



LaunchBoard FAQ

October 2021

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LAUNCHBOARD?

The LaunchBoard, a statewide data system supported by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and hosted by Cal-PASS Plus, provides data on the effectiveness of college programs. This information is intended to facilitate local, regional, and statewide conversations about how to foster student success and economic mobility.

WHAT INFORMATION IS INCLUDED IN THE LAUNCHBOARD?

The LaunchBoard brings together multiple data sets to provide a more holistic view of students and their progress through educational institutions and into the workforce. It expands upon data available in the Chancellor's Office Management Information System (MIS) by pulling from additional data sources including employment and earnings records, responses to the CTE Outcomes Survey, labor market information, apprenticeship records, and adult education records from CASAS.

The ***Student Success Metrics*** dashboard showcases student progression along various educational journeys, from recruitment to completion, transfer, and the workforce. Information is broken out by students' educational goals, with appropriate measures assigned for each of those journeys. For example, learning progress for students with a goal of building foundational skills in Adult Education/English as Second Language is based on skills gains in pre-collegiate coursework, whereas students aiming to earn a degree or transfer are evaluated based on passing transfer-level math and English in their first year in the district. In 2021, a beta version of a first-time student cohort view of metrics in the Vision for Success and Student Equity Achievement has been added.

Users can access the ***Community College Pipeline***, the most comprehensive dashboard, offering views of students at the industry sector and program level to see more granular information on the phases of students' journeys through community college with information on college offerings, student characteristics, milestones, success, employment, earnings, labor market information and equity gap charts.

The ***Adult Education Pipeline*** offers insight into progress and outcomes for K-12 and community college adult education participants, including outcomes for adult education students who transition into credit-bearing post-secondary programs and their employment outcomes. K-12 data from TOPSpro Enterprise and noncredit data from MIS is integrated to display a comprehensive picture of California Adult Education Program measures and outcomes.

In addition, the LaunchBoard includes dashboards that provide more limited information associated with other Chancellor's Office Initiatives, including:



- **Strong Workforce Program Dashboard:** provides annual results, disaggregated data, and benchmarking information for metrics associated with the Strong Workforce Program and students enrolled in career and technical education (CTE) programs
- **Guided Pathways Dashboard:** provides information on first-year momentum points for cohorts of first-time students including retention, gateway course completion, and unit accumulation, as well as historical trends, disaggregated figures, and comparison data to contextualize results
- **K-14 CTE Transition Dashboard:** provides information on the outcomes of high school CTE students who enroll in community college, benchmarked against first-time, non-CTE students (Note: this dashboard is scheduled to be replaced by a K12 Strong Workforce Program dashboard during 2021-22)

NOTE: All dashboards provide snapshot views of students in the selected year except for the **Guided Pathways** dashboard, which provides a cohort view for first time students who enroll in fall term of the selected year. A cohort view has also been added to the **Student Success Metrics** dashboard in 2020-21.

WHO DEVELOPED THE LAUNCHBOARD?

The LaunchBoard is supported by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and hosted by Cal-PASS Plus. Each of the tabs has been designed based on practitioner feedback gathered at scores of statewide data meetings and regional trainings, including input from college administrators, deans, faculty, technical assistance providers, and policy makers. The organizations that have contributed to its design and implementation are Educational Results Partnership, the RP Group, and WestEd, with support from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, CASAS, Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research, and the Chancellor's Office.

HOW CAN I ACCESS THE LAUNCHBOARD?

The dashboards are all accessible from

<https://www.calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/Home.aspx>

The K14 CTE Transition Dashboard currently requires a log in. Log ins are available to K-12 institutions, adult education providers, community colleges, and four-year colleges that are members of Cal-PASS Plus. Membership in Cal-PASS Plus is free but requires educational institutions to sign an MOU regarding data use. All community colleges are members of Cal-PASS Plus.

To find out if your K-12 district or four-year institution is a member, visit:

www.calpassplus.org/CalPASS/Home.aspx.

Any individual working for a member institution can request a password. To request a password, go to: www.calpassplus.org/User/Login.aspx.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

Student Success Metrics

Information is available for all students who enrolled in at least one term at a community college as a non-special admit students (not dual or concurrently enrolled students). Users select from the following criteria on the snapshot view:

- Locale: college, district, microregion, macroregion, or statewide
- Student's Educational Goal or Journey: all students, adult education/English as a Second Language, short-term career education, degree/transfer, undecided/other
- Drill Down: each metric can be disaggregated by 14 student characteristics, including demographics, financial aid status, and other factors
- Exports: displayed data can be exported in csv format

Users can select from the following criteria on the first-time student cohort view:

- Display: after three years, after four years and after six years
- Locale: college, district, microregion, macroregion, or statewide
- Starting year: six years of data with data ONLY displayed for the first-time cohort when the timeframe to meet the outcome is complete
- Drill Down: each metric can be disaggregated by nine student characteristics with the ability to further drilldown by gender for each metric
- Exports: displayed data can be exported in csv format

Community College Pipeline

Information is based on students who took one or more courses in the selected program—represented by a Taxonomy of Program (TOP) code—at a community college. Users select from the following criteria:

- Locale: college, district, microregion, macroregion, or statewide
- Program: TOP6, TOP4, sector, all-CTE, all-non CTE, or all programs
- Credit status: credit programs, noncredit programs, or both
- Drilldowns: each metric can be disaggregated by demographics with employment and earnings also available to view by completion status (all completers, skills builders, local certificate earners, Chancellor's Office approved certificate earners or associate degree earners)
- Exports: displayed data can be exported in csv format and a full data set export at the program level is available for authorized researchers or technical assistance providers. To request access, send an email to launchboard@cccoco.edu.
- Detailed Comparison: possible between locales and programs or sectors
- Information can be viewed in several ways, including:
 - A summary of six key outcomes
 - Visuals about each phase of the student journeys, designed to answer common questions and support data-informed conversations on various topics
 - Detailed data tables that provide disaggregated data and comparison values for every metric



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- Labor Market Information is available through a MOU signed by the Chancellor's Office with Emsi including traditional LMI for jobs and annual openings as well as skills, qualifications and employers from online postings data
- Equity Gap charts that display underrepresented demographic subgroups of students with disproportionate impact calculated using the Proportionality Index method are available for access or program enrollment, completion and transfer.

Adult Education Pipeline

The Adult Education Pipeline displays information on individuals who received one or more hours of services/instruction at any K-12 or community college adult education program. California Adult Education Program accountability metrics are displayed for participants who received 12 or more program or contact hours. Users select from the following criteria:

- Locale: community college district, consortia, region, or statewide
- Program: English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, CTE (including Workforce Preparation and Pre-Apprenticeship), Adults with Disabilities, Adults Training to Support Child School Success, or All Programs
- Drilldowns: each metric can be disaggregated by demographics with program level (adult basic, adult secondary, CTE) and first time vs returning student views available for some metrics
- Exports: displayed data can be exported in csv format
- Detailed Comparison: possible between locales
- Information can be viewed in several ways, including:
 - A summary of six key outcomes
 - AEP Score Card that displays several dashboard metrics reported annually to the legislature for Adult Education in California
 - Detailed data tables that provide disaggregated data and comparison values for every metric

Strong Workforce Program Dashboard

The Strong Workforce Program Dashboard includes metrics associated with the Strong Workforce Program for students enrolled in CTE programs. Information is based on students who took one or more courses in the selected CTE program at a community college. Users select from the following criteria:

- Locale: college, district, microregion, macroregion, or statewide
- Program: TOP6, TOP4, sector, and all-CTE programs
- Drilldowns: each metric can be disaggregated by demographics and economically disadvantaged status
- Exports: displayed data can be exported in csv format
- Benchmarks: data displayed for top performer based on locale selected for college, district, microregion, macroregion, and statewide

Guided Pathways Dashboard

The Guided Pathways Dashboard displays a cohort view by tracking all students who enrolled in community college for the first time in the fall term, including special admit students enrolled in the preceding summer term or who had early college credit. Users select from the following criteria:

- Locale: college, district, microregion, macroregion, or statewide
- Drilldowns: each metric can be disaggregated by demographics and economically disadvantaged status
- Exports: displayed data can be exported in csv format
- Benchmarks: data displayed for top performer based on locale selected for college, district, microregion, macroregion, and statewide

K-14 CTE Transition Dashboard

The K-14 CTE Transition Dashboard shows outcomes for students who took two or more CTE courses in high school and then enrolled in community college within a year. Users can view whether students continued in a similar pathway and how long it took them to earn a degree or certificate (both in their pathway or in another pathway). Charts show outcomes of CTE students compared to other first-time students.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE LAUNCHBOARD?

A variety of print resources, infographics, and videos can be accessed from the LaunchBoard site either at the bottom of all pages under “Resources” or “Find out more about the data on the dashboard” or from the “Resources” tile on the homepage.



IF THE INFORMATION IN THE LAUNCHBOARD DOES NOT LOOK RIGHT, HOW CAN IT BE VERIFIED AND CORRECTED?

Most of the data in the LaunchBoard are derived from college submissions to the Chancellor’s Office and K-12 adult school submissions to CASAS. If data are suspect, you can request assistance for data quality screening and corrections. Send requests to launchboard@cccco.edu.

For labor market data, the Centers of Excellence directors can answer questions about the source and accuracy of those data. Visit coecc.net for more information.

WHERE DO I DIRECT QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THE LAUNCHBOARD?

Send questions and comments to launchboard@cccco.edu.