

**Jessica Moldoff, PhD (She/Her)**

**Deputy Director of Data, Analysis and Research, California Student Aid Commission**



Jessica Moldoff, Ph.D., is the Deputy Director of Data, Analysis and Research at the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). As Deputy Director, Jessica is responsible for facilitating research on program effectiveness and financial aid administration, as well as overseeing reports, program projections, and ad hoc data requests. After graduating from undergrad, Jessica worked at a community college in Lexington, Kentucky, for over three years, including in its financial aid office. She received a Masters and PhD in Higher Education from the University of Kentucky, where she completed

her dissertation on the idea and implementation of competency-based education. She then moved to California and has worked at CSAC since 2017.

**Abigail Barondess (She/Her)**

**Strategic Data Project Fellow, California Student Aid Commission**



As a Strategic Data Project Fellow with the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), Abbie is measuring the impact of state financial aid on student outcomes including persistence, graduation, and employment. In addition, Abbie works with the rest of the data team to administer and analyze student surveys, respond to internal and external data requests, and produce program projections. Abbie is a Master of Public Policy graduate of the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. While in graduate school she worked on a mixed-method evaluation of the State of

Michigan's GEAR UP program. Before graduate school, Abbie worked as a college advisor with the National College Advising Corps and a program coordinator for Grand Rapids Community College's Early Middle College program. She is passionate about

developing evidence-based and student-centered policies that support college access and completion for underrepresented students.



# Data Provider Update: CSAC

## “Data In, Data Out?”

November 15, 2024

**Jessica Moldoff, Deputy Director**  
**Abigail Barondess, SDP Fellow**  
**Data, Analysis and Research Team**



## Recap: What Data Does CSAC Provide to C2C?

- Eligible, Awarded, and Paid Students since 2009-10
- Institution
- Payment Amount
- Dependency Status
- EFC (in future, SAI)
- Parent Income and Education Level
- Demographics



## CSAC's Missing Data

Senate Bill 1644 (Chapter 403, Statutes of 2000)

SEC. 8. The Student Aid Commission shall annually report to the Legislature and the Governor on the Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasconcellos Cal Grant Program from its inception on both of the following:

(a) The number of Cal Grant applicants and new and continuing recipients each year. This data shall include at a minimum the following information about recipients: educational level, grade point average, segment of attendance, number of community college transfer students.

**(b) A longitudinal component that measures student persistence and graduation rates over time.**

## MDEA Business Use Case Proposal

- Develop a Business Use Case Proposal to pilot the process and demonstrate the power of the data system to facilitate data sharing between CSAC and its higher education partners.
- C2C can match CSAC's paid students to the public segments.

## CSAC's Strategic Data Project

- Lay the groundwork for ongoing analyses in years to come by establishing a regular data sharing agreement and designing thoughtful reports on the persistence and graduation of aid recipients across different subgroups.
- Identify the impact of California's more than \$3 billion annual investment in its college students and facilitate future conversations with lawmakers.

## Future Activities

- Identify new opportunities for data sharing to eliminate redundancies
- Work with CCGI on content of financial aid literacy modules within [CaliforniaColleges.edu](http://CaliforniaColleges.edu)





## CSAC's Strategic Plan

“The ***CSAC Student Success Blueprint: Achieving Equity in Higher Education*** is a 5-year strategic plan to support Californians and education segments to provide affordable and equitable higher education opportunities for today’s students and future learners. CSAC believes that through collective efforts, we can address statewide workforce needs and economic mobility at scale.”



## EQUITABLE ACCESS

1. Lead collective efforts to increase statewide awareness and participation in California's financial aid programs.



## EQUITABLE SUPPORT

2. Remove financial aid barriers for students as they enter and continue their educational pathways.



## EQUITABLE SUCCESS

3. Empower students to complete their education by increasing the number receiving aid for which they are eligible and creating metrics to inform future state equitable investments.

***Supporting segment partners to educate California's future learners and address workforce needs.***



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