

CALIFORNIANS FOR COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY



California
Asian Pacific Islander
Budget Partnership



CALIFORNIA
STEM NETWORK™
A PROJECT OF CHILDREN NOW



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.