

Financial Aid Completion Effort in California: Resources for K-12 Schools, Districts, and County Offices of Education

July 2022

As of January 2022 there is a new financial aid application completion requirement for local educational agencies (high schools, school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools) to ensure that their seniors are completing and submitting the FAFSA or CADAA beginning October 1, 2022, or opting-out.

This toolkit equips you with information and resources to help your high school, district, and county office of education implement California’s financial aid application completion policy:

Action	Resources
Review the following resources	<p>Below are the compiled resources for your high school, district, and county office of education to use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Research on best practices to increase FAFSA/CADAA completion rates at your school and/or district. Hidden Figures: A Framework to Increase Access to Financial Aid by The Education Trust–West: https://west.edtrust.org/financial-aid-toolbox/ <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on California’s Financial Aid Application Completion Requirement for Local Education Agencies by The Education Trust–West: https://bit.ly/3Msl7Gs <input type="checkbox"/> Funding financial aid completion efforts in California by utilizing different funding sources for financial aid application completion expenses by The Education Trust–West: https://bit.ly/3aDkvB4 <input type="checkbox"/> A Parent’s Guide to Financial Aid by GO Public Schools: https://bit.ly/GOFinAid <input type="checkbox"/> Financial aid Guide for California Foster Youth by John Burton Advocates for Youth: https://jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide/ <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Aid Guide for California Homeless Youth by John Burton Advocates for Youth: https://jbay.org/resources/financial-aid-guide-for-ca-homeless-youth/
Connect with partners who can help	<p>We’ve crafted a sample outreach email that you can use to reach out to organizations for help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Sample outreach email to use when contacting organizations to help your high school, district, and county office of education with financial aid application completion: https://bit.ly/3zslxsg

We've developed and compiled an approved vendor list of organizations across the state that support your high school, district, and county office of education with financial aid completion:

- [FREE] Cash for College workshops:**
<https://cash4college.csac.ca.gov/Organization/RCOContacts>
 Contact: Cash for College workshops Regional Coordinating Organization or (RCO) to assist you.

- [FREE] Support from California Student Opportunity and Access Program:**
<https://www.csac.ca.gov/post/cal-soap-locations>
 Cal-SOAP projects operate in sixteen locations throughout the state to support your school/or district.
 Contact: Your local Cal-SOAP Consortium.

- [FREE] Support from California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI):**
CaliforniaColleges.edu
 CaliforniaColleges.edu is managed by the nonprofit California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI). CCGI partners with school districts to smooth student paths to college and career.
 Contact: Tessa Carmen De Roy, tderoy@californiacolleges.edu.

- [FREE] Support from Local County Offices of Education**
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/schooldirectory/county-offices-of-education>
 Contact: Your local county offices of education

- [FREE] Support from Local Community Colleges**
 Contact: Your local community college financial aid office

- [FREE] Support from College Promise Programs:**
<https://californiacollegepromise.wested.org/what-is-ca-college-promise>
 College Promise programs provide direct financial support to students.

- [FREE/FEE FOR SERVICE] Support from community-based organizations, college-readiness programs, and technology education organizations:**

BAY AREA

Organization: uAspire: <https://www.uaspire.org/>
 Serving: Hayward, Oakland, and San Francisco.
 Contact: bayareainquiry@uaspire.org for general inquiries & Michelle Murphy, michellem@uaspire.org, for College Affordability Training for your school/district

Organization: GO Public Schools: <https://gopublicschools.org/>
Serving: Oakland, West Contra Costa, Fresno
Contact: Darcel Sanders, dsanders@gopublicschools.org

Organization: Northern California College Promise Coalition:
<https://www.norcalpromisecoalition.org/>
Contact: Meredith “Mer” Curry, mer@norcalpromisecoalition.org

CENTRAL VALLEY

Organization: Stockton Scholars: <https://www.stocktonscholars.org/>
Contact: Janae Aptaker, janae@stocktonscholars.org

LOS ANGELES

Organization: Unite-LA: <https://www.unitela.com/>
Contact: Alysia Bell, abell@unitela.com

Organization: Kid City/Los Angeles United Methodist Urban
Foundation: https://www.urbanfoundation.org/kid_city
Contact: Anne Hawthorne, annehawthorne@urbanfoundation.org

Organization: SoCal College Access Network
Contact: Alison De Lucca, alison@socalcollegeaccess.org

INLAND EMPIRE

Organization: BLU Educational Foundation:
<https://www.bluedfoundation.org/>
Contact: Dina Walker, dwalker@bluedfoundation.org

Organization: Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement:
<https://copesite.org/>
Contact: Laniea King, lking@copesite.org

Organization: OneFuture Coachella Valley:
<https://www.onefuturecv.org/>
Contact: Sheila Thornton, sheila@onefuturecv.org

Organization: Reach Higher Riverside:
<https://www.reachhigherriverside.com/>
Contact: ReachHigherRiverside@gmail.com

STATEWIDE

Organization: Immigrants Rising: <https://immigrantsrising.org>
Contact: Nancy Jodaitis, nancy@immigrantsrising.org.

	<p>Organization: CollegeTrack: https://collegetrack.org/ Contact: Marshall Lott marshall@collegetrack.org (Northern California) & Farah Norr farah@collegetrack.org (Los Angeles Region)</p> <p>Organization: John Burton Advocates for Youth: https://jbay.org/ Contact: Debbie Raucher, debbie@jbay.org</p> <p>Organization: Parent Institute for Quality Education: https://www.piqe.org/ Contact: Info@piqe.org & list of contacts for each region https://www.piqe.org/contact-us/</p>
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