



# CALIFORNIA COLLEGE PATHWAYS PROGRESS UPDATE

OCTOBER 2018

CALIFORNIA ★  
COLLEGE   
PATHWAYS



JOHN  
BURTON  
Advocates for Youth

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## ABOUT CALIFORNIA COLLEGE PATHWAYS

California College Pathways (CCP) is a public-private partnership managed by John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) that is rooted in a collective impact framework and dedicated to creating a seamless system of support for foster youth as they transition from high school to colleges and universities and as they work towards their postsecondary goals. The work of CCP focuses on supporting foster youth in four important areas on their path to success.



California College Pathways accomplishes this through a multifaceted set of strategies that includes:

- Collaborating with K-12 and child welfare systems to create a more seamless pipeline from high school to college for foster youth
- Supporting colleges and universities to better serve foster youth
- Advocating for policies and regulations to improve higher education outcomes for foster youth
- Engaging in research designed to better understand foster youth experiences to and through college in order to engage in data-informed decision making and replication of proven approaches.

In order to accomplish these goals, CCP collaborates with a range of public partners, including the California Community College Chancellor's Office, California Student Aid Commission, California State University (CSU) Chancellor's Office, University of California (UC) Office of the President, California Department of Social Services, County Welfare Directors Association of California and California Department of Education. The initiative also works closely with local public entities including individual colleges and universities, county child welfare agencies, county offices of education and K-12 districts.

The work is supported by the California College Pathways Funders Alliance, a diverse group of philanthropic partners who come together to share information, identify strategic investment opportunities and move the data collection and research agenda of the initiative forward. Members include:

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • The Angell Foundation                  | • Pritzker Foster Care Initiative |
| • The California Wellness Foundation     | • Ralph M. Parsons Foundation     |
| • Conrad N. Hilton Foundation            | • Reissa Foundation               |
| • Foster Care Counts                     | • Stuart Foundation               |
| • Johnny Carson Foundation               | • Ticket to Dream Foundation      |
| • May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust | • Tipping Point Community         |
| • Power to Soar Foundation               | • Walter S. Johnson Foundation    |

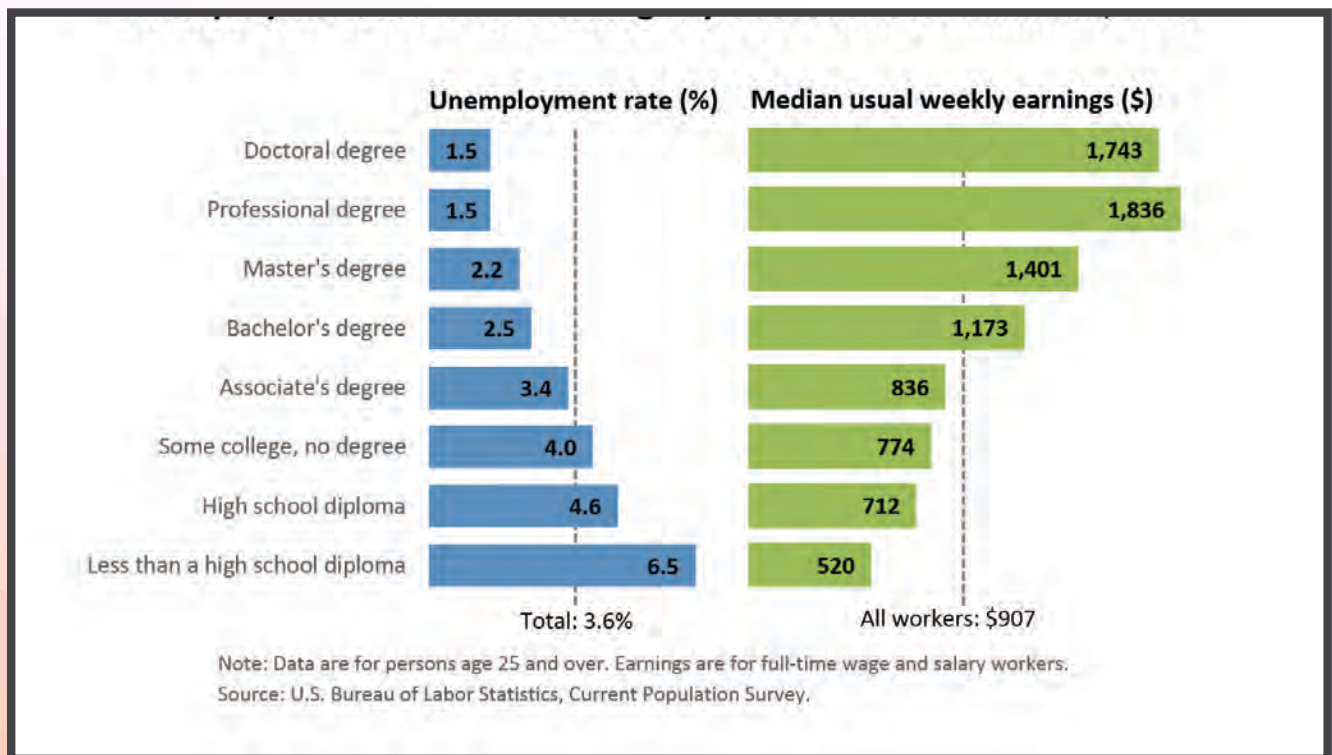


For more information about California College Pathways, visit [www.cacollegepathways.org](http://www.cacollegepathways.org)

## WHY THIS MATTERS

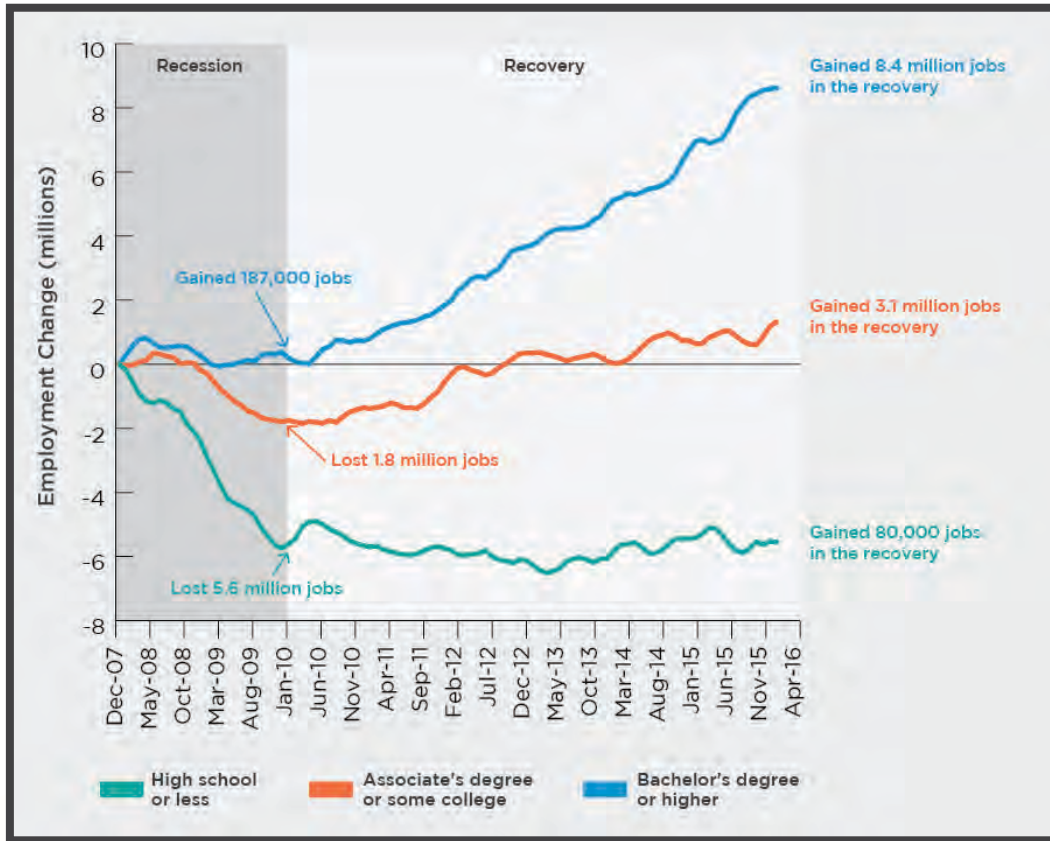
In today's economy, education is essential to economic well-being and long-term success for the vast majority of youth. Studies have repeatedly shown that attaining a postsecondary credential can increase employment opportunities as well as have a significant impact on lifetime earnings. Individuals with a Bachelor's degree will earn on average \$1 million more over the course of their lifetime than a person with a high school diploma.<sup>1</sup> Career Education (CE) pathways available through California's community college system also have the potential to lead to high-wage jobs that offer sustainable careers in hundreds of fields. Education pays off in other ways as well - degree attainment has been linked to improved health outcomes, increased career satisfaction and greater rates of civic participation.

### Unemployment Rates & Earnings by Educational Attainment, 2017



College completion not only means better individual economic outcomes, but also impacts the economy at large. A 2012 study found that a \$1 investment in California higher education yields a return of \$4.50 through increases in state tax revenues and decreases in costs spent on social welfare programs and incarceration.<sup>2</sup> There is also a significant gap between the needs of California's economy and the skill set of the current workforce. It is projected that by 2025, California will have over two million more jobs that require a postsecondary credential than there are workers to fill those jobs.<sup>3</sup>

## Employment Change between Recession and Recovery



Source: Georgetown University Center of Education and the Workforce analysis of *Current Population Survey* (CPS) data, 2007-2016.

Finally, nationwide a clear trend has emerged that has seen an increase in opportunities for those with a postsecondary credential and a simultaneous decrease in jobs for those without. Jobs that require a Bachelor's degree have increased by 8.4 million jobs during the recovery from the great recession, but jobs requiring only a high school diploma or less suffered a net loss of 5.5 million jobs.

For California's 62,000 foster youth, a pathway to higher education is particularly important. Removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect, foster youth are often bounced around, moving from placement to placement and changing schools constantly. Frequently disconnected from their families, communities, and schools, foster youth are much more likely than their peers to fall behind academically and to lack the support needed to successfully enter and complete college.

Like all young people, foster youth deserve the opportunity to pursue their dreams of attending college and have a successful career. A 2014 research report found that at age 17, 89% of foster youth indicate a desire to go to college. Sadly, however, a 2011 study found that by age 26 just 8% of foster youth held an Associate or Bachelor's degree as compared to 46% of their peers.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### LEVERAGING FUNDING .....



**\$32 million**

in new annual state funding for direct support for foster youth scholars allocated since 2015

### SUPPORTING TRANSITION TO COLLEGE .....



**72%** of the state's counties, serving **94%** of California's foster youth, participated in the 2017/2018 California Foster Youth FAFSA Challenge

**45%** of high school seniors in foster care completed a FAFSA in 2017/2018

### SUPPORTING COLLEGE SUCCESS .....



**30,428** community college, **2,832** CSU and **1,587** UC students identify as a current or former foster youth

**89** community colleges (78%), **31** public four-year universities (97%) and 4 private universities offer targeted support for foster youth in California

Since 2012, **8,022** foster youth have graduated from a California community college with a certificate, degree or transfer

### ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS

In the past year CCP had:



**1,917** training participants



**7,561** newsletter subscribers



**14,789** website users

### CORE FUNDING PARTNERS

**14**

funding partners

provide support to



**46**

postsecondary institutions

along with



**45**

community-based providers



# MILESTONES IN THE MOVEMENT



## 1996 - 1999

- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 2463, which calls on the California State University and the California Community Colleges systems to expand outreach services to emancipated foster youth and track retention rates of foster youth.
- Orangetown Children's Foundation and California State University, Fullerton launch the first campus support program: the Guardian Scholars Program.
- Stuart Foundation becomes the first philanthropic partner to invest in a campus support program.

## 2000 - 2004

- Reauthorization of the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Act creates Chafee Education and Training Vouchers, providing up to \$5,000 for eligible former foster youth enrolled in college
- California Legislature passes Senate Bill SB 1639, which establishes that foster youth have the right to access information regarding available educational options, including the coursework necessary for vocational and postsecondary educational programs, and information regarding financial aid.
- Walter S. Johnson Foundation joins with the Stuart Foundation to expand investment in college-based support programs to a total of 13 campuses.

## 2006

- Foster Youth Success Initiative (FYSI) is launched by the California Community College Chancellor's Office, which establishes foster care liaisons on each of the 110 (now 115) community college campuses.

## 2008

- U.S. Congress passes the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, which requires educational coordination and provides states with the option to extend foster care to age 21.
- U.S. Congress passes the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, which redefines federal financial-aid application rules for "dependents and wards of the court" to include youth who were in foster care "on or after their 13th birthday" as opposed to their 18th birthday.

## 2009

- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 669, which allows public colleges and universities to grant California resident status to foster youth under the age of 19 who were residing out of state as a dependent or ward under California's child welfare system.
- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 1393, which requires California State Universities to give foster youth priority for on-campus housing along with first priority to current and former foster youth for housing open during school breaks. Community Colleges and University of California campuses are requested to give similar priority to foster youth.

## 2010

- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 12, the California
- Fostering Connections to Success Act, extending state
- foster care assistance up to the age of 21.

## 2011

- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 194, which
- provides priority registration at community colleges and
- California State Universities for foster youth. University of
- California campuses are requested to do the same.

## 2012

- John Burton Advocates for Youth takes over role of
- backbone organization for California College Pathways.



## 2013

- CCP funders alliance launches and three-year multi-campus network funding model initiated.
- U.S. Department of Education issues guidance clarifying that extended foster care payments made
- directly to foster youth are to be excluded when determining federal student aid eligibility.
- Educational Results Partnership launches the foster youth data dashboard within the framework of
- CalPASS Plus, an intersegmental pre-K through 16 system of student data.

## 2014

- California State Legislature passes Senate Bill 1023, which establishes the Cooperating Agencies Foster
- Youth Educational Support (CAFYES) program, subsequently rebranded as “NextUp,” within the California
- Community College system to provide services that support college completion for foster youth.

## 2015

- In collaboration with Educational Results Partnership, CCP publishes *Charting the Course: Using Data to*
- *Support Foster Youth College Success*, which aggregates data across 31 CCP campuses and demonstrates
- how foster youth students are faring on a common set of key indicators.
- California Legislature allocates \$15 million annually to fund NextUp programs at ten community college
- districts.
- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 1228, which expands access to priority on-campus housing to
- homeless youth and requires CSU campuses to provide housing to foster and homeless students during
- academic breaks at no extra charge.
- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 854, which expands the population eligible for services
- through the Foster Youth Services Coordinating program, redefines the role of the program and adds
- specific mandates regarding support for foster youth with college planning and transition.
- California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 592, authorizing the California Department of Social Services
- to provide verification of foster care status to former foster youth, alleviating a substantial barrier to
- benefits access.



## 2016

California Legislature allocates an additional \$4 million annually to the Chafee ETV program and passes Assembly Bill 2506, to ensure that funds are not used at underperforming for-profit proprietary colleges.

California Legislature passes Senate Bill 906, which removes the sunset clause for priority registration for foster youth and expands the definition of foster youth eligible for the benefit.

NextUp programs launched at twenty-six community colleges across the state.

California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 801, which mandates the designation of foster youth and homeless youth liaisons at community colleges and California State Universities. The bill also extends priority registration to homeless youth and provides a community college fee waiver for homeless students.

## 2017

In collaboration with Educational Results Partnership, CCP publishes *Accelerating Success: Turning Insights into Action for Foster Youth at California Community Colleges*, which highlights data that can be used to better understand foster youth performance and improve educational outcomes.

California State Legislature passes Senate Bill 12, which expands the number of authorized NextUp districts to 20, requires every county child welfare agency to identify a person to assist foster youth with applications for postsecondary education and financial aid, and streamlines the financial aid verification process for foster youth submitting a FAFSA.

## 2018

California Legislature passes Assembly Bill 1809, dramatically expanding access to the Cal Grant for foster youth through modified eligibility requirements, including a \$5.2 million annual budget augmentation.

California Legislature expands the eligible population for the Chafee ETV program from up to age 22 to up to age 26 through the passage of Assembly Bill 1811, and allocates an additional \$4 million annually to the program.

NextUp program is expanded from 26 colleges to 45 colleges along with an additional \$5 million budget allocation in the California State Budget.

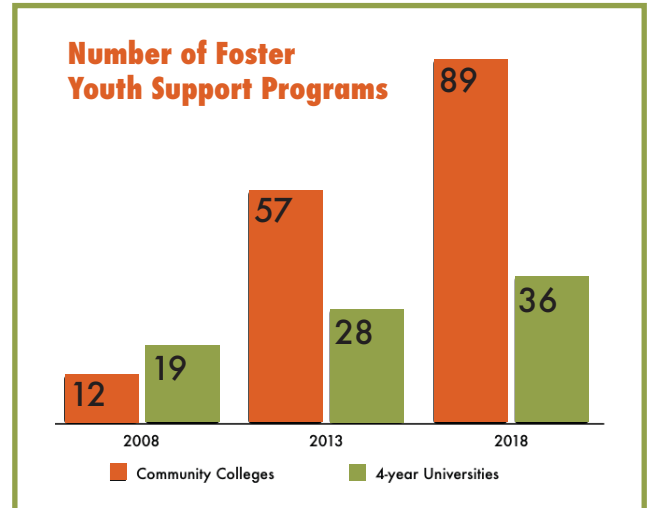
CCP awarded HUD Secretary's Awards for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships.



## INITIATIVE UPDATES

### 1. Private and Public Investment Increases Assistance for Foster Youth Attending College

Since the first program for foster youth began twenty years ago at CSU Fullerton, each of California's three systems of public postsecondary education as well as several private institutions, have increased their commitment to this population. In the past five years, as a result of the work of CCP the number of institutions with targeted support for foster youth has grown from 85 campuses to 125. These programs go by different names, but share a commitment to assisting foster youth from enrollment to graduation through a combination of counseling and guidance, linkage to services, and tangible resources.



#### NextUp/CAFYES

The past year has also seen an expansion of the NextUp program, also known as CAFYES (Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support). NextUp provides community college students who have been in foster care with support and services such as counseling, educational planning, tutoring and financial assistance to help with the costs of books and supplies, transportation, food and emergency housing.

#### Who Qualifies for NextUp?

- ☒ In foster care after 16th birthday
- ☒ Under age 26
- ☒ Enrolled in at least 9 units

The program began operating in Spring 2016 at 26 community colleges across the state with a \$15 million budget allocation. As a result of the passage of Senate Bill 12 (Beall) in 2017 and a \$5 million budget expansion in 2018, an additional 19 colleges were awarded the program, bringing the total programs that will be operational this coming fall to 45 individual institutions.

CCP was instrumental in both the creation and expansion of the program, advocating for the original bill that created the program, the original budget allocation and the legislation that authorized this year's expansion.

 To learn more, go to <http://nextup.cccco.edu>.

## 2. Improvements in Practice Increase Access to State and Federal Financial Aid

Access to financial aid plays a critical role in college for all students, but particularly for low-income students, including students currently and formerly in foster care. Despite eligibility for financial aid, foster youth access financial aid at low rates: just 50 percent of foster youth receive the Pell Grant and nine percent receive the Cal Grant.<sup>4</sup>

While there are a range of factors to explain why foster youth receive financial aid at such low rates, a primary one is failure to accurately complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Successful completion of this application is the single most important step in ensuring foster youth receive financial aid. Data show that 90% of high school seniors who complete the FAFSA go on to enroll in college within 12 months as compared to just 55% of high school seniors who do not complete the FAFSA.<sup>5</sup>

In response to how much money was being left on the table by foster youth, JBAY launched the California Foster Youth FAFSA Challenge, a statewide campaign to increase the number of foster youth who complete the FAFSA or California Dream Act Application as high school seniors. Efforts were led by county-based Foster Youth Services Coordinating programs in collaboration with local partners. The campaign was co-sponsored by JBAY, the California Department of Education and the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

JBAY provided technical assistance, promotional materials, and other resources to participating counties to support them in this effort. This included publication of the *Financial Aid Guide for California Foster Youth*, the only financial aid guide in the nation targeted specifically to foster youth. Over 5,000 copies of the guide were distributed across the state and an updated version along with a Spanish language version of the Guide will be published in the Fall. At the end of the campaign, 45% of foster youth in participating counties had completed a financial aid application. The campaign will be continued in coming years in order to increase this rate to match that of the overall student population.

### FAFSA Challenge by the Numbers

- 42** counties out of 58 participated
- 94%** of FY seniors resided in participating counties
- 45%** of foster youth completed the FAFSA
- 58%** of the general population completed the FAFSA
- 1,276** FAFSAs completed through challenge



### Congratulations to this year's FAFSA Challenge Winners!

Large county awards: **San Diego and Orange Counties**

Medium county awards: **Fresno and Tulare Counties**

Small county awards: **Sonoma and Butte Counties**

Very small county awards: **Yuba and Shasta Counties**

 To learn more, go to [www.jbaforyouth.org/fafsachallenge](http://www.jbaforyouth.org/fafsachallenge).




### 3. Technical Assistance in Los Angeles Results in Improvements in Policy and Practice

Los Angeles County is home to 10,000 current and former foster youth who are between the ages of 16 and 24. Unfortunately, far too many of these youth transition to adulthood without the education and skills necessary to succeed in the 21st century workforce. With the support of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Foster Youth College Advancement Project (FYCAP) was launched in January 2018 by John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY) and UNITE-LA under the umbrella of the L.A. Opportunity Youth Collaborative. This initiative leverages a robust network of key stakeholders across K-12 education, child welfare, the court system, higher education and the nonprofit sector to develop collaborative strategies and systems improvements that help foster youth access, persist through, and complete postsecondary education.

#### 2017/2018 Accomplishment Highlights

1. **College Bound Antelope Valley** - Partnered with the L.A. Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to design and launch a pilot in the Antelope Valley region to increase postsecondary educational attainment of foster youth through targeted training and on-going coaching of social workers.
2. **Relative caregiver training mandate** - Received a commitment from DCFS to require caregivers who provide placement to youth between the ages of 12-19 to complete 3 hours of postsecondary educational training.
3. **Embedding college support in DCFS systems** - Worked with DCFS to move towards embedding college and career readiness into existing DCFS partner requirements, such as relative support services agency agreements and case plans for youth placed in group homes and with Foster Family Agencies.
4. **Postsecondary educational outcome tracking** - Engaged Los Angeles Unified and Hacienda La Puente Unified School Districts to participate in data sharing with Cal-PASS Plus to track college outcomes for foster youth.
5. **Strengthening collaboration** - Hosted the first Fostering Connections to Higher Education Summit in Los Angeles, bringing together 90 providers from across the region to share resources and develop strategies to better support foster youth college transition and success.
6. **Expanded access to basic needs support** - Engaged the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health (DMH) to develop strategies to improve access to emergency housing and mental health services for foster youth attending college.
7. **Trained over 1,600 professionals** across various sectors on topics related to increasing postsecondary educational attainment for foster youth.

 To learn more, go to <http://bit.ly/fycap>.

## 4. Legislative Victories Translate Local Innovation Into State Policy

One of the key pillars of CCP's theory of change is that individual foster youth outcomes can be positively impacted through systems change, at both the legislative and administrative level. CCP, under the leadership of JBAY, saw several momentous victories during the past year that will lead to more foster youth being equipped with the resources necessary to successfully enroll in and complete college.

### Improving FAFSA completion rates

In 2017, the legislature passed Senate Bill 12 (Beall), which was designed to increase the number of foster youth who successfully complete a FAFSA. The bill requires every county child welfare agency to identify a person to assist foster youth with applications for postsecondary education and financial aid. The bill also streamlined the financial aid verification process for foster youth through an automated data match between the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) and expanded the number of authorized NextUp programs from ten to twenty college districts.

### Expanded access to Cal Grants

In June 2018, the legislature passed Assembly Bill 1809 as part of the budget approval process. The bill expanded eligibility requirements for the State's largest financial aid program, the Cal Grant, to make the program more accessible to foster youth. The bill expanded the application window for foster youth and increased the maximum length of time a foster youth is eligible for a Cal Grant from 4 years to 8 years of full-time status enrollment. The passage of the policy changes was accompanied by a \$5.3 million budget expansion to implement the bill.

## Budget Expansion **Total annual funding leverage: \$32 million**



### Expanded access to Chafee ETV grants

In June 2018, through the advocacy of Journey House, the legislature passed Assembly Bill 1811, which expanded eligibility for the Chafee ETV program from up to age 22 to up to age 26 and added an additional \$4 million annually in state general funds to the program. These funds were on top of an additional \$3 million allocated previously in 2016 as a result of JBAY's advocacy.



For a full list of legislation impacting foster youth college access and success, visit [www.cacollegepathways.org/current-laws-policy/existing-laws-regulations](http://www.cacollegepathways.org/current-laws-policy/existing-laws-regulations).

## 5. Investment in Data and Research Identifies Strategies to Take to Scale



Adding to the body of knowledge available to the field has been an integral component of CCP since its inception. CCP works with research partner Educational Results Partnership to create original research to better understand foster youth experiences to and through college, including the identification of systemic barriers and effective practices to support this important student population.

In October 2015, CCP released a ground-breaking report on the state of foster youth success in California community colleges and universities called *Charting the Course: Using Data to Support Foster Youth College Success*. The report highlighted institutional level data from a subset of community colleges and universities within the CCP network, providing insights into important momentum points for foster youth as compared to outcomes for non-foster youth.

In 2017, CCP published *Accelerating Success: Turning Insights into Action for Foster Youth at California Community Colleges*. The report analyzed data from community colleges and K-12 systems with the goal of better understanding foster youth performance and how to better support positive foster youth outcomes. The report also highlighted several “bright spot” campuses with exceptional outcomes for foster youth and described common themes among these colleges.





**Key findings from the 2017 report included:**

For foster youth, receiving a standard high school diploma (rather than a GED or no diploma) was the most important element influencing college persistence from the first to the second term.



For foster youth without a standard diploma, declaring an academic goal of attaining a certificate, degree, or transfer upon matriculation (through CCCApply) was associated with a 13 percent increase in persistence, compared to youth that did not declare a goal.



There were noticeable differences in course success rates for foster youth among different ethnic groups, with Asians and whites outperforming African American and Latino students.



High school grade point average was the strongest predictor of community college course success for foster youth. For every additional high school grade point a student has, the course success rate increases by 15 percent.



For each additional high school a foster youth attends, the course success rate is estimated to decrease by almost 7 percent. For non-foster youth students, that figure is just 2 percent.



Institutional and program factors that correlated with foster youth success were the presence of early warning systems for academic under-performance, dedicated computer labs for foster youth and serving a high proportion of foster youth at the college.



Taking a math course within the first two years of college was the most important decision point for student success. If a student takes an English course and a math course, the predicted chance of completing a degree or transfer is 18 percent as compared to 5 percent if they do not.



To read the full report, visit [http://bit.ly/accelerating\\_success](http://bit.ly/accelerating_success).

## 6. Homelessness Among Students Emerges as a Pressing Issue



An increasing amount of attention is now being paid to the issue of food and housing insecurity among college students and over the past year, CCP began to expand its reach into how to best support students experiencing homelessness.

According to recent data, nationally 36% of university students and 51% of community college students are housing insecure. A full 9% of university students and 12% of community college students are experiencing homelessness. A study of students enrolled in the nine-college Los Angeles Community College District found numbers even more troubling – 55% of students are experiencing some form of housing

insecurity and 18% are homeless. The numbers of students facing food insecurity nationally are as high as 36% of university students and 56% of community college students.

As college campuses have begun to develop strategies to address basic needs, CCP's efforts have focused on identifying promising approaches to addressing these issues and disseminating information about these practices across the community college system. Activities have also included providing training to professionals regarding new rules for students seeking to access CalFresh benefits (including how foster youths' particular circumstances may impact CalFresh eligibility) and guidance regarding best practices in determining eligibility for benefits such as financial aid and priority registration based on homeless status.

### Community College Basic Needs Summit

On April 26 and 27, 2018 the Community College Chancellor's Office hosted the first-ever Community College Basic Needs Summit. Over 275 attendees participated from 130 different colleges and allied organizations. CCP was an active partner in the planning of this event, working closely with the Chancellor's office to advise on potential speakers and bring content knowledge to the table.





## 7. Philanthropic Support Expands to Meet the Need

In 1999, the Stuart Foundation became the first philanthropic partner to invest in a Guardian Scholars program. In 2004 the Walter S. Johnson Foundation joined Stuart Foundation, and the two foundations partnered with California Community Colleges and the CSU and UC systems to create campus support programs for foster youth across the state. With their combined investment of more than \$4.7 million, the two foundations provided direct funding to 13 campuses.

In 2013, the CCP funders alliance was created and the Stuart Foundation and Walter S. Johnson Foundation were joined by the Angell Foundation, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust, Pritzker Foster Care Initiative, Foster Care Counts, and Tipping Point Community. Over time additional funders joined the effort, including The California Wellness Foundation and Ralph M. Parsons Foundation.



Over the past year, the Ticket to Dream Foundation, Reissa Foundation, Power to Soar Foundation and Johnny Carson Foundation have become new members of the alliance, resulting in a coalition of fourteen philanthropic partners that now invest in this work.

These fourteen funding partners now provide support to 46 campuses along with 45 community-based providers focused on moving forward the goals of CCP.

As a result of the strong public-private partnerships forged by the funding partners, CCP is now being recognized as a state and national leader. CCP was selected for the 2018 Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships from the Council on Foundations, in partnership with the U.S. Department on Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The award honors and highlights the importance of cross-sector partnerships in transforming lives for low-income Americans. In addition, the Walter S. Johnson Foundation was awarded the Bernard Osher Philanthropist of the Year Award. This award recognizes organizations or individuals that have made significant contributions that benefit California Community Colleges.



## WHAT'S NEXT?

While much has been accomplished in recent years, there is still much to be done to reach the long-term goal of the initiative — that foster youth are enrolling and succeeding in college at rates that rival their peers.

For the coming year, CCP has once again crafted a set of ambitious goals — goals that will be accomplished only with continued support and engagement from a broad array of stakeholders including college staff, child welfare and probation agencies, K-12 programs, community-based organizations, funding partners, policy makers, advocates, and students with lived experience in foster care.

Plans for the year ahead include:

- **Campus-based support.** Continued support to campus-based foster youth programs, including partnering with the California Community College Chancellor's Office to support the successful roll-out of new NextUp programs.
- **Research.** Collaboration with Educational Results Partnership to produce research highlighting the intersection between various child welfare experiences and postsecondary success as well as how K-12 history impacts the college experience of foster youth.
- **Blueprint Conference.** Hosting the bi-annual Blueprint for Success conference in Fall 2019.
- **FAFSA Challenge.** Sponsorship of the second annual California Foster Youth FAFSA Challenge.
- **Los Angeles child welfare practice.** Development of a mandatory caregiver training on postsecondary education in Los Angeles County and expansion of the Antelope Valley pilot program in Los Angeles County.
- **Training for homeless student liaisons.** Development of a comprehensive training regarding college transition for California's 1,800 McKinney Vento homeless liaisons.
- **Policy implementation.** Collaboration with state and county agencies to support robust implementation of recently enacted laws, including expanded financial aid eligibility and new social worker case-planning requirements.
- **Policy advocacy.** Sponsorship of new legislation to continue to streamline access to financial aid.



## ENDNOTES



1. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, *Credentials and Competencies: Demonstrating the Economic Value of Postsecondary Education*.
2. *California's Economic Payoff: Investing in College Access and Completion*, Institute for the Study of Societal Issues, University of California, Berkeley for The Campaign for College Opportunity, April 2012.
3. Bohn, Sarah, *California's Need for Skilled Workers*, Public Policy Institute of California, 2014.
4. Educational Results Partnership, *Charting the Course: Using Data to Support Foster Youth College Success*, 2015.
5. National College Access Network, *Why Invest in Increasing FAFSA Completion?*, accessed at [www.collegeaccess.org/WhyInvestFAFSA](http://www.collegeaccess.org/WhyInvestFAFSA) on August 9, 2018.

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