



Empowering Single Mothers & Parenting Students Community of Practice

Frequently Asked Questions

Applications Due: June 1, 2024

What is The California Alliance for Student Parent Success?

The California Alliance for Student Parent Success (The Alliance) is a collaboration between EdTrust-West and California Competes. Together, these two organizations have formed The Alliance to support the success and well-being of California's 400,000 student parents.

What is The Alliance's Community of Practice (CoP)?

The Alliance's Community of Practice (CoP) is a facilitated process to learn alongside others engaged in identifying inequities and developing action plans rooted in research-based practices that eliminate barriers that hinder single mothers and parenting student success and well-being.

Why should my college participate in a CoP?

We encourage colleges to participate to gain access to unique peer learning opportunities and support in making their campus more inclusive and family-friendly.

How many colleges will be selected for the CoP?

Two colleges within the California Community College system will be selected to participate in the CoP.

Who will select the two participating colleges?

A committee of Alliance members, which includes a parenting student, will select colleges for the CoP.

What are the goals for the CoP?

The CoP aims for colleges to be able to (1) conduct or refine data collection and (2) identify at least two policy or practice changes to better serve their campus' single mothers and parenting students.

What are the anticipated outcomes of the CoP?

By the end of the CoP, colleges will be equipped with an action plan that strengthens their data collection and have a strategy to implement at least two policies and practices that enhance single mothers and parenting student success on campus.

How to apply?

Colleges may apply through The Alliance's webpage:

<https://castudentparentalliance.org/what-we-do/capacity-building/>

When is the submission deadline?

The submission deadline is 5:00 PM PDT, Saturday, June 1, 2024.

When will applicants be notified of a decision?

Applicants will be notified of a decision by Monday, June 17, 2024.

Will my college receive money for participation in the CoP?

While no direct funding will be provided to colleges, we estimate colleges will receive in-kind technical assistance valued at \$75,000.

Who should be a part of a college team?

Each participating college is required to have a team of 6 members – 5 staff total from each of the following departments or functional areas and 1 parenting student:

- ▶ Administration
- ▶ Student Services
- ▶ Faculty/Academic Affairs
- ▶ Financial Aid
- ▶ Institutional Research
- ▶ Parenting Student
- ▶ Campus-Based Child Care Staff*

**Colleges may invite a staff member from their campus-based childcare center to form a team of 7, though it is not required.*

What is the time commitment for participants?

Participants can expect to commit roughly 80 hours to the CoP, encompassing a 4-hour in-person session, five 4-hour virtual sessions, and an estimated 8-10 hours of supplementary work to be completed between sessions.

How often will the CoP meet?

There will be a total of 6 CoP sessions. The first session will be held in person at EdTrust-West's Education Equity Forum in Oakland, California. The remaining five sessions will be held virtually, occurring monthly from October 2024 through February 2025.

- ▶ Session 1: September 23, 2024 (Oakland, California)
- ▶ Session 2: October 16, 2024 (virtual)
- ▶ Session 3: November 13, 2024 (virtual)
- ▶ Session 4: December 18, 2024 (virtual)
- ▶ Session 5: January 16, 2025 (virtual)
- ▶ Session 6: February 19, 2025 (virtual)

Who should complete the application on behalf of my campus?

We suggest that a member of campus leadership (e.g., President, Vice President of Student Services, or Dean of Students) complete the application due to their proximity to policy implementation and ability to support the execution of the campus action plan. However, colleges can designate who is best to submit the application on their institution's behalf.

What documents will be needed to complete the application?

- ▶ A Letter of Support signed by the college president or by the leaders of 3 relevant campus programs (e.g., women's resource center, campus childcare center, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services) on the institution's letterhead.
- ▶ Please note that a Letter of Support signed by your campus president on the institution's letterhead is required if a member of campus leadership does not complete your application.

How long will it take to complete the application?

- ▶ The application will take approximately 25 minutes to submit, not including time spent gathering documents, signatures, or additional information for completion.
- ▶ Once you begin the application, you may save and come back as needed.

When is the informational webinar?

An **informational webinar** to share more about this CoP will be held on May 15, 2024, 1:30-2:30 PM PDT.

Who to contact with questions?

For questions, please email studentparentsucces@californiacompetes.org