

THE CALIFORNIA CRADLE-TO-CAREER DATA SYSTEM

Equity in Practice Learning Community (EiPLC)



ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA CRADLE-TO-CAREER DATA SYSTEM

The California Cradle-to-Career Data System (C2C) is a statewide longitudinal data system that provides tools to help students reach their goals and delivers information on education and workforce outcomes.

Vision: C2C connects individuals and organizations with trusted information and resources, providing insights into critical milestones in the pipeline from early care to K–12 to higher education, skills training, and employment. The data system empowers individuals to reach their full potential and fosters evidence-based decision-making to help California build a more equitable future. C2C is housed under the Government Operations Agency.

Governance: C2C's executive director reports to a Governing Board consisting of 21 members, including:

- » Two California State Assembly and two California State Senate appointees
- » Four California Governor's Office appointees
- » Data providers

C2C maintains two 16-member Advisory Boards focused on Community Engagement and Data and Tools.

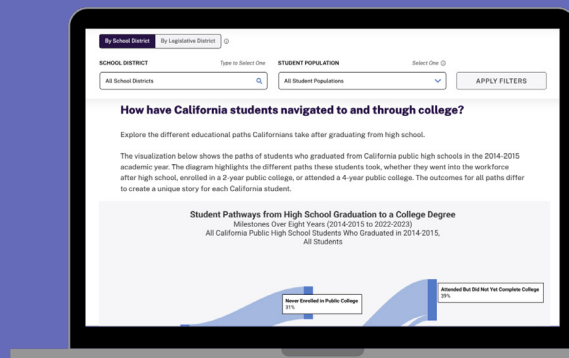
Cradle-to-Career has developed one common legal agreement signed by 18 state entities in education, social service, and workforce entities that allow for the creation of C2C's P20W dataset.

ANALYTICAL TOOLS

STUDENT PATHWAYS DATA STORY LAUNCH

Cradle-to-Career is charged with creating actionable tools for Californians, and in April 2025, C2C released a first-of-its-kind informational tool to help students better understand their options for education and career planning.

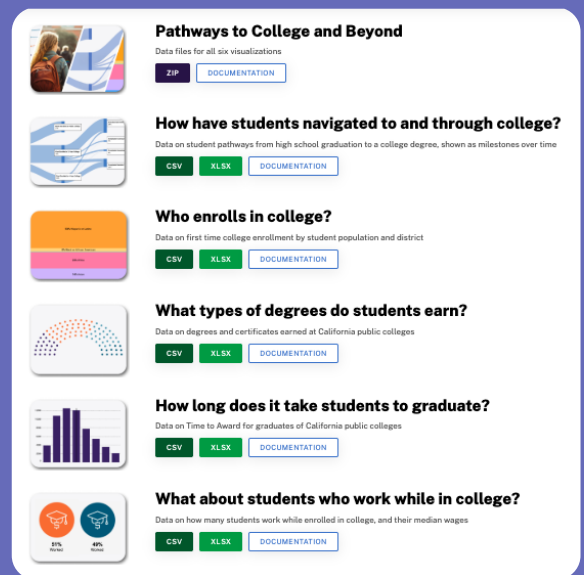
Users can delve into the rich insights provided by the Student Pathways Data Story, focusing on students who go to public high schools and public colleges. Discover how students in California have navigated to and through college over time, as well as information about who enrolls in college, what types of degrees or awards students earn, and how long it takes them to graduate. Users can also learn more about students who work during college and how much students earn after graduation.



QUERY BUILDER

Additionally, in September, Cradle-to-Career took the first step towards its Query Builder project for researchers by releasing data files that power the Student Pathways dashboard.

Released as a suite of Excel and CSV files, the newly available dataset allows researchers and analysts to explore connected education and workforce data in one place. Experienced data users will have the ability to connect to other existing datasets to deliver customized insights on different education pathways and impact on career outcomes. The acceleration of this work paves the way for more nimble and efficient decision-making for the state's leaders while also meeting the needs of students and families for college and career planning.



Pathways to College and Beyond
Data files for all six visualizations
ZIP DOCUMENTATION

How have students navigated to and through college?
Data on student pathways from high school graduation to a college degree, shown as milestones over time
CSV XLSX DOCUMENTATION

Who enrolls in college?
Data on first time college enrollment by student population and district
CSV XLSX DOCUMENTATION

What types of degrees do students earn?
Data on degrees and certificates earned at California public colleges
CSV XLSX DOCUMENTATION

How long does it take students to graduate?
Data on Time to Award for graduates of California public colleges
CSV XLSX DOCUMENTATION

What about students who work while in college?
Data on how many students work while enrolled in college, and their median wages
CSV XLSX DOCUMENTATION

DATA LITERACY

LESSON PLAN CHALLENGE

Following the release of C2C's Student Pathways Data Story, the overwhelming response from the public was that people wanted to learn how to engage with the dashboards and bring the data back to their communities.

We responded to that feedback with the recent launch of C2C's Lesson Plan Challenge, a statewide invitation for teachers to design a lesson plan that demonstrates creative and accessible ways to integrate the Student Pathways dashboard into instruction, enabling students, educators, and communities to interpret education and career pathways data and insights, build data literacy skills, while centering the student experience in exploring data.



ATTENTION ALL EDUCATORS!

Design an engaging lesson plan that empowers students to explore education and career pathways with the Cradle-to-Career Student Pathways Dashboard.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- Educators & Faculty
- Teachers In Training
- Education Practitioners
- Future Pathfinders

THE CHALLENGE:

Design a 45-60 minute lesson plan that:

- Sparks curiosity & keeps students engaged
- Incorporates the Student Pathways Data Story
- Makes learning interactive and meaningful

SCAN HERE

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE MARCH 2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CRADLE-TO-CAREER,
VISIT: c2c.ca.gov

