The Coalition of Californians for College Affordability works to strengthen need-based financial aid in California so that all students can afford to attend and complete college, allowing the state’s workforce to remain competitive.
### KEY FACTS

- **Paying for college is difficult.** While tuition and fees continue to be a factor, non-tuition costs such as housing, food, transportation, childcare, and books comprise the majority of college costs for most students.

- **College costs are the most burdensome for the lowest-income students.** College costs comprise the largest share of family income for the lowest-income families, increasing the likelihood that low-income students graduate with debt.

- **Investments in need-based financial aid make college attainable and help close racial and economic equity gaps.** Allowing Californians to enroll in and complete college without needing to work excessively or incur burdensome debt.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Ensure that state student financial aid:**

- Sufficiently covers students’ basic needs and protects vulnerable students from shouldering the burden of college costs and debt.

- Is clearly communicated to all students and families so they are aware of all available resources and how to access them.

- Enables students to attend full time and complete meaningful credentials, supporting upward economic mobility.

### TOP 2023 PRIORITIES

- Ensure aid is equitably dispersed so that the least resourced students receive the most support.

- Expand need-based financial aid to cover non-tuition costs like housing, books, food and transportation.

- Continue California’s progress towards a student-centered, streamlined, and debt-free financial aid system.

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The Coalition of Californians for College Affordability is managed by The Institute for College Access & Success [California@ticas.org](mailto:California@ticas.org)