

# Cradle-to-Career Ad Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning Staff Report

Date Report Issued: May 26, 2023  
Attention: Members of Cradle-to-Career Ad Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning  
Subject: Summary of the **Practical Tools** Goal and Objectives  
Staff Contact: Marykate Cruz Jones, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

At this meeting, the members of Cradle-to-Career's (C2C) Ad Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning will have the opportunity to discuss and recommend proposed goals and objectives to the Governing Board focused on Practical Tools.

## Requested Action:

After review and consideration of the current duties completed by the Office of Cradle-to-Career Data System (Office) related to Practical Tools, as well as the requirements from [statute](#), Staff recommends that the Ad Hoc Committee approve the goal and objectives as presented for recommendation to the Governing Board.

- ❖ Move to recommend to the Governing Board to approve the Practical Tools goal and objectives as specified in the staff report.

## Background:

The authorizing legislation ([Assembly Bill 132, Postsecondary Education Trailer Bill, 2021](#)) refers to Practical Tools as Operational Tools; it is important to note that the Office updated this term to be more easily comprehended by the public.

Within the first year of the Office's existence, it coordinated with data partners to address implementation concerns on the Participation Agreement and scaling CaliforniaColleges.edu and participated in taskforces to develop data

definitions for the Teacher Training and Retention Dashboard, employment, and earnings. In addition to addressing issues of compliance from data providers and ensuring data quality, there was expanded access to CaliforniaColleges.edu planning tools and high school electronic transcript infrastructure and this work has continued into this current fiscal year. Additionally, the Office has been accessing possibilities for post-secondary electronic transcripts and eTranscript infrastructure.

In addition to these endeavors, there are also mandatory legislative requirements that need to be upheld. For this fiscal year, the Office has been working toward creating and improving data sets and conducting data quality audits. The Office has been reviewing and approving plans for professional development, operational tools, topics for summary reports, and significant changes to analytical tools. Additionally, the Office has been providing recommendations on data points, tools, and professional development, and contributing to the P20W data points. By fiscal year 2023-2024, the Office will create, revise, and support the data process requests and by fiscal year 2025-2026, the Office will create new tools. As the Ad Hoc Committee finalizes a goal and objectives related to Practical Tools, it is imperative to remember the other concurrent responsibilities set forth by the timeline and legislative requirement.

#### Statement of the Problem:

Students face confusing barriers in applying for college and financial aid, needing to navigate multiple platforms to complete applications and share information from their transcripts. These barriers can exacerbate existing disparities.

#### Practical Tools Goal:

Coordinate with partners to reduce barriers for applying to college and financial aid and expand the number of students who benefit from these tools by linking real-time information across institutions and communicating about these options to students.

### Possible Objectives:

- Create a roadmap for how eTranscript can become a seamless platform for transferring transcripts across post-secondary institutions by Summer 2024
- Promote CaliforniaColleges.edu to become the state's one-stop shop for applying to public colleges and universities and for financial aid, and for college and career planning by Fall 2024
- Champion the goal of reaching 95% of California's public high school students with accounts powered by real-time transcript data by Summer 2026