Improving Financial Aid Completion:
5 Components of Success

November 2019

1. An Overview

2. The 5 Components

3. Q& W

Agenda

California College Guidance Initiative

The Education Trust—West

- Advocates for educational justice and the high academic achievement of **all California students**, Pre-K through college, particularly those of color and living in poverty.

- Influences policy in California by engaging key education stakeholders, including policymakers, thought leaders, practitioners, community groups, civic organizations, parents, and students.

- Drives state and national conversation about how our education system can better serve students of color and low-income students, pre-k through college.

- Identifies and analyzes data related to the inequities in California schools and colleges that disproportionately impact underserved students of color and low-income students.

- Believes **all California students** deserve quality college and career planning support and a smooth pathway to higher education.

- Provides data and planning infrastructure to unify the efforts of educational institutions, nonprofits and others focused on increasing postsecondary preparation and attainment.

- Identifies and eliminates data conflicts that prevent qualified students from attending UC and CSU schools.

- Connects K-12, public college, FAFSA and CA DREAM Act data systems with a 100% student match rate.

- Makes personalized, data-informed college, career and financial-aid planning tools available to one in four California 6-12th grad students.

Components of Success

01
Prioritizing completion through policy

02
Collecting & monitoring appropriate data

03
Establishing & maintaining strong partnerships

04
Building relationships & trust

05
Programming with students at the center

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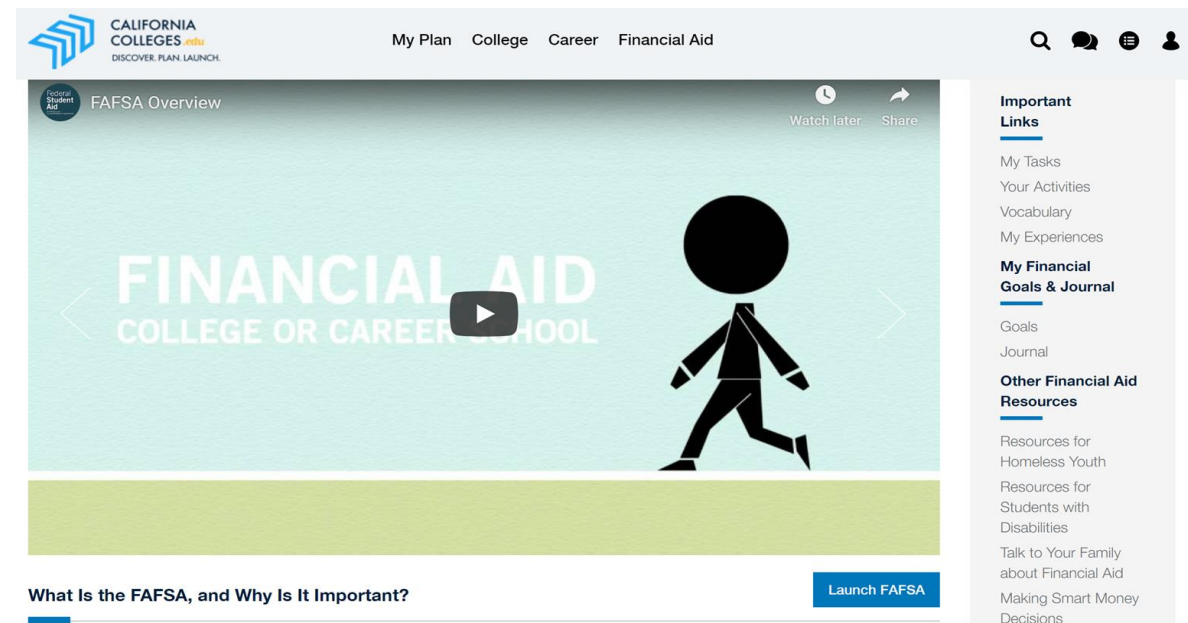
05
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01

Prioritizing Completion Through Policy

PRIORITIZING COMPLETION THROUGH POLICY

- CCGI's **CaliforniaColleges.edu** platform can be used to support districts in implementing a local financial aid completion policy.

- Val Verde Unified School District's graduation requirements include completion of FAFSA.

Class of 2020 and beyond	
English	40
Math (Must Include Alg 1)	30
World History	10
US History	10
Economics	5
American Government/Civics	5
Life Science	10
Physical Science	10
Science Elective	10
Fine Art/Foreign Language	10
P.E.	20
Electives	+ 60
Total	220

Plus 40 hours of community service completed at a non-profit organization, and a completed FAFSA application for college financial aid.

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01

Prioritizing Completion Through Policy

VAL VERDE USD: POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

- Early **engagement** about financial aid applications starts in 8th grade.

- Students must complete a financial aid application (FAFSA/CADAA) to **graduate with a diploma** from VVUSD.

- Use CaliforniaColleges.edu to have students **launch financial aid applications**.

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02

Collecting & Monitoring Appropriate Data

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS

- Students launch FAFSA or CA Dream Act from within their CaliforniaColleges.edu account.

- SSID is associated with FAFSA/CA Dream Act launch, preventing data mismatches that can delay Cal Grant verification.

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02

Collecting & Monitoring Appropriate Data

MY FINANCIAL AID PLAN

Students' application status and GPA verification are visible in **My Plan** and educator reports.

02

Collecting & Monitoring Appropriate Data

EDUCATOR DASHBOARD

There are four status updates for FAFSA/CADAA reports:

- Not Launched.

- Launched, but Submitted/Completed Not Verified.

- Submitted.

- Completed.

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Collecting & Monitoring Appropriate Data

VAL VERDE USD: DATA COLLECTION & USE

- Counselors collect data from CaliforniaColleges.edu and Web Admit.

- 85% of seniors launched financial aid applications from within CaliforniaColleges.edu.

- Counselors work with the students who have not launched a financial aid application to determine why and develop a new plan.

- Students have visibility into their own My Plan (digital portfolio) on CaliforniaColleges.edu.

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03

Establishing & Maintaining Strong Partnerships

VAL VERDE USD: STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

Key Partnerships

- California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI)
- Moreno Valley College
- UC Riverside
- Riverside County Education Collaborative (RCEC)

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Establishing & Maintaining Strong Partnerships

AFFILIATE ACCOUNTS: INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PARTNERSHIP

Colleges and organizations that work with partner districts to **extend their college guidance efforts** can gain **Affiliate access** to CaliforniaColleges.edu.

College outreach staff can view high school students' account information **before and after they apply to college**, including:

- 6th - 12th grade transcript data.

- College and career planning activities.

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Establishing & Maintaining Strong Partnerships

AFFILIATE USER ROLE

- Makes the college or program a Third-Party Authorized User.

- Allows students to add the college as a "secondary site" on CaliforniaColleges.edu

- Provides real time "view only" access to students' Academic Planner and college and career planning data.

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04

Building Relationships & Trust

CENTRALIZED HUB

- The associated 6th-12th grade curriculum guides students through a series of developmentally-appropriate college and career planning activities.

- Platform creates opportunity for engagement with students about their aspirations.

DISCOVER.

PLAN.

LAUNCH.

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Building Relationships & Trust

VAL VERDE USD: ENGAGEMENT

Engagement, trust, and relationship building with students and parents about the financial aid process begins in 8th grade and continues with parent informational nights district-wide and at each site.

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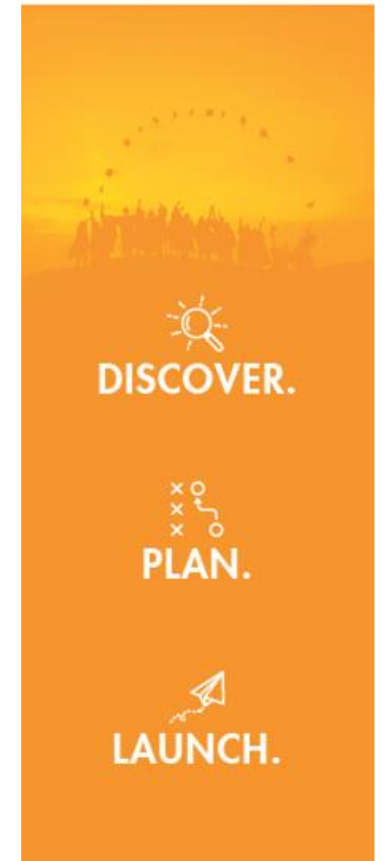
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CALIFORNIACOLLEGES.EDU

CaliforniaColleges.edu is an interactive, web-based platform with an associated curriculum that:

- Helps **students** create and launch a plan.

- Informs **parents** about the topics that matter most.

- Enables **educators** to track student progress.

Welcome

CaliforniaColleges.edu provides students with an **all-inclusive guide for their college & career paths & enables educators to track their progress.**

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CAREER ASSESSMENTS

Career assessments help students connect their personal preferences, interests, and skills to their career goals.

- **Interest Profiler**
  (All Students)

- **Learning Styles Inventory**
  (Middle School Students)

- **Multiple Intelligences**
  (High School Students)

- **Do What You Are**
  (High School Students)

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CAREER SEARCH TOOL

Students can use the **Career Search Tool** to explore careers that match their preferences.

Career Search Tool
Explore careers that match your interests. Find careers by using the keyword search or the Industry and Bright Outlook filters.

| Search By Keywords | Search | Health Care and Social Assistance ▼ | Search |

| Select Bright Outlook Occupation ▼ | Search |

Results *166*   Compare

Compare	Career	Education Level	Salary	Bright Outlook	Favorites
☐	Acute Care Nurses	Associate's Degree Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree	$ 68,450	Grow Rapidly New & Emerging Openings	❤️
☐	Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nurses	Master's Degree Post-Master's Certificate First Professional Degree	$ 68,450	Grow Rapidly New & Emerging Openings	♡

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MAJOR SEARCH TOOL

Students can use the **Major Search Tool** to explore majors related to their interests, and then they can see which colleges offer those majors.

Major Search Tool

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".

Business Administration, Management and Operatio

Results 14

Majors	Description	Find Colleges Offering this Majors	Favorite
Business Administration and Management, General	A program that generally prepares individuals to plan, organize, direct, and control the functions and processes of a firm or organization. Includes instruction in management theory, human resources management and behavior, accounting and other quantitative methods, purchasing and logistics, organization and production, marketing, and business decision-making.	View Colleges	♡
Purchasing, Procurement/Acquisitions and Contracts Management	A program that prepares individuals to manage and/or administer the processes by which a firm or organization contracts for goods and services to support its operations, as well as contracts it to sell to other firms or organizations. Includes instruction in contract law, negotiations, buying procedures, government contracting, cost and price analysis, vendor relations, contract administration, auditing and inspection, relations with other firm departments, and applications to special areas such as high-technology systems, international purchasing, and construction.	View Colleges	♥

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COLLEGE SEARCH TOOL

Students can use the **College Search Tool** to research and compare colleges and find the best fit.

College Search Tool
Find colleges in California and across the country based on what is important to you.

🔍 Search by Keyword ✕ **Search** ● National Search ○ California Only Search

Field of Study
Program
Major
State
Specialty Schools
Campus Activities
Teams & Recreational Sports

Reset All Filter

Degree Options
☐ Certificate Programs
☐ Bachelor Degrees (B.A. or B.S.)
☐ Associate Degrees (A.A. or A.S.)
☐ Graduate Degrees (Ph.D., M.D., J.D.)

Application Type
☐ CCCApply Application
☐ CSU Application
☐ UC Application
☐ Common App

Type of Environment
☐ Rural (e.g. Farmersville, CA)
☐ Suburban (e.g. Albany, CA)
☐ Town (e.g. Pomona, CA)

Size
☐ Small (up to 5,000 students)
☐ Medium (5,000 - 15,000 students)
☐ Large (15,000 - 30,000 students or more)

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ACADEMIC PLANNER

Students can use the **Academic Planner** to intentionally plan their high school coursework.

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CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION LAUNCH

Students can launch **CCC, CSU, FAFSA, and CA Dream Act applications** from within their accounts and track submissions.

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VAL VERDE USD: STUDENTS AT THE CENTER

- Clear implementation plan with milestones by grade level that support students in developing a My Plan.

- Centralize the application process on CaliforniaColleges.edu:

  o Easier for students.

  o Helps ensure the movement of data to other institutions to support students' admissions and placement.

  o Gives the district critical data that help us ensure more students submit applications.

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Questions

Exit Survey

https://tinyurl.com/ETW-CCGI

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