

College Financial Aid Indicators LCAP Template

The new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) is an opportunity for local education agencies (LEAs) to identify and fund local priorities. The College Access Foundation of California and the Education Trust-West have created this document to assist LEAs in including college financial aid-related strategies in their Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs). Financial aid application rates are an important indicator of college and career readiness and a way to promote parental involvement and participation, particularly among low-income and linguistically diverse families.

Because many school districts and high schools are unaware of the important role they can play in helping their students access public financial aid, this template contains sample goals, outcomes, actions and services, and metrics that can serve as guides for LEAs to meet state and local priorities by ensuring that students are applying for, and accessing, financial aid for college as part of LEAs' goals for preparing all students for postsecondary education. This document provides a practical example of how financial aid access initiatives may be written into an LCAP. It is not an exhaustive list of all college access related programs and services that districts can employ to meet LCFF priorities. Instead, it provides practical language focusing on financial aid –related outcomes aligned with the LCAP template that LEAs can consider as they incorporate college access and success goals into their local priorities, or work to meet those goals.

TEMPLATE OVERVIEW	
<i>Tables are organized by state priority areas and are guided by the following definitions of each term, adapted by guidelines provided by WestEd: http://lcff.wested.org/. The format of this template is based on the Arts Education LCAP Template developed by Arts for LA, Arts for All, and the California Alliance for Arts Education (available at http://www.artsforla.org/artseducationLCAP).</i>	
GOALS	Goals are defined as the “big picture” issues or priorities that LEAs would like to address.
OUTCOMES	Outcomes are defined as “what success would look like” if the goals were met.
ACTIONS/SERVICES	Actions and services are defined as the specific programs and services that could be implemented to achieve goals.
METRICS	Metrics are defined as the measures by which to quantify and evaluate the success of the actions and/or services.

State Priority Area: Pupil Engagement and Achievement			
	Outcomes	Actions and services	Metrics/Measures
<p>Goal:</p> <p>Increase students' postsecondary attainment by assisting all students in accessing public financial aid.</p> <p><i>[This template only addresses the financial aid component and should be part of any LCAP that incorporates postsecondary preparation as part of the Student Achievement priority]</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased student participation in financial aid workshops. All seniors complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for Pell and Cal Grants, or California Dream Act Application for eligible undocumented students; ideally, by March 2. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ For more information on FAFSA, see http://csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1470 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual presentations on financial aid to all students and families throughout high school in the context of postsecondary preparation activities. Inform students they need a minimum GPA of 2.0 to qualify for Cal Grants. Financial aid presentations by counselors, faculty, or staff to all seniors in homeroom and advisory courses. Host Cash for College and alternative workshops for financial aid application completion. Ensure all seniors complete the FAFSA, ideally by March 2 in order to be eligible for the Cal Grant entitlement program. See https://fafsa.ed.gov/. Ensure all seniors establish a WebGrants 4 Students account. See https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/logon.asp At least one staff person at each high school is responsible for establishing and managing their school's WebGrants account to track FAFSA and Cal Grant applications for all seniors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ For more information on WebGrants, see http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1191. Establish district-level WebGrants account with California Student Aid Commission for monitoring financial aid applications. Between February 1-March 1, target outreach to seniors who have not completed financial aid applications. Prior to February 1, district or all high schools ensures the automatic electronic Social Security # (SSN) and Non-SSN GPA verification for all seniors who have completed a FAFSA or Dream Act application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ For more information on how to submit students' GPAs to the California Student Aid Commission, see http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=988 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ See http://collegegoldrush.org/counselors-and-administrators/cal-grants-and-fafsa-applications/ for information on effective practices among high schools to increase FAFSA and Cal Grant completions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of students attending Cash for College and alternative financial aid workshops during and out of school. Number and percentage of seniors completing a FAFSA, Cal Grant, and California Dream Act application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ For historical and most recently available FAFSA and Cal Grant completion rates by high school, see http://financialaid.edtrustwest.org/

Created by:

State Priority Area: Parent Engagement			
	Outcomes	Actions and services	Metrics/Measures
<p>Goal:</p> <p>Increased parental engagement in helping students prepare for postsecondary education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents gain greater knowledge about federal and state sources of college financial aid Families are supported and encouraged to complete financial aid applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide family workshops for financial aid application completion with child-care and translation support. Targeted outreach to low-income and linguistically diverse families for attendance at workshops. Targeted outreach to families that have not completed financial aid applications. Develop and/or disseminate online and print resources and aids for completing financial aid applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → See http://csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=84. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of parents and guardians attending financial aid workshops. Family survey assessing knowledge about financial aid opportunities. Access and usage of online resources.