Higher education is both a vaccine and an antidote against economic stagnation and social stratification—for individual Californians, our communities, and the state’s economy.
Our Policy **Priorities**

- College Access and Success for Adults
- Higher Education & Workforce Alignment
- Effective & Accessible Online Education
- Coordinated Policy Setting & Implementation
Today's Agenda

- Examining California's Postsecondary Landscape: Affordability, Access, and Opportunity
- Reimagining California’s Postsecondary System to Meet The Needs of Today and Tomorrow
- Improving College Access and Affordability with Holistic Student Support
- Dig Deep with California Competes
Examining California’s Postsecondary Landscape: Affordability, Access, and Opportunity
Who is flourishing?

Who is struggling?

Explore at: p2p.californiocompetes.org
Reimagining California’s Postsecondary System to Meet the Needs of Today and Tomorrow

SU JIN JEZ, PHD CEO
Governor’s state attainment goal and current status

**Attainment Goal**

- **70%** postsecondary attainment by 2030

**State**

- **53%** postsecondary attainment as of 2022
Who goes to college has *changed* over time.

Students of color make up a *larger* share of today’s students.

Percentage of undergraduate students enrolled in fall by race and ethnicity

- **Latinx**: 46%
- **White**: 26%
- **Asian/Pacific Islander**: 17%
- **Black**: 6%
- **Two or more races**: 5%
- **Native American**: 0.3%

Source: CCCCO Datamart
6.8 Million
Adults with a HS diploma and no college degree

Majority are parents

Majority have some college experience
Rising costs of college have made higher education less affordable.

Cost of attending college continues to increase.

Source: US Department of Education, College Scorecard, May 2022
The current situation calls for a **paradigm shift**.

**A new vision** requires that we determine the following:

- The goal of higher education in today's California
- Structures and resources to meet these goals
- Student needs and the challenges they face
Key principles for a reimagined higher education system

- Equity
- Accessibility
- Affordability
- Meaningful education
- Adaptability
Transforming California’s higher education starts with designing for the student.

- Regional structure
- Connections to careers
- Open access with numerous entry points
- Flexible learning modalities
- Expanded conceptions of the college experience
- A debt-free path to completion
- Equitable transitions from high school to college
- A reconstituted coordinating entity
Improving College Access and Affordability with **Holistic Student Support**

AJ JOHNSON
POLICY DIRECTOR
California Competes’s Cal Grant Reform Primer demystifies the program and future plans.

For over 60 years, the Cal Grant program has stood as a cornerstone of California’s commitment to making higher education accessible and affordable by offering need-based financial aid to eligible students. However, the postsecondary landscape has evolved significantly since the program’s inception, creating complexities and limitations within the current system. This primer provides an overview of the current Cal Grant program, traces the trajectory that led to current reforms efforts, and offers a high-level comparison between the existing program and the modernized version.
What will change with the Cal Grant Reform?

- The structure will be simplified.
- Age, GPA, and income requirements will be streamlined.
- Financial aid will address the full cost of attendance.
Who will be newly *eligible*?

### Number of Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Cal Grant</td>
<td>376,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cal Grant Reform</td>
<td>513,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase</strong></td>
<td><strong>+137,226</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recipients’ Average Income

- Current Cal Grant: $37,364
- Cal Grant Reform: $28,625
- **Decrease**: $8,739

### Average Age

- Current: 23
- Cal Grant Reform: 25
- **Increase**: 2
Who will be newly eligible?

- **Latinx**: 242,323 eligible
- **African American**: 18,407 eligible
  - Current: 31,583
  - Change: +13,175
- **Asian**: 35,198 eligible
  - Current: 42,908
  - Change: +7,710
Who will be newly *eligible*?

**California Dream Act Applicants**
- 9,043
- 11,618
- **+2,575**

**First-Generation Students**
- 243,071
- 336,620
- **+93,549**

**Student Parents**
- 49,021
- 95,287
- **+46,266**
California Competes’s Student Housing Primer highlights recent legislative actions and common strategies to address housing challenges.
Housing contributes greatly to students’ cost of attendance.

![Diagram showing costs of attendance for different universities and campus types.]

- **CCC on campus**: $9,983 (Housing: $3,586, Other Expenses: $3,120, Tuition and Fees: $1,408, Books and Supplies: $1,165)
- **CCC off campus**: $18,488 (Housing: $4,878, Other Expenses: $4,887, Tuition and Fees: $1,202, Books and Supplies: $1,408)
- **CSU on campus**: $15,708 (Housing: $3,288, Other Expenses: $7,498, Tuition and Fees: $1,165)
- **CSU off campus**: $17,432 (Housing: $4,209, Other Expenses: $7,498, Tuition and Fees: $1,165)
- **UC on campus**: $17,975 (Housing: $4,861, Other Expenses: $14,273, Tuition and Fees: $1,290)
- **UC off campus**: $14,425 (Housing: $5,484, Other Expenses: $14,273, Tuition and Fees: $1,290)
Many California students lack stable housing

1 in 5 California Community College students
1 in 10 California State University students
1 in 20 University of California students

face housing insecurity and homelessness
Recent legislative actions to inform and advance housing efforts

- **Information Gathering**
  Understand housing costs, availability, and student needs

- **Housing Capacity Expansion**
  $9 billion for developing affordable student housing and addressing homelessness
Strategies to *promote safe and adequate* student housing

- Align housing investments with student needs
- Leverage community partnerships
- Employ emergency housing interventions
- Monitor progress and revisit plans
California Affordable Student Housing (CASH) Coalition

Affordable Student Housing Spotlights

bit.ly/student-housing-spotlights
California Competes’s Compendium of Public Benefits Programs

bit.ly/public-benefit-programs
User-friendly tool to streamline access to public benefits

**Public Benefit Finder for California Students**

California Competes’s online tool helps you learn about public benefits you may qualify for as a student in California. The tool shows benefits you may qualify for including the link to apply and steps to take. Use the filters to change the results, print, and share. California Competes’s research team has included in the description of each program, the official government website links for each program and how to apply to the program. These links are safe to explore.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Type</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Maximum Benefit Up to (Yearly)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cal Grant</td>
<td>Cal Grant (UC)</td>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>$15,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal Pell Grant</td>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>$7,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cal Grant (CSU)</td>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>$7,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CalFresh</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$1,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CalWORKs</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pandemic Stimulus Checks</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lifetime Learning Credit (LLC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cal Grant (Community Colleges)</td>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>$1,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>California Earned Income Tax Credit (CaliEITC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child Tax Credit (CTC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>California Chafe Grant for Foster Youth</td>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC)</td>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Covered California</td>
<td>Health care</td>
<td>You receive health insurance coverage. Use this calculator to find out how much you could qualify for.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[bit.ly/public-benefit-finder]
Strategies to *increase uptake* of benefits

| ✔ Establish categorical eligibility for students |
| ✔ Simplify application & re-certification processes |
| ✔ Reduce documentation requirements |
| ✔ Facilitate data sharing across agencies |
| ✔ Outreach to potential participants |
| ✔ Enhance accessibility |
Dig Deep with California Competes

SU JIN JEZ, PHD
CEO

&

AJ JOHNSON
POLICY DIRECTOR
Thank you for joining us!

Please submit your feedback:

Su Jin Jez, PhD
jez@californiacompetes.org

AJ Johnson
ajohnson@californiacompetes.org