

# The Value of the Cradle-to-Career Data System for Californians

Scale CaliforniaColleges.edu statewide to smooth the transition from high school to college

Web-based tools for students, families, and practitioners

Value for Californians	Current State	Future State
<b>Clarify and streamline the college application process for students and California public colleges</b>	<p>For students, college and financial aid applications are confusing and difficult to navigate</p> <p>Student entered data is often inaccurate causing delays and inefficiencies in the admissions and placement processes</p>	<p>For students, one-stop shop makes it easy to select and apply to public colleges in California, including pre-population of applications with verified transcript data</p> <p>For California public colleges, pre-verified course data streamlines admissions processing, informs first year academic placement, and student advising</p>
<b>Improve financial aid knowledge and access</b>	Information on financial aid options is confusing and aid is hard to apply for	One-stop shop for all financial aid options and how to apply presented in student-friendly language
<b>Help educators monitor college and financial aid applications in real-time</b>	High school educators can't consistently track the status of their students' college and financial aid applications to provide hands on support to their students	High school educators can monitor all seniors' applications to California public colleges and for financial aid so they can intervene and support as needed
<b>Reduce admission rejections due to poor data quality</b>	Inconsistent coursework data definitions between systems means student credits don't always qualify, resulting in unexpected admission rejections	Data clean-up support monitors and vastly reduces the number of students whose a-g courses are not properly recognized by admissions staff leading to more accurate guidance while in high school and fewer painful and unexpected rejections
<b>Improve reporting from state-funded programs</b>	State-funded programs college readiness and outreach programs rely on inconsistent and self-reported data	All programs can leverage the CaliforniaColleges.edu platform to ensure completion of a state-approved college knowledge curriculum and track key activities like college and financial aid applications, creating consistency and efficiencies in reporting

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## Expand eTranscript California to help working adults attend college Application and eligibility services for students, colleges, and social service agencies

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<b>Support students' foundational needs for food and medical care</b>	Students don't always know they are eligible for support services while in college	Students can opt-in to auto check eligibility for state food and medical care services via eTranscript California
<b>Strengthen implementation of competency-based education</b>	Veterans and workers shifting careers have difficulty informing colleges of relevant skills that could streamline their education	eTranscript California will allow students to share documentation on skills such as badges and industry certifications, in addition to traditional course records

## Build a shared picture of what's happening to our students from cradle to career

Data tools for policy makers, researchers, advocates, and the public

<b>Clarify structural factors that shape long-term outcomes for various groups of students</b>	Policy makers and education leaders don't have information on longer-term outcomes for students, how outcomes vary for different types of students, and how state investments could better address structural inequities	Information on education, social service, workforce training, and employment will be linked so that policy makers and the public can better focus local improvement efforts and advocate for changes to local and state policy
<b>Streamline access to data</b>	Researchers, advocates, policymakers, and others have difficulty accessing data that will would help to inform policy, continuous improvement, and efforts to close equity gaps	A large public data set that allows users to view data through dashboards and design custom data tables from 200 data points, paired with a streamlined data request process and secure access structures, will enable more researchers to securely and easily access information

**Cradle to Career Data System webpage:** <https://cadatasystem.wested.org>

**CaliforniaColleges.edu:** [www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu)

**eTranscript California:** [www.etranscriptca.org](http://www.etranscriptca.org)