



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 20, 2020

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## **California Community Colleges Make Encouraging Progress on Transfer, Completion and Closing Racial Equity Gaps**

Amidst the sobering backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the California Community Colleges announced good news yesterday on progress toward meeting a set of systemwide goals for improving student success with marked growth in the conferring of the Associate Degree for Transfer.

In Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley's [2020 State of the System Report](#), the Chancellor reports out on progress toward goals laid out in the [2017 Vision for Success](#). The Vision for Success is an ambitious five year plan that calls for increasing by 20% the number of students earning a college credential annually, increasing by 35% the number of students transferring to the state's public universities, and eliminating gaps in completion by race/ethnicity and income.

### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Number of students who earned a college credential increased to 140,335 up from 117,00 in 2016-17 meeting the goal of at least a 20% annual increase.
- Number of students transferring to the University of California and California State University rose to 87,170, a six percent increase from two years earlier.
- The number of students earning an Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) increased by more than 40 percent.
- Gaps between Latinx and White students in completion of transfer-level English are closing.

Much of the progress made toward the goals can be attributed to the expansion of the ADT and Guided Pathways which are providing much needed structure to the student experience, implementation of new placement practices that start students off in college-level English and math instead of dead-end remedial education courses, and the new Student Centered Funding Formula that funds colleges on both enrollment and student success.

"The progress our community colleges are making to improve student success and to close racial/ethnic equity gaps is encouraging. This is the ten-year anniversary of the ADT and it is clear that when bold leaders faithfully implement evidence-based policies like the ADT, Guided Pathways, and new placement practices, more students will succeed. The challenge before us is staying the course and ensuring no group of students or region is left behind," said Michele Siqueiros, president of the Campaign for College Opportunity.

California's community colleges serve the vast majority of college undergraduates in the state, prepare the health workforce we need to fight this global pandemic, and provide the career training people need as employment patterns shift. "The economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic will result in more

students seeking educational opportunities at our community colleges; the colleges' ability to ensure student success will be more important than ever and will determine the state's economic recovery," concluded Siqueiros.

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***About Campaign for College Opportunity:***

*The Campaign for College Opportunity is a California non-profit bipartisan policy and research organization focused on a single mission: to ensure all Californians have an equal opportunity to attend and succeed in college in order to build a vibrant workforce, economy and democracy. For more information, visit [www.CollegeCampaign.org](http://www.CollegeCampaign.org) / [Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign](https://Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign) or follow [@CollegeOpp](https://twitter.com/CollegeOpp).*