



The Education Trust–West

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PEOPLE



# Cradle-to-Career Data System

## What is the Cradle-to-Career Data System?

The Cradle-to-Career (C2C) Data System is a **statewide longitudinal data system** that will connect critical state-level educational, workforce, financial aid, and social services information currently siloed across various state agencies. The data system will maintain data and provide tools to help students and families make evidence-based decisions about their education pathways and when planning for their futures. Connecting this data will also be critical for advocates and decision-makers to understand how students of color and multilingual learners are affected by systemic barriers to opportunity along their paths and to develop equitable solutions.

In 2019, California passed legislation that called for the creation of this data system. **With the state prioritizing the development of this system, the voices of students and families of color need to be centered to ensure that California can focus on improving outcomes for our most marginalized communities.**

## Why does California need this data system?

- 1 California's information about opportunities and outcomes in early learning and care, TK-12 schools, colleges, social services, and employment is currently disconnected. A longitudinal data system can be a powerful tool that allows California to identify bright spots, inequities, and roadblocks in our educational system, especially for students of color—including those from Black, Latinx, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Native American communities—and multilingual learners, especially those experiencing poverty.
- 2 Educators and policymakers need access to the most up-to-date data in order to identify educational disparities that negatively impact marginalized students and develop solutions to address systemic barriers in California's educational system.
- 3 Families, students, and communities need easy access to tools and data that help them make informed decisions about their education and futures.



## How Can You Benefit from the C2C Data System?

### For Individuals and Families



Access college platforms and tools that facilitate the college application process, including financial aid applications, and track college admission requirements, all in one place.



Explore career choices with tools that help compare education levels required, skills needed and salary for desired jobs, and colleges and majors to match career goals.

### For Educators and Education Leaders



Make data-informed decisions about instruction, support services, college and career pathways, and staffing at your school or district.



Support students by streamlining college and financial aid applications and access reports to support student advising.

### For Policymakers, Advocates, and Researchers



Analyze and use disaggregated data from multiple sources and across sectors to develop and advocate for policy changes that advance educational equity.



Build datasets and request access to data to support education research in multiple sectors, including early education and care, higher education, and workforce trends and outcomes.

## How Can You Stay Involved?



For more on why equity is crucial in the C2C Data System, what's happening with implementation, and how you can join EdTrust-West and take action, visit [www.eddataforthepeople.org](http://www.eddataforthepeople.org).



Read our Trending in the Right Direction: A Data for the People Progress Report on California's C2C Data System [here](#).



Join our Data for The People Coalition by filling out this [form](#).



Stay up to date with the Office of C2C and their efforts to implement the system. You can find more information on how you can access tools, participate in meetings, provide input, and serve on an Advisory Board [here](#).

