

California Community College Financial Aid Facts

Central Region

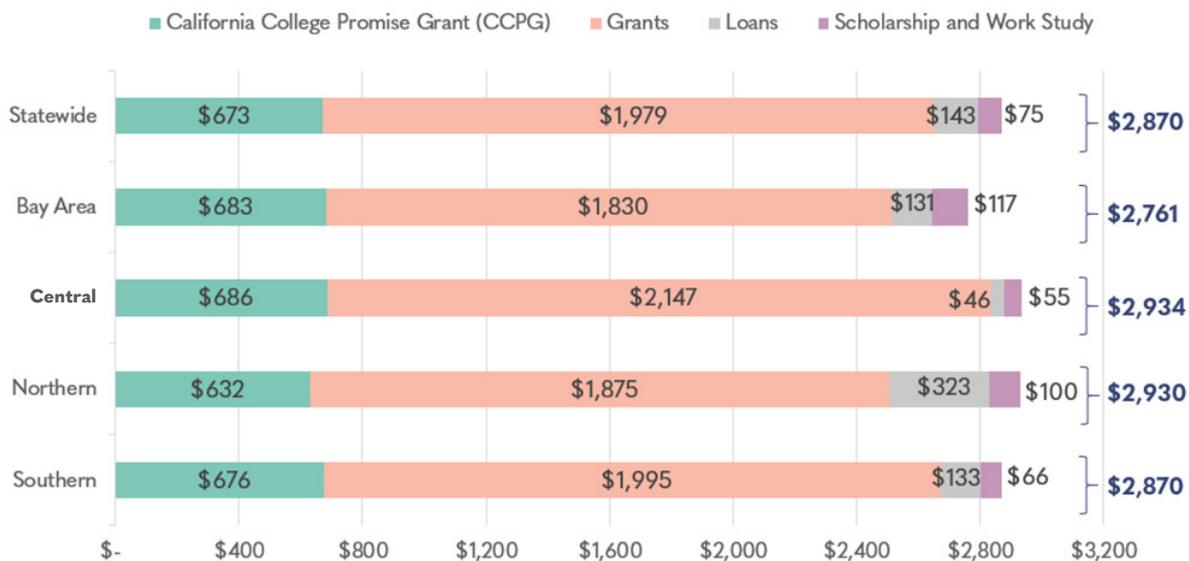
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This fact sheet is part of a series that explores the financial aid available to California Community College students and how it varies by region, race/ethnicity, and age, using data from the [California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems Data Mart](#).

Financial aid is a key tool to help California community college students enroll in courses and persist towards their degree. However, despite total college costs exceeding \$20,000 annually for many students, they receive only a fraction of the aid received by their peers at other institutions.¹

In 2019-2020, the 14 California Community Colleges (CCC) in the Central region of the state enrolled 10 percent of CCC students. Per financial aid recipient,² **community college students in the Central region typically receive about \$2,933 in financial aid**, an amount similar to their Northern region peers, and higher than their peers in the Bay Area and the Southern region.

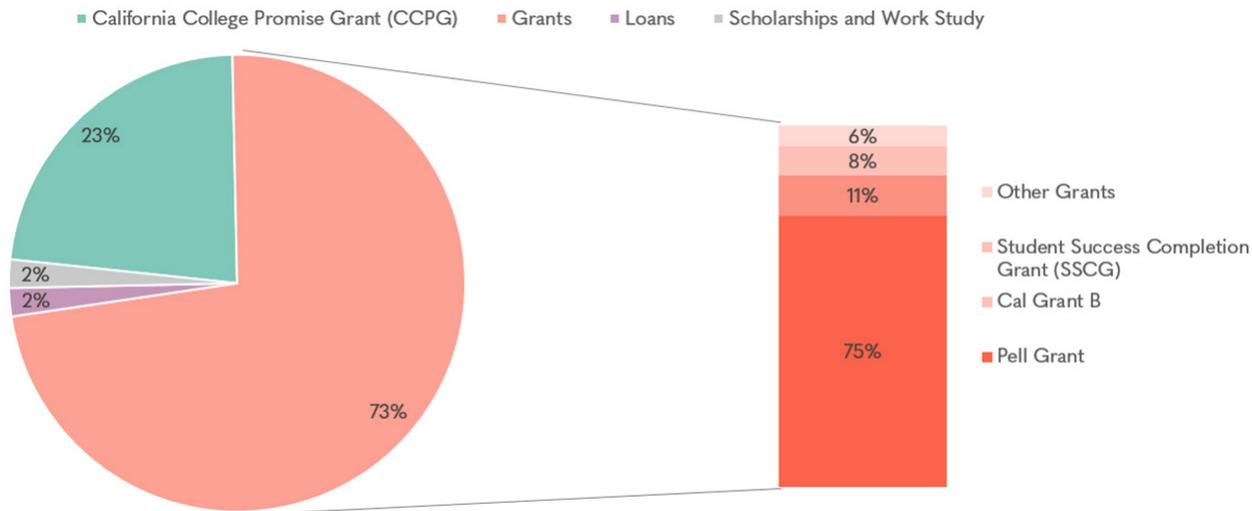
Financial Aid Amounts Per Financial Aid Recipient by Region, 2019-20:



Note: Figures in this chart have been rounded to the nearest whole number for visual simplicity and may be marginally different from their in-text references.

Just over seven in ten financial aid dollars received by CCC students in the Central region colleges are grants, three quarters of which come from the federal Pell Grant program. Eleven percent of grant aid dollars come from the state's Cal Grant program, a similar share as in other regions. Another eight percent of Central region community college students' financial aid grant dollars come from the Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG), a supplement to Cal Grants for full-time CCC students. Two percent of total aid dollars are loans that need to be repaid, the smallest share across all regions.

Distribution of Aid Dollars for Central Region Community College Students, 2019-20:



Note: "Other grants" includes a total of 17 smaller grant programs such as the federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG), the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) Grant, and more. Figures in this chart have been rounded to the nearest whole number for visual simplicity and may be marginally different from their in-text references.

While students age 24 or younger in all regions in the state typically receive significantly more financial aid than students age 25 or older, the gap between younger and older students' total aid amounts is the largest in the Central region. Across all types of aid, younger students typically receive \$3,274 per aid recipient, while older students receive \$2,301.

The type of aid Central region community college students receive also differs in important ways. Younger students receive 55 percent more grant dollars per aid recipient, while older students receive more than four times the loan dollars that younger students do. Younger students also tend to receive more Pell and SSCG dollars than older students, but similar Cal Grant dollar amounts. *For more information on how aid distribution differs by student age, see our fact sheet here.*

Aid receipt also varies by race and ethnicity in Central region community colleges. Notably, in line with trends in other regions, Filipino students receive the least amount of grant dollars in the Central region – typically \$1,826 per financial aid recipient. Additionally, Black students receive the most in loans (\$173) while Asian students receive the least (\$19). The award amounts for Cal Grants and the SSCG can vary significantly by student race/ethnicity as well, with Black students receiving the least in both Cal Grants and SSCG award amounts among their peers in the Central region. *For more detail on how aid distribution differs by region and student race/ethnicity, please see additional fact sheets in this series (Bay Area, Central, Northern, Southern, Race/Ethnicity).*

¹ The Institute for College Access & Success (TICAS), July 2020, *What College Costs for Low-Income Californians: 2020*, <https://bit.ly/3fV5wCC>, Table 1; whereas a full-time equivalent student at community colleges receives about \$2,300 in grant aid, their peers at California State University and University of California receive approximately \$7,400 and \$10,600, respectively.

² Figures calculated using data from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Data Mart for the 2019-20 academic year. Grant aid per financial aid recipient is intended to show relative aid availability for students at different colleges and in different demographic groups, and given data limitations we cannot calculate the exact share of students (including those not receiving aid) who receive any type of aid, or how much any individual student receives. We calculate dollars per financial aid recipient by summing dollars received by award type, and dividing by the number of California College Promise Grant (CCPG) recipients. The number of CCPG recipients is used as a proxy for total aid recipients because nearly all CCC students who receive financial aid receive a CCPG, many along with other types of aid. For more details on common CCC student financial aid packages, including the share of students receiving the CCPG (formerly known as Board of Governors Fee Waiver, or BOGFW), please see: TICAS and the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), February 2017, *Aiding Success*, <https://bit.ly/31Oklyz>, Table 3.