Cradle-to-Career Data Governing Board Staff Report

Date Report Issued: November 7, 2025

Attention: Members of Cradle-to-Career Data Governing Board

Subject: Analytic and Practical Tools, Fall Advisory Board

Meetings, and Planned Engagement Efforts (Agenda

Item Eight)

Staff Contact: Ryan Estrellado, Director of Data Programs, Marykate

Cruz Jones, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships, and Shannon Serrato, Director of

Engagement

At this meeting, the Governing Board (Board) will have the opportunity to receive updates on the Office of Cradle-to-Career Data's (Office) analytic and practical tools, including the Research Request Process, the Query Builder, Secure Data Enclave, and the Student Experience Report; the most recent Data and Tools Advisory Board (DTAB) and Community Engagement Advisory Board (CEAB) meetings; and the Office's planned engagement efforts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26, which includes training, outreach, and accessibility. This staff report is broken down into five main parts: analytic tools, section one, practical tools, section two, fall DTAB meeting, section three, fall CEAB meeting, section four, and planned engagement efforts, section five.

Requested Action:

There is no requested action for this item. This is an informational item only.

Section One: Analytic Tools

This section will provide the Board with an update on the Office's analytic tools including the Research Request Process, the first phase of the Query Builder, and the Secure Data Enclave.

Section One, Part A: Research Request Tool

The Research Request Tool employs a three-tiered system to facilitate data requests that "enable parents, educators, health and human services providers, researchers, and policymakers to provide appropriate interventions and supports to address disparities in opportunities and improve outcomes for all students" (Education Code Section 10861 (f)). The three tiers are the Query Builder, Expedited Data Requests, and Comprehensive Data Requests.

Office Update on the Research Request Process

The Office used the <u>August 15 Board</u> and <u>October 3 Data and Tools Advisory</u> <u>Board</u> meeting, as opportunities to collect initial feedback from the Board and Advisory Board members on critical design elements of the Research Request Process. In addition, the Office shared drafted forms for receiving research requests, with the goal of making the Research Request Process accessible and transparent (<u>Education Code Section 10867(b)(7)(H)</u>).

Draft Research Request Forms:

- Draft Expedited Data Request Form (Attachment A) This form will allow users to request summary data that are otherwise unavailable through Cradle-to-Career Data's (C2C) Query Builder (Education Code Section 10866(b)(6)(C)). The Expedited Data Request Process will provide researchers with data extracts limited to aggregated data that do not contain Personally Identifiable Information (PII).
- Draft Comprehensive Data Requests Form (Attachment B)¹ This form allows users to request access to individual-level data from the P20W Data System. These data will be deidentified/anonymized and provisioned to

¹ Attachment A and Attachment B contain the same data request form content, but differ on page 10 where the request types require different questions.

- researchers in a secure compute environment. To access data, the requesting parties need to obtain approval of data providers.²
- Draft Data Submission Form (Attachment C) This form allows users to describe external data that they may submit to the Secure Compute Enclave as part of either an Expedited or Comprehensive Data Request.

We asked the following questions of DTAB members to get their feedback on the Research Request Tool:

- Reflecting on what you have heard so far, what clarifying questions do you have about the forms found in Attachment A?
- 2. How does what you have heard so far about the research request process compare to what you have seen in the field?
- 3. What are the risks we should be aware of as we develop this product?

DTAB members desired more clarity on who the Research Request Tool is for and who it is not for. This can be gleaned from a member's quote: "Equity issue - how do we make sure that anyone in CA could use it." The Office needs to clarify when and why it would be appropriate to go through a full research request. A large volume of requests can be fulfilled with aggregate data using the Query Builder and would not require a research request. Lastly, members desired more clarity on how the Office will communicate what is approved, not approved, and why or why not.

Section One, Part B: Query Builder

Education Code Section 10867(b)(4)(B) charges the Office to implement public educator- and researcher-facing tools including a query builder. The Office is focusing on the first phase of the query builder, with plans to receive user feedback to inform regular expansion and development of the tool.

² Depending on the extent of the request and whether it requires the utilization of PII, the process may also require Institutional Review Board (IRB) review through California Health and Human Services' (CalHHS) IRB and additional disclosure review.

Office Update on the Query Builder

The Office has developed a new query builder tool to expand access to the data behind the Student Pathways Data Story. The first phase provides a clear, well-labeled web page where researchers and other users can download data files directly. This initial version prioritizes usability, accessibility, and alignment with the existing C2C site. While future enhancements will introduce more interactivity and customization, this first step lays the groundwork for broader access and engagement. The Office implemented feedback from previous DTAB and CEAB sessions on the first iteration of the query builder and released it to the public on September 16, 2025.

We asked the following questions to DTAB members to get their feedback on the first iteration of the Query Builder:

- Reflecting on what you have heard so far, what clarifying questions do you have about the first phase of the query builder?
- 2. What are the risks we should be aware of as we develop this product?

DTAB members expressed a need for more direction on what flat files exist for data requests through the query builder to avoid going through the research request tool unnecessarily. Providing information like who is downloading Query Builder files might inform this process. For example, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) are using flat files in this way. This could help others see how they can replicate files for their needs. Additionally members requested more clarity on data definitions, what data does and does not exist, and when to expect small sample sizes.

Section One, Part C: Secure Data Enclave

As part of the research request process, the secure data enclave will provide researchers with a secure compute environment to analyze deidentified individual level data for approved research requests.

Office Update on the Secure Data Enclave

The Data Programs team and the Data Infrastructure team are working to define the initial version of the secure data enclave. The secure data enclave will provide a secure computing environment for users with approved research requests to conduct research. Currently, the Office is defining the scope of the data tools for researchers to use in the secure data enclave, including statistical programming tools. The Office is working on identifying a set of candidate users to pilot the secure data enclave.

Since our last meeting, the Office has established and engaged two key partnerships to advance work on the secure data enclave: The Data Integration Support Center (DISC) for advisory on scope and legal framework and a new partnership with The California Policy Lab for advisory on request process development.

We asked the following question to DTAB members to get their feedback on the Secure Data Enclave:

1. What are the risks we should be aware of as we develop the secure data enclave?

DTAB members asked for more information about what the Secure Data Enclave is and who the intended audience is.

Section One, Part D: Discussion for the Board Meeting - Analytic Tools

We would like the Board to consider the following questions in combination with DTAB feedback when preparing for this section of discussion on this agenda item:

Research Request Tool

Reflecting on what you have heard so far, what clarifying questions do you have about the forms for the Research Request Tool?

- How does what you have heard so far about the research request tool compare to what you have seen in the field?
- What are the risks we should be aware of as we develop this product?

Query Builder

- Reflecting on what you have heard so far, what clarifying questions do you have about the first phase of the query builder?
- What are the risks we should be aware of as we develop this product?

Secure Data Enclave

What are the risks we should be aware of as we develop the secure data enclave?

Section Two: Practical Tools

At the November 14, 2025 Board meeting, the Office will provide the Board with an update on the 2025 Student Experience Report. This section will review the motivation for the Student Experience Report, the research methods used, and preliminary key findings. The Office will also inform the Board on the timeline for the report's release.

Section Two, Part A: Student Experience Report

Per Education Code Section 10867(b)(5)(A), the C2C Data System is responsible for conducting an annual student experience audit related to navigating the transition from secondary education to higher education. This work supports the scaling, expanding, operating and maintaining of C2C's operational tools and data system.

Office Update on the Student Experience Report

For the 2025 Student Experience Report, C2C partnered with researchers at the <u>UC Davis California Education Lab</u> (California Education Lab) to conduct a large-scale investigation of high school seniors' experience as they transition

from high school to college. C2C contributed questions to an existing survey that the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) administers. CSAC sent this web-based survey to all students who filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) in the 2025–26 academic year.

In addition to the survey, students were asked to participate in a brief interview about their expectations and experiences transitioning into college. Both the survey and interview questions asked graduating high school seniors about topics such as college readiness during high school, applying for financial aid, and what students are excited or nervous about as they start college. Additionally, students were asked about their transfer intentions. The final report will include quantitative results for over 6,000 California high school seniors who responded to the survey, and a small subset of students who agreed to participate in a short interview.

Preliminary findings provide insight to the challenges and opportunities that college-bound high school seniors face, such as fulfilling A-G requirements, transfer processes, and learning where to seek help when applying for college or financial aid. Interviews allowed for direct input from student voices and the ability to tie student challenges to upcoming C2C products. The results of this year's Student Experience Report will enable the Office's development of practical tools and ensure the work of the Office is in line with students' needs.

In collaboration with the research team at the California Education Lab, C2C will release the complete Student Experience Report in early 2026. To accompany the report launch, C2C and the research team will co-host a webinar to discuss the results.

Section Two, Part B: Discussion for the Board Meeting - Practical Tools

We would like the Board to reflect on the following question when preparing for this section of discussion on this agenda item:

What information from the preview of the Student Experience Report would be actionable and useful to you?

Section Three: Fall DTAB Meeting

This section will provide the Board with an overview on the October 3, 2025 DTAB meeting, including an update on the 2025 DTAB Proposal Process.

Section Three, Part A: DTAB

Pursuant to Education Code Section 10865 (b)(1)(A), "the responsibility of the DTAB is to examine whether the data system is providing actionable information and identifying ways to improve access to that information." As outlined on page 32 of the Governance Manual, the DTAB can address a significant gap via the proposal process by recommending:

- 1. Changes to the data request process;
- 2. Changes to tools such as dashboards or operational tools for students; or
- 3. Additional data points to the P20W Data System.

The <u>Governance Manual</u> outlines the annual cadence and key milestones in the proposal process. The 2025 DTAB proposal process milestones chart can be found in Attachment D.

Section Three, Part B: 2025 DTAB Member Proposals

At the October 3, 2025 DTAB meeting, DTAB proposals were presented by members, and members discussed how proposals complement and contrast and which are most promising for advancing C2C's ability to provide actionable information. In total, the Office received four DTAB proposals:

- Adding Pathways and Placement Data to Strengthen Teacher Workforce Insights - submitted by Member Catanzarite
- Enhance College Promise Definition submitted by Member Ortiz Villar and Member Phuong
- Expanding Student Homeless Status Data Element submitted by Member Schak
- Post High School Student Pathway, Higher Ed, and Workforce Outcomes Data Extract for California K12 Counties and Districts - submitted by Member Watson and Member Tarasova

Section Three, Part C: Next Steps in the Process

The Office will conduct light-touch feasibility studies of DTAB member proposals. Two DTAB members will work with the Governing Board Liaison to the DTAB to create the draft proposal report that will summarize the discussion of the Fall DTAB meeting, link all member proposals, and include the Office's light-touch feasibility studies.

DTAB members will next meet on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, where members will discuss the draft DTAB proposal report. The Governing Board liaison to the DTAB and the two DTAB members who drafted the DTAB proposal report may update the report based on the discussion. The DTAB proposal report will be presented and discussed at the Wednesday, May 20, 2026 Board meeting.

Section Four: Fall CEAB Meeting

This section will provide the Board with an overview on the October 24, 2025 CEAB meeting, including an update on the 2025 CEAB Proposal Process.

Section Four, Part A: CEAB Meeting

Pursuant to Education Code Section 10865 (b)(1)(B), "the responsibility of the CEAB is to examine whether the managing entity is creating strong feedback loops with data users, supporting evidence-based decision-making and

analytical capacity, and ensuring equitable access to actionable information." As outlined on page 36 of the <u>Governance Manual</u>, the CEAB can address a significant gap via the proposal process by recommending:

- 1. Ways to improve feedback loops with data users and ensure equitable access to actionable information;
- Professional development and technical assistance models that foster evidence-based decision-making, strengthening analytical capacity to use available data tools, and enable end users to understand structure factors that influence outcomes;
- 3. Communication structures that ensure a broad range of Californians know about and are using the tools;
- 4. Additional tools that will address strategic objectives for the data system.

The <u>Governance Manual</u> outlines the annual cadence and key milestones in the proposal process. The 2025 CEAB proposal process milestones chart can be found in Attachment F.

Section Four, Part B: 2025 CEAB Member Proposals

At the October 24, 2025 CEAB meeting, CEAB proposals were presented by members, and members discussed how proposals complement and contrast and which are most promising for advancing C2C's ability to provide actionable information. In total, the Office received two CEAB proposals:

- C2C Train-the-Trainer Ambassador Model submitted by Member Gamboa and Member Takagi
- Engagement Plans for Data Providers submitted by Member Johnson

Section Four, Part C: Next Steps in the Process

The Office will conduct light-touch feasibility studies of CEAB member proposals. Two CEAB members will work with the Governing Board Liaison to the CEAB to create the draft proposal report that will summarize the discussion of the Fall CEAB meeting, link all member proposals, and include the Office's light-touch

feasibility studies.

CEAB members will next meet on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, where members will discuss the draft CEAB proposal report. The Governing Board liaison to the CEAB and the two CEAB members who drafted the CEAB proposal report may update the report based on the discussion. The CEAB proposal report will be presented and discussed at the Wednesday, May 20, 2026 Board meeting.

Section Five: Planned Engagement Efforts

This section will provide the Board with an update on C2C's planned Engagement efforts for FY 2025-26, which includes training, outreach, and accessibility. Specific attention will be paid to how the Office is considering language access, accessibility, and training and outreach to guide Engagement efforts.

Section Five, Part A: Language Access

In the upcoming year, the Office will enhance current translation and interpretation efforts to improve C2C's language access initiatives. The Office is dedicated to ensuring that individuals with limited English proficiency have meaningful access to C2C's public tools and information.

We asked the following questions to CEAB members to get their feedback on C2C's language access initiative:

- The Office aims to expand its language access services beyond the currently provided Spanish and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation for public meetings, as well as simplified Chinese for written communications. Given staffing and expertise constraints, how might C2C expand its language access scope?
 - > What could 'meaningful access' look like for multilingual communities beyond translation?

- What has worked in your communities? Can you share examples of what resonated with community members?
- What does success look like? How do we measure success?

Section Five, Part B: Accessibility

As detailed in C2C's FY25-26 Workplan, advancing accessibility is one of the key components of C2C's engagement efforts, ensuring that everyone can access and use C2C's available tools and resources. As the Data System evolves, the Office is continuing to meet the needs of all Californians by providing accessible ways for the public to engage with its tools and share their input.

Web and Material Accessibility

The Office is implementing strategies for accessibility compliance and ensuring that C2C designs and develops digital and physical content, including websites and public-facing materials, that all Californians, including those with disabilities, can understand, navigate, and interact with effectively.

Partnerships

The Office will form strategic partnerships with state agencies, including the California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), to develop policies and procedures that ensure C2C provides accessible information to users.

We asked the following questions to CEAB members to get their feedback on accessibility:

- What does accessibility mean in the context of your work, what successful accessibility models can we learn from?
 - ➤ Who might be unintentionally excluded from our resources and tools based on the current materials that C2C offers?
- Beyond engaging with DOR, what partners should C2C engage with to advance the Office's accessibility efforts?

> What metrics or outcomes would tell us we're making progress in our accessibility efforts?

Section Five, Part C: Training and Outreach

As detailed in <u>C2C's Strategic Plan</u>, different types of users require varying types of information when accessing the data system. As C2C releases new data tools, the Office is focusing its efforts on enabling and empowering users to engage with and see themselves in the data.

Data Walks and Data Academies

The Office will build upon outreach efforts to design Data Academies and Data Walks that will enable users to engage with and see themselves in the Data Story. C2C will collaborate with key stakeholders to raise awareness and empower users.

Products will include artifacts that tell the story of how communities engaged with their data, such as event kits and case studies. These materials will serve as a roadmap for others to replicate and expand similar data engagement efforts.

Lesson Plan Challenge

Following the release of C2C's Student Pathways Data Story, the overwhelming response from the public was that the public wanted to learn how to engage with the dashboards and bring the data back to their communities. The Office responded to that feedback with the recent launch of C2C's Lesson Plan Challenge, a statewide invitation for teachers to design a lesson plan that demonstrates creative and accessible ways to integrate the Student Pathways dashboard into instruction, enabling students, educators, and communities to interpret education and career pathways data and insights, build data literacy skills, while centering student experience in exploring data.

We asked the following questions to CEAB members to get their feedback on training and outreach:

- C2C is committed to conducting Data Walks in FY 2025-26, and would like to partner with Advisory Board members to deliver these events. With limited staff and capacity, please share your thoughts on the effectiveness of in-person, hybrid, or virtual Data Walks.
- C2C's Lesson Plan Challenge closes March 2026, and the Office is conducting ongoing engagement and outreach to ensure as many educators know about and participate in the Challenge. How can you help spread awareness about the Challenge?
- ❖ As the Office expands its data literacy efforts, C2C is exploring connecting data users as part of a Community of Practice. How might C2C effectively facilitate Communities of Practice?
 - > Do you have best practices for Communities of Practice?
 - ➤ Do you have examples of organizations or entities that are facilitating Communities of Practice well?
- Focusing on C2C's released analytical tools, how else might the Office expand data literacy to ensure as many users as possible can engage with the tools?

Section Five, Part D: Member Questions - Planned Engagement Efforts

Members should consider the following questions when preparing for this section of discussion on this agenda item:

- Ensuring equitable access to tools and resources is written in C2C's statute, and information must be tailored for different audiences across California. As the Office assesses its effectiveness and reach, what benchmarks for engagement have you found useful in your other non-C2C work in the past?
- As the Office designs its data literacy programming, it will also develop a long-term engagement plan following emphasis from Advisory Board members on the importance of deliberate, ongoing community engagement. As the Office develops the engagement plan, what parts of the data literacy discussion resonated with you?



Research Request Intake Form

Complete this form to begin the following types of data requests from the California Cradle- to-Career (C2C) Data System:

- * Expedited Data Request: requests for deidentified aggregate data that is not available through the query builder. These requests will be reviewed by C2C staff and shared with Data Providers before being fulfilled. These requests do not require a legal agreement.
- Comprehensive Data Request: requests for individual-level data or to match a cohort of individuals against C2C data. These requests will be reviewed by C2C staff and approved by Data Providers and the Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects. If approved, requestors will sign a legal agreement and provide proof of research training (e.g., Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Program). C2C staff and Data Providers will review analytical outputs to ensure data privacy.

Please refer to C2C's list of available data points as described <u>here</u>.

Requestor Information

- 1. Requestor Name
- 2. Requestor Organization(s)
 - ❖ What type of organization is requesting data? Check all that apply.
 - Advocacy Organization
 - Community Organization
 - Research Organization
 - o Media
 - Nonprofit-NGO
 - Local Education Agency
 - Local Government Agency
 - State Agency
 - Researcher
 - Legislative
 - Policymaker
 - Postsecondary Institution/System
- 3. Requestor Emails
- 4. Requestor Phone Numbers
- 5. Is this request on behalf of your employer, a Data Provider, or for an independent project?
- 6. When do you need the requested data?
- 7. Is this an update to an earlier request?
- 8. Prior request number (if none, leave blank)
- 9. Will you be providing C2C with any other data to link or combine with your requested data? If "Yes", please also fill out the data submission request form.

Project Information

- 10. What is the title of your project?
- 11. What type of project will be supported by this data request?

 Check all that apply.
 - California state legislative report
 - Federal reporting requirements
 - Grant-funded research
 - Thesis or dissertation
 - Other report by state or local government agency
 - Data to inform organizational decision-making
 - Other (Please Specify):
- 12. Provide an executive-summary describing the request and its purpose (no more than 500 words).
- 13. What questions will you answer with the requested data?
- 14. What aspect of the Cradle-to-Career Data system are you interested in studying? Check all that apply.
 - Early Childhood to Pre-K
 - **♦** K-5
 - ❖ Middle School
 - High School
 - Postsecondary
 - ❖ Workforce
 - Other
- 15. Describe your population of interest. Are you interested in a snapshot or cohort? What individuals should be included? Please be as conservative as possible and request the minimal amount of data to facilitate your request. Overly broad requests will be denied.
- 16. What timeframe should C2C use to identify your group of interest? List the first and last years.
- 17. Have you consulted with any of C2C's Data Providers about your request?
- 18. Have you consulted with any other state or local entities regarding your request?

- 19. If you have consulted with C2C's Data Providers or other state/local entities, please elaborate on your consultation.
- 20. Is this a one-time request or an ongoing request for data? If on-going, please specify how often you would expect to receive data.
- 21. In what format should the data be delivered? When possible, C2C will try to accommodate specifications.

Open Science Practices

The Office is committed to Transparency and Openness Promotion Guidelines (TOPS) (TOP Guidelines) C2C is interested in how its data is being used to explore different scientific topics. By answering these questions before receiving data, the Office will create a record of researchers hypotheses at a point-in time. The questions below request information on the intended purposes, methods of analysis, and expected outcomes related to the proposed use of C2C data. Note that C2C expects that requestors use data requested via this form only for the purposes specified in the research project requestors detail in this section.

- 22. Has this project been registered/pre-registered with the Center for Open Science, Dataverse, or other registry? If "Yes", please provide a link to the existing registration.
- 23. Will you commit to pre-registering this work and your planned analysis before receiving the data?
 - Yes, I plan to pre-register this work.
 - No, this work is exploratory or serves another purpose.
- 24. Please provide any existing citations that provide a basis for your research.
- 25. For each of the following, please indicate whether, prior to accessing C2C data, you intend to (1) disclose that this information will be available, (2) require the information to be available, or (3) arrange for an independent third party to verify your protocol.
 - Proposed study protocol
 - Proposed analysis plan
 - Plan for transparency of:
 - o analytical materials
 - o data
 - o analytical code
 - Reporting plans and guidelines
- 26. Prior to accessing C2C data, have you arranged for an independent party to:

- Review your computational processes for reproducibility?
- Review results to ensure information is accurately reported?
- 27. Is your proposed research study a verification of an existing research project?
- 28. If "Yes" to the above question, please select the type of verification study:
 - Replication: replication of existing study
 - Registered report: registered study that has been pre-accepted for publication
 - Multiverse: multi-process approach with the same data
 - Many analysts: multi-team analysis of the same data

Compliance/Institutional Review Boards

- 29. Have you submitted an application to the relevant Institutional Review Board, and if so, has your request been approved?
 - Which IRB have you submitted to?
 - o CPHS
 - o Your own institution
- 30. If your request has been approved, has your research been categorized as exempt review, expedited review, full review, or not human subjects research?
 - If exempt or not human subjects research, please describe the reason for this determination (ex. secondary research where identifiable information cannot be linked back to an individual)
- 31. Do you agree to follow C2C's data security practices and guidelines for researchers?
- 32. How long will C2C need to retain the data for your request?
- 33. Do you certify that the elements you are requesting are the minimal data necessary to conduct the analysis?
- 34. Does your intended analysis focus on any of the following special populations?
 - Children/minors
 - Incarcerated individuals
 - Individuals with cognitive impairments
 - Economically/educationally disadvantaged individuals
 - Pregnant individuals

Data Sharing and Reuse

- 35. Once this data is generated, are there any reasons why this request cannot be shared? (C2C's policy will be such that all aggregated data requests will be posted publicly, along with the underlying methodology and code subject to privacy and security policy). For comprehensive data requests, the underlying code must be placed in a publicly available repository or registry.
- 36. If you are requesting to embargo the data request from the public, please provide a rationale and the duration of the embargo.

Requested Data Points

37. Please Identify the Data Providers you are requesting data from. Check all that apply.

BPPE	Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
CCC	California Community Colleges
CDE (K12)	California Department of Education
CSAC	California Student Aid Commission
CSU	California State University
CTC	Commission on Teacher Credentialing
CWDB	California Workforce Development Board
DDS	Department of Developmental Services
DHCS	California Department of Health Care Services
DIR	Department of Industrial Relations
DSS	Department of Social Services
EDD	Employment Development Department
CDE (ELC)	Early Learning and Care
ETP	Employment Training Panel
IND	Independent Institutions of Higher Education
SIB	ScholarShare Investment Board
UC	University of California

- 38. Please identify the specific data points you are requesting access to from C2C's data dictionary <u>here</u>.
- 39. Please select the type of data request you are initiating:
 - Expedited Data Request: requests for deidentified aggregate data that is not available through the query builder. [Skip to Expedited Data Request Section]
 - Comprehensive Data Request: requests for unitary data or to match a cohort of individuals against C2C data. [Skip to Comprehensive Data Request Section]

Expedited Data Request

Expedited Data Request: requests for deidentified aggregate data that is not available through the query builder. These requests will be reviewed by C2C staff and by Data Providers before being fulfilled. These requests do not require a legal agreement.

- 40. Please confirm that the aggregate data you are requesting is not available in the query builder.
- 41. For each data point please describe the statistics you want calculated and how you would like the results aggregated (i.e., mean college-going rate by socioeconomic status and gender). Please note all results will be subject to C2C's review processes.

Supplementary Questions

These questions will help provide transparency into how the P20W data is being used as well as the types of individuals who are using the data system.

Answering these questions accurately will aid public reporting about the use of the data system. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

- 42. Which of the following best describes your work? Check all that apply.
 - Descriptive
 - Predictive Analysis
 - Causal Analysis
- 43. Does this work focus on any of the following subpopulations?
 - Gender
 - Race
 - Individuals with disabilities
 - Socio-economic status
 - English Language Learners
- 44. Does this work focus on specific geographical regions?
- 45. Does this work focus on specific institutions (i.e., a local school district)?
- 46. If your request was not able to be fulfilled, please describe your most likely course of action:
 - Do nothing
 - Conduct the Analysis using aggregated data
 - Seek out data directly from a state agency
 - Seek out data directly from a local agency
 - Conduct the analysis using another resource (describe)
 - Other: Please Explain



Research Request Intake Form

Complete this form to begin the following types of data requests from the California Cradle- to-Career (C2C) Data System:

- Expedited Data Request: requests for deidentified aggregate data that is not available through the query builder. These requests will be reviewed by C2C staff and shared with Data Providers before being fulfilled. These requests do not require a legal agreement.
- Comprehensive Data Request: requests for individual-level data or to match a cohort of individuals against C2C data. These requests will be reviewed by C2C staff and approved by Data Providers and the Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects. If approved, requestors will sign a legal agreement and provide proof of research training (e.g., Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Program). C2C staff and Data Providers will review analytical outputs to ensure data privacy.

Please refer to C2C's list of available data points as described here.

Requestor Information

- 1. Requestor Name
- 2. Requestor Organization(s)
 - ❖ What type of organization is requesting data? Check all that apply.
 - Advocacy Organization
 - Community Organization
 - Research Organization
 - o Media
 - Nonprofit-NGO
 - Local Education Agency
 - Local Government Agency
 - State Agency
 - Researcher
 - Legislative
 - Policymaker
 - Postsecondary Institution/System
- 3. Requestor Emails
- 4. Requestor Phone Numbers
- 5. Is this request on behalf of your employer, a Data Provider, or for an independent project?
- 6. When do you need the requested data?
- 7. Is this an update to an earlier request?
- 8. Prior request number (if none, leave blank)
- 9. Will you be providing C2C with any other data to link or combine with your requested data? If "Yes", please also fill out the data submission request form.

Project Information

- 10. What is the title of your project?
- 11. What type of project will be supported by this data request?

 Check all that apply.
 - California state legislative report
 - Federal reporting requirements
 - Grant-funded research
 - Thesis or dissertation
 - Other report by state or local government agency
 - Data to inform organizational decision-making
 - Other (Please Specify):
- 12. Provide an executive-summary describing the request and its purpose (no more than 500 words).
- 13. What questions will you answer with the requested data?
- 14. What aspect of the Cradle-to-Career Data system are you interested in studying? Check all that apply.
 - Early Childhood to Pre-K
 - **♦** K-5
 - ❖ Middle School
 - High School
 - Postsecondary
 - Workforce
 - Other
- 15. Describe your population of interest. Are you interested in a snapshot or cohort? What individuals should be included? Please be as conservative as possible and request the minimal amount of data to facilitate your request. Overly broad requests will be denied.
- 16. What timeframe should C2C use to identify your group of interest? List the first and last years.
- 17. Have you consulted with any of C2C's Data Providers about your request?
- 18. Have you consulted with any other state or local entities regarding your request?

- 19. If you have consulted with C2C's Data Providers or other state/local entities, please elaborate on your consultation.
- 20. Is this a one-time request or an ongoing request for data? If on-going, please specify how often you would expect to receive data.
- 21. In what format should the data be delivered? When possible, C2C will try to accommodate specifications.

Open Science Practices

The Office is committed to Transparency and Openness Promotion Guidelines (TOPS) (TOP Guidelines) C2C is interested in how its data is being used to explore different scientific topics. By answering these questions before receiving data, the Office will create a record of researchers hypotheses at a point-in time. The questions below request information on the intended purposes, methods of analysis, and expected outcomes related to the proposed use of C2C data. Note that C2C expects that requestors use data requested via this form only for the purposes specified in the research project requestors detail in this section.

- 22. Has this project been registered/pre-registered with the Center for Open Science, Dataverse, or other registry? If "Yes", please provide a link to the existing registration.
- 23. Will you commit to pre-registering this work and your planned analysis before receiving the data?
 - Yes, I plan to pre-register this work.
 - No, this work is exploratory or serves another purpose.
- 24. Please provide any existing citations that provide a basis for your research.
- 25. For each of the following, please indicate whether, prior to accessing C2C data, you intend to (1) disclose that this information will be available, (2) require the information to be available, or (3) arrange for an independent third party to verify your protocol.
 - Proposed study protocol
 - Proposed analysis plan
 - Plan for transparency of:
 - o analytical materials
 - o data
 - o analytical code
 - Reporting plans and guidelines

- 26. Prior to accessing C2C data, have you arranged for an independent party to:
 - Review your computational processes for reproducibility?
 - Review results to ensure information is accurately reported?
- 27. Is your proposed research study a verification of an existing research project?
- 28. If "Yes" to the above question, please select the type of verification study:
 - Replication: replication of existing study
 - Registered report: registered study that has been pre-accepted for publication
 - Multiverse: multi-process approach with the same data
 - Many analysts: multi-team analysis of the same data

Compliance/Institutional Review Boards

- 29. Have you submitted an application to the relevant Institutional Review Board, and if so, has your request been approved?
 - Which IRB have you submitted to?
 - o CPHS
 - o Your own institution
- 30. If your request has been approved, has your research been categorized as exempt review, expedited review, full review, or not human subjects research?
 - If exempt or not human subjects research, please describe the reason for this determination (ex. secondary research where identifiable information cannot be linked back to an individual)
- 31. What procedures do you have in place for data security practices?
- 32. What is your plan for destruction of individual level data once your project has been completed?
- 33. Do you certify that the elements you are requesting are the minimal data necessary to conduct the analysis?
- 34. Does your intended analysis focus on any of the following special populations?
 - Children/minors
 - Incarcerated individuals
 - Individuals with cognitive impairments
 - Economically/educationally disadvantaged individuals
 - Pregnant individuals

Data Sharing and Reuse

- 35. Once this data is generated, are there any reasons why this request cannot be shared? (C2C's policy will be such that all aggregated data requests will be posted publicly, along with the underlying methodology and code subject to privacy and security policy). For comprehensive data requests, the underlying code must be placed in a publicly available repository or registry.
- 36. If you are requesting to embargo the data request from the public, please provide a rationale and the duration of the embargo.

Requested Data Points

37. Please Identify the Data Providers you are requesting data from. Check all that apply.

Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education
California Community Colleges
California Department of Education
California Student Aid Commission
California State University
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
California Workforce Development Board
Department of Developmental Services
California Department of Health Care Services
Department of Industrial Relations
Department of Social Services
Employment Development Department
Early Learning and Care
Employment Training Panel
Independent Institutions of Higher Education
ScholarShare Investment Board
University of California

- 38. Please identify the specific data points you are requesting access to from C2C's data dictionary <u>here</u>.
- 39. Please select the type of data request you are initiating:
 - Expedited Data Request: requests for deidentified aggregate data that is not available through the query builder. [Skip to Expedited Data Request Section]
 - Comprehensive Data Request: requests for unitary data or to match a cohort of individuals against C2C data. [Skip to Comprehensive Data Request Section]

Comprehensive Data Request

Comprehensive Data Request: requests for unitary data or to match a cohort of individuals against C2C data. These requests will be reviewed by C2C staff and evaluated by Data Providers and the Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects. If approved, requestors will sign a legal agreement and provide proof of research training (e.g., Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Program). Data will be deidentified and provisioned in a secure data enclave. C2C staff will review analytical outputs to ensure data privacy and Data Providers will review reports for inclusion in the C2C Research Library.

- 40. Have you received outside funding to conduct this study?
- 41. If "Yes" to the above question, please explain what funding sources support this study.

Supplementary Questions

These questions will help provide transparency into how the P20W data is being used as well as the types of individuals who are using the data system.

Answering these questions accurately will aid public reporting about the use of the data system. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

- 42. Which of the following best describes your work? Check all that apply.
 - Descriptive
 - Predictive Analysis
 - Casual Analysis
- 43. Does this work focus on any of the following subpopulations?
 - Gender
 - Race
 - Individuals with disabilities
 - Socio-economic status
 - English Language Learners
- 44. Does this work focus on specific geographical regions?
- 45. Does this work focus on specific institutions (i.e., a local school district)?
- 46. If your request was not able to be fulfilled, please describe your most likely course of action:
 - Do nothing
 - Conduct the Analysis using aggregated data
 - Seek out data directly from a state agency
 - Seek out data directly from a local agency
 - Conduct the analysis using another resource (describe)
 - Other: Please Explain



C2C Data Submission Form Outline

If you would like to send C2C data to merge with the data you have requested, please answer the following questions about the types of data you would like to match. The information provided below will be included in any relevant legal agreements established between C2C and the requestor.

Dataset Characteristics

- 1. Please provide an existing C2C Data Request form submission number.
 - a. Is this Data Request number for individual data or for aggregated data? Please note that the final matched dataset will match the format indicated in the original Data Request.
- 2. Are the elements in your dataset reported at the individual level or the aggregate level?
- 3. How many records require matching?
- 4. Please provide a list of data fields, files, and descriptions for the files you would like to provide. Please classify the fields confidentiality according to the FIPS 199, Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems. Please also indicate which data fields contain personally identifiable information (PII) or protected health information (PHI), sensitive information (ex. names, SSNs, contact info, medical data). Do not share the underlying data via this form. C2C will reach out with secure data sharing methods.
- 5. What set of variables comprises the primary key that uniquely identifies a record in your dataset?
- 6. Does your dataset catalog information over time (time-series) or at a specific instance in time(cross-sectional)? Does your data cover multiple groups over multiple time periods (panel data)catalog information on one subject or multiple subjects? (ex. one school district vs. many school districts)
- 7. Does your dataset contain spatial data?

- 8. If "Yes" to the above questions, please provide information on the following:
 - a. At what level is the full universe of your spatial data?
 - i. National/regional
 - ii. California
 - iii. California subdivision (ex. specific counties, regions within CA such as the Bay Area)
 - b. What is the primary geographic division within your data (ex. state, county, city, legislative district, LEA catchment area)?
 - c. Are there any secondary geographic divisions covered by this data? If so, please list them.
 - d. Is your spatial data in vector form (i.e. divisions are created by a series of interconnected points) or raster form (i.e. data is represented by discrete locations on a coordinate plane)?

Matching Instructions

- 9. Which of C2C's Data Providers do you intend to include in the matched dataset?
- 10. Which of C2C's Data Providers would be relevant to match on?
- 11. Which of the following matching frameworks best reflect your desired dataset?
 - a. One to one: each element in your dataset will match one element in C2C's dataset
 - b. Many to one: elements from one dataset will match to multiple elements in the other
 - c. Many to many: multiple elements from both datasets will match to multiple elements in the other dataset
- 12. Which of the following joins would you like us to conduct?
 - a. Outer join: records from at least one dataset will be fully preserved, even if they have no match
 - i. Which datasets should have their records fully preserved?
 - 1. C2C data
 - 2. Your data
 - 3. Both datasets
 - b. Inner join: only elements that are able to be matched will be preserved
 - c. Other join type (please specify)
- 13. Do you expect that the relevant data fields will match directly (ex. unique ID, SSN) or will the match be a fuzzy match (ex. names with different potential spellings)?
 - a. If you expect a fuzzy match, please provide instructions on how to adjudicate fuzzy matches (ex. prioritize one variable in the primary key, prioritize matches based on time, etc.)
- 14. Do you intend to match this data to any other publicly available data? If so, please provide information on this additional data.



2025 Data and Tools Advisory Board Proposal Process Milestones

Date	Milestone
May 1, 2025	The public submits proposal forms. - The Office received <u>five proposals</u> .
July 11, 2025	Question and answer session with data provider subject matter experts and opportunity for DTAB members to publicly discuss proposal ideas and proposals received from the public.
August 22, 2025	 DTAB members had the option to: Submit their own proposal form; Submit a joint proposal form with no more than five DTAB members; Sponsor a proposal form submitted by members of the public with no more than two DTAB members; Further refine a proposal form submitted by member(s) of the public or a DTAB member from a previous year.
October 3, 2025	DTAB members presented proposals and members discussed how proposals complement and contrast and which are most promising for advancing C2C's ability to provide actionable information.
Fall 2025 - Spring 2026	Office of Cradle-to-Career Data (Office) will conduct light-touch feasibility studies of DTAB member proposals. Two DTAB members will work with the Governing Board Liaison to create the draft proposal report that will summarize the discussion of the Fall DTAB meeting, link all member proposals, and include the Office's light-touch feasibility studies.

Attachment D

March 25, 2026	DTAB members will discuss the draft proposal report.
	The DTAB proposal report will be presented to the Governing Board.



2025 Community Engagement Advisory Board Proposal Process Milestones

Date	Milestone
May 1, 2025	The public submits proposal forms. - The Office received <u>no proposals</u> .
July 11, 2025	Opportunity for CEAB members to publicly discuss proposal ideas and proposals received from the public.
September 12, 2025	CEAB members had the option to: - Submit their own proposal form; - Submit a joint proposal form with no more than five CEAB members; - Further refine a proposal form submitted by a CEAB member from a previous year.
October 24, 2025	CEAB members presented proposals and members discussed how proposals complement and contrast and which are most promising for advancing C2C's ability to provide actionable information.
Fall 2025 - Spring 2026	Office of Cradle-to-Career Data (Office) will conduct light-touch feasibility studies of CEAB member proposals. Two CEAB members will work with the Governing Board Liaison to create the draft proposal report that will summarize the discussion of the Fall CEAB meeting, link all member proposals, and include the Office's light-touch feasibility studies.
April 8, 2026	CEAB members will discuss the draft proposal report.
May 20, 2026	The CEAB proposal report will be presented to the Governing Board.