



**What Leaders are Saying:
Transforming Transfer, Removing Barriers, and Scaling the ADT**
March 2021

College Leaders

"At a time when streamlined access to transfer pathways to a college degree are more important than ever, we owe it to our students to be bold in our efforts to ensure California's transfer process is intentionally designed to place them on a path to success. At Bakersfield College, we are expanding the scope of the Program Pathways Mapper tool to make visible to our students the pathway to baccalaureate completion via the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT). I wholeheartedly support the Campaign's call to further strengthen the ADT program by establishing statewide coordination and goal setting to close persistent racial equity gaps in transfer outcomes, fundamentally transforming our transfer process to be student-centered."

Dr. Sonya Christian
President
Bakersfield College

"The Associate Degree for Transfer has been a powerful tool for Long Beach City College to help our students. We have seen much success with ADTs at LBCC because not only does it put students on a solid pathway to transfer, but it's also important that they know that they have a guaranteed spot within the CSU system. LBCC also saw a great increase in ADTs among our Black, Latinx and Pacific Islander students. The Associate Degree for Transfer is making college dreams a reality for thousands of our LBCC students. Additional efforts put forth by our state legislature to streamline transfer could help a generation of community college students."

Dr. Mike Muñoz
Interim Superintendent-President
Long Beach Community College District

"AB 928 is a sensible next step in our ongoing effort to enhance the ability of California's community college students to achieve a bachelor's degree. At a time when efficient and timely access to transfer is especially critical to our student's ability to weather and recover from the financial storm of the COVID-19 pandemic, our charge must be to fundamentally transform our transfer process to better serve all of our students."

Dr. David Viar
President
Glendale Community College



“Two of my proudest moments at Berkeley City College were being designated a Hispanic Serving Institution and being honored by the Campaign for College Opportunity for our work in awarding the Associate Degree for Transfer to Latinx students. We know that leading with equity must be more than just enrolling a diverse student body, we have to be intrusive in the way we serve and guide our students to the finish line. That’s why the ADT is such a critical piece of our success at Berkeley City College. The ADT gives us a platform from which we can build intrusive supports while taking the guesswork out of transfer for our students, allowing them to focus on being students. It’s time that our entire community college system place a premium on the ADT if we are serious about transforming transfer. It is time to build on the success of the ADT so more students can reach their college dreams.”

Dr. Angélica Garcia
President
Berkeley City College

"At Compton College, our focus on dual enrollment and the Associate Degree for Transfer has resulted in numerous student success stories. In the 2019-2020 academic year, 143 ADTs were awarded, and we will continue to see an increase in the number of students who were awarded an ADT. But we still have work to do. Despite recent growth in the ADT program and progress under the California Community Colleges Vision for Success, persistent racial equity gaps remain across our state. Far too often, California's Black and Latinx students are taking longer to achieve their transfer goals. The need for a systematic, intersegmental approach to creating accessible and direct transfer paths is clear. As educational leaders, we have to reimagine our transfer process to be student-centered and coordinated with each of our higher education partners."

Dr. Keith Curry
President
Compton College



Community Leaders

“At a time when our state must accelerate credential and degree completion in order to meet future workforce demands, the value of the Associate Degree for Transfer(ADT) cannot be understated. Students who complete an associate degree from a California community college more than double their annual pre-degree earnings after two years in the workforce and the value of a bachelor degree continues to increase as workforce demands require higher levels of education and training. But while the ADT may be driving growth in associate degree production in California, fewer than one third of Black graduates are utilizing this transfer pathway. It’s time for California to act. AB 928 represents a reasonable next step by creating an intersegmental implementation committee to address the racial equity gaps facing Black students.”

Tara Lynn Gray
CEO

Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce

“As an organization that is committed to increasing the rate at which underrepresented students access and complete their college education, SoCal CAN has witnessed the incredible impact the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) has had on students ability to complete their college education. It’s time for the state legislature to build on the Associate Degree for transfer’s success with AB 928 which will streamline and simplify the transfer process.”

Alison De Lucca
Executive Director

Southern California College Access Network (SoCal CAN)

“California’s community colleges are full of dedicated, capable students who too often end up lost in a confusing transfer maze. This disproportionately impacts Latinx, Black and Native American students in our state. The ADT has played a major role in ensuring that more community college students, specifically Black, Indigenous, and Latinx students, are able to transfer in a timely manner and achieve their educational dreams. California must continue to build on this success by ensuring more students have access to this vital program.”

Kristin McGuire
Western Regional Director
Young Invincibles

“Our students face systematic barriers on their road to college completion such as confusing course requirements and a myriad of transfer pathways. The Associate Degree for Transfer has removed those barriers by creating a clear pathway and guaranteed admission to the CSU. AB 928 provides us with the opportunity to expand and scale the ADT for all California students.”

Farah Noor
Regional Partnership Director
College Track



Student Leaders

“The Associate Degree for Transfer is incredibly valuable to the California State University (CSU) system. More and more students are utilizing the ADT’s guaranteed pathway to transfer to our institutions and complete their educational journey in 2 years. This has assisted the CSU with reaching its goals set out within Grad Initiative 2025. Our state legislature must continue to seek out opportunities to expand programs like the ADT to more students.”

Maryana Khames
Student Trustee
California State University Board of Trustees

“There is currently no singular general education pathway for students looking to transfer to the CSU and UC. Requirements vary across systems and even from campus to campus, pushing students through the cracks. This is why I support Berman’s AB 928. This legislation would create one singular pathway, simplifying and empowering the transfer process for community college students.”

Alexis Zaragoza
Student Regent
University of California Board of Regents

“In California, we view higher education as a gateway to a brighter future, but largely, four-year institutions remain inaccessible. Transfer processes are convoluted and costly. Berman’s AB 928 would set the stage for legislative action addressing these issues, ensuring universities widen their doors to all Californian’s, bringing us one step closer to recognizing the vast amount of potential that lay dormant throughout California and beyond.”

Colm Fitzgerald
Student Member
California Community College Board of Governors