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For Immediate Release: Treasurer Fiona Ma Announces Statewide Effort Connecting 40K California Community College Students with \$20M in Available CalKIDS Scholarships

Sacramento, CA — In a significant step toward strengthening college access and affordability, State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA, announces that CalKIDS, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), and the California Cradle-to-Career Data System (C2C) have launched a coordinated initiative to help eligible community college students access their CalKIDS Scholarships.

Through this partnership, state education leaders are leveraging existing student data systems to help community colleges pinpoint enrolled students who have CalKIDS Scholarships available to claim and use. The effort identified 40,000 community college students with approximately \$20 million in CalKIDS Scholarships available. These insights will strengthen targeted, campus-level outreach to connect students with those funds for qualified educational expenses.

CalKIDS, administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board and chaired by State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA, is a statewide automatic scholarship program created to expand access to college and career training. Eligible California public school students automatically receive up to \$1,500 in CalKIDS Scholarships and must claim their account in order to use the funds for qualified educational expenses until age 26.

Since CalKIDS launched in 2022, the program has supported nearly 70,000 students with more than \$37 million for expenses at community colleges across the state.

"This partnership reflects California's commitment to ensuring that students can access the opportunities already available to them," said California State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA.

"Through CalKIDS, we are investing in students long before they arrive on a college campus, and this effort helps ensure those scholarships are actually reaching the students who need them most."

As part of the initiative, CalKIDS participant information is securely matched through the California Cradle-to-Career Data System, which has an existing data-sharing arrangement with the Chancellor's Office. The matched eligibility report is now available to authorized college staff through their Data on Demand platform. Community college districts can use this information to conduct individualized outreach to enrolled students who have available CalKIDS Scholarships, ensuring students are aware of funds that can immediately support their educational goals.

"This collaboration demonstrates the power of connected systems, with Californians at the heart of our shared goals," said Mary Ann Bates, Executive Director of the California Cradle-to-Career Data System. "This joint initiative is government efficiency and effectiveness in practice, and the California Cradle-to-Career Data System is eager to continue delivering actionable insights that can directly benefit students in their higher education journeys."

The California Community College system serves more than 2.2 million students annually and plays a central role in advancing economic mobility across the state. By integrating CalKIDS Scholarship data into existing student support systems, campuses can further strengthen affordability efforts and student persistence.

"Imagine what \$1,500 from CalKIDS can mean for a first-generation community college student juggling two part-time jobs. It can be the difference between stopping out and staying enrolled. That is why the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office has partnered with the Cradle-to-Career Data System and State Treasurer Fiona Ma. Together, we are building the systems that deliver on this promise. This is what Vision 2030 is about: strong partnerships and modern data systems that ensure every student, in every community, can access the opportunity they have already earned," said California Community Colleges Chancellor, Sonya Christian.

Community college districts are encouraged to use the Data on Demand platform to identify enrolled students with CalKIDS Scholarship indicators and conduct targeted outreach through existing campus communications and student support channels.

Students can visit [CalKIDS.org](https://calkids.org) to confirm eligibility and claim their scholarship. To claim funds, students will need their Statewide Student Identifier (SSID), a ten-digit number that can be found on their high school transcript or by contacting their former high school.

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About C2C: *The California Cradle-to-Career Data System (C2C) is the state's official source of actionable data and research on education, economic, and health outcomes. C2C connects Californians with trusted information and resources, providing insights into critical milestones in the pipeline from early care to K–12 to higher education, skills training, and employment. The data system fosters evidence-based decision-making to help California build a more equitable future. For more information, visit c2c.ca.gov.*

About CCCC: *The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, composed of 73 districts and 116 colleges serving 2.2 million students per year. California community colleges provide career education and workforce training; guaranteed transfer to four-year universities; and degree and certificate pathways. As the state's engine for [social and economic mobility](#), the California Community Colleges supports [Vision 2030](#), a strategic plan designed to serve our students, our communities, and our planet. For more information, please visit the [California Community Colleges website](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#).*

About CalKIDS: *The California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS) is the nation's largest child development account program, providing scholarships for higher education. Administered by the ScholarShare Investment Board, and Chaired by State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA, the program is designed to promote the pursuit of higher education statewide by empowering families to build assets, nurture savings habits, and raise their educational aspirations. Eligible public school students can receive CalKIDS Scholarships worth up to \$1,500 and every child born in California on or after July 1, 2022, is awarded a CalKIDS Scholarship worth up to \$175, ensuring more families have the resources needed to support their children's education. To learn more, visit [CalKIDS.org](#).*