K-12 and high school districts in the 10 counties of the Central Valley¹ as well as in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.²

HOW WILL WE SUSTAIN PARTNERSHIP BEYOND THE FOUR YEAR PERIOD?

While we cannot guarantee funding beyond a four year period, the intent of College Next is to provide a proof point for statewide scaling of this approach. Should funding not be provided beyond a four year period, services can be sustained through a fee for service partnership. Districts outside of the College Next regions pay an annual per student fee of \$2.00 per middle school student and \$2.75 per high school student.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH CCGI PARTNERSHIP?

Districts commit staff time to partnership. This includes a District Lead who oversees implementation, as well as a Data Lead who works with CCGI staff to produce the student and course level data necessary to inform student accounts on CaliforniaColleges.edu. We find that **districts are most successful when a District Lead is able to devote .25-1.0 FTE** to leading partnership, which enables them to align college and career readiness work across the district with CCGI's set of data-informed tools and services.

Data and Technology

WHAT ARE THE IT REQUIREMENTS?

Partnership is most effective for students and educators when data can be extracted and sent to CCGI per required file specifications **at least twice a month**. Districts need the following:

- Frontend, backend, and administration access to your Student Information System (SIS³)
- sFTP client (i.e. WinSCP)
- Video Conferencing (i.e. Zoom)

HOW MUCH TIME IS NEEDED TO SET UP THE DATA FILES? HOW LONG DOES IT USUALLY TAKE BEFORE STUDENTS CAN BEGIN WORKING ON THE PLATFORM?

This varies, but at a minimum **three 1-hour Zoom meetings** are required to obtain and troubleshoot data so that it's ready for testing. After CCGI completes internal testing, we ask the district to quality check the data on our testing site before we push it to the student-facing CaliforniaColleges.edu platform. While some districts can move through the process in a couple of months, **the entire process, including exploratory conversations, contracting, planning meetings and data cleaning work, takes most districts 3-9 months.**

The table on the next page outlines the time it might take to get the data-informed tools up and running in your district. Note that this estimate does not include time spent improving data accuracy to ensure that students benefit from the full range of tools on CaliforniaColleges.edu (i.e., "a-g" eligibility and application integrations with CCCApply and Cal State Apply).

DATA STARTUP AND ONGOING TIME ESTIMATES

	Data Onboarding			Annual		
	Intro Meeting	Onboarding Meeting(s)	Total	Data QA Meetings ⁴	Ongoing Maintenance ⁵	Total
Lower data capacity district	1.5 hours	1.5 hours x 3	6 hours	4 hours	9 hours	13 hours
Medium data capacity district	1.5 hours	1.5 hours x 2	4.5 hours	3.5 hours	6 hours	9.5 hours
Higher data capacity district	1.5 hours	1.5 hours	3 hours	2 hours	3 hours	5 hours

District Leadership

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CALIFORNIACOLLEGES.EDU IN DISTRICTS?

Partner districts identify a District Lead, a Data Lead, and a cross-functional Leadership team of educators at the onset of partnership.

- The **District Lead** is tasked with scheduling and planning for Leadership Team meetings and professional development offerings, in order to drive the district-wide vision for implementation.
- The **Data Lead** is responsible for working with CCGI to ensure that the data files are uploaded and tested at the start of partnership and then maintained on an ongoing basis. The Data Lead also supports the District Lead in preparing for Leadership Team meetings.
- The cross-functional team, often called the **Leadership Team**, is comprised of district, counseling, data, and site staff, to develop and oversee an implementation plan. Through these meetings, districts identify clear goals and targets, review data, and develop and iterate their approach to using CCGI’s tools and support as part of their integrated approach to college and career readiness.

BEYOND DATA PROCESSING, HOW MUCH TIME IS REQUIRED OF DISTRICT LEADERS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF CALIFORNIACOLLEGES.EDU?

The table below estimates the time required of District Leads, Data Leads, and Leadership Team members to effectively integrate CaliforniaColleges.edu into district college and career readiness efforts.

	Annual			
	Phase I: Goal Setting	Phase II: Reflecting on Data	Phase III: Refining & Adapting Efforts	Total
Preparation for Leadership Meetings	3-4 hours	3-4 hours	2-4 hours	8-12 hours
Leadership Team Meetings	5-7 hours	4-5 hours	3 hours	12-15 hours

ENDNOTES

1 Free in Fresno, Merced, Kern, San Joaquin, Kings, Stanislaus, Madera, Tulare, Mariposa and Tuolumne counties starting in 2018-2019 through the 2021-2022 school year.

2 Free in Riverside and San Bernardino counties starting in 2020-2021 through the 2023-2024 school year.

3 If unable to get backend access, must have systematic access to SIS vendor for troubleshooting.

4 Data QA meetings are data-focused meetings between CCGI staff and district staff where the goal is to cleanup data to meet CCGI technical specifications, help CCGI staff understand district’s data practices (i.e. course coding and storing), and for CCGI staff to help district better understand their A-G data.

5 Ongoing maintenance meetings are data-focused meetings between CCGI staff and district staff where the goal is to troubleshoot unforeseen data related issues and to check-in at key points throughout the year to ensure data is flowing smoothly (beginning-of-year, end-of-year, application season, and summer).