

Cradle-to-Career Data and Tools Advisory Board Staff Report

Date Report Issued: March 17, 2026
Attention: Members of Data and Tools Advisory Board
Subject: **Presentation on and Discussion of the California Cradle-to-Career Data System Five Year Anniversary Overview and Key Highlights (Agenda Item Five)**
Staff Contact: Shannon Serrato, Director of Engagement

At this meeting, the Data and Tools Advisory Board (DTAB) will review and give input on the California Cradle-to-Career Data System's (C2C) five-year anniversary as it relates to the Office of California Cradle-to-Career Data System's (Office) continuous improvement and celebration. This staff report is broken down into two main parts: section one, Data Academies, and section two, C2C's 5-year anniversary.

Requested Action:

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

Background:

C2C will celebrate its fifth anniversary this summer, marking an important milestone. This moment offers a chance for reflection and celebration while looking ahead. Advisory Board members will learn about the Office's plans to expand data literacy through Data Academies, as outlined in [C2C's FY 25-26 workplan](#), and receive a preview of planned events for C2C's 5-Year Anniversary.

Section One: Data Academies

Section One, Part A: Understanding Data Academies

C2C is expanding Outreach and Training efforts in 2026 by conducting [Data Walks](#) throughout California to ensure equitable access to and use of C2C's available tools and resources. Data Walks will provide a roadmap for replicating and scaling similar data engagement efforts, developing customized training, webinars, and on-demand resources that the Office is calling Data Academies.

Data Academies will be a suite of data literacy resources for different stakeholders. During this Data and Tools Advisory Board (DTAB) meeting, members will receive an overview and provide feedback on draft resources that will serve as the foundation for a Train-a-Trainer program, which members have expressed interest in in the past and have seen most recently in a 2025 [proposal](#) from Community Engagement Advisory Board members, Gamboa and Takagi.

The Office is working to develop curriculum and corresponding materials for Advisory Board members to effectively describe the work of the Office and the data system to their audiences. C2C is contemplating the areas of focus to include in resources, which could include:

- ❖ C2C's Mission, Vision, and Values
- ❖ Linked and available data
- ❖ Data privacy
- ❖ Analytical data tools
- ❖ C2C's proposal process
- ❖ Partnerships and collaborations

Section One, Part B: Request for Member Feedback

During the DTAB meeting, Advisory Board members will have the opportunity to share written and verbal input on these in-depth questions:

- ❖ As you reflect on the planned Data Academy for Advisory Board members (Train-a-Trainer), what are the topics and level of information needed in the curriculum to develop a successful program?
 - What tools do you need to deliver this information?

Section Two: 5-Year Anniversary

Section Two, Part A: Preview of Events

C2C will celebrate its fifth anniversary this year and launch an anniversary campaign in July 2026. Beginning this summer, the Office will host events to engage stakeholders. Planned activities include an interactive, data-focused hackathon, where data enthusiasts will come together to focus on an issue or

challenge using available data in innovative ways, and a Community Data Day, which will connect the public, C2C's data providers, and partners to highlight the benefits of a statewide linked data system.

Examples of Community Data Day include:

- ❖ [Charlotte Urban Institute](#)
- ❖ [Indiana](#)
- ❖ [CTData](#)

Section Two, Part B: Request for Member Feedback

During the DTAB meeting, Advisory Board members will have the opportunity to share written and verbal input on these in-depth questions:

- ❖ As the Office contemplates an interactive, “hackathon” inspired data event for the public, resources, namely time, are limited. What elements of a hackathon-like event are needed for a successful event? For example:
 - Access to and understanding of available data sets through FAQs and fact sheets
 - Ability to facilitate connections with others to form partnerships or teams
 - Examples of potential research questions to explore
- ❖ The Office looks forward to bringing data providers, partners, and the public together to celebrate the power of California's linked data system. As a member of DTAB, you have unique insights into the work of the Office and the Data System. What topics, areas, or activities would you like to see included in C2C's Community Data Day? Examples could include:
 - Keynote speakers
 - Tabling opportunities highlighting community work and collaboration
 - Breakout Sessions
 - Videos
 - Interactive activities