It Takes More Than Money: The expanded vision of College Promise

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What We Know

• Financial Assistance is critical but insufficient

• Financial support combined with academic support and student services can lead to positive student outcomes
  • Especially for low-income and first-generation students
College Promise in California
A Unique Model

Not a state-level program (eligibility requirements and benefits vary)

- Locally-developed programs
- State financial support for College Promise in community colleges
California College Promise Landscape

• More programs than in any other state
• First College Promise program in 2006
  • 2016 = 23
  • 2017 = 42
  • 2019 = 130 (and counting)*

* Financial support, universal eligibility (not subjective admissions), intention to continue over time
California College Promise Landscape

- **118/130** – Anchored in community colleges*
- **82+/130** – Beyond financial support (academic support, student services)

*College Promise in California is not just a financial aid program*

* Students in 4 colleges are served by more than one program
California Higher Education Background

- A Brief History of Accessible Higher Education
  - **Mid-1800:** Tuition Free
  - **1960:** Master Plan (tuition-free, fees acceptable)
  - **1975:** Tuition fees established UC, CSU
  - **1985:** Community College tuition fees; Established Board of Governor (BOG) Fee Waiver for low-income students as part of the process
  - **2013:** Tuition waivers are extended to undocumented students
California College Promise: A State Policy Snapshot

2016
- 20 CSU programs by 2019 (SB412)
- College Promise Innovation Grant - 15M (AB1741)
- College Promise Grant (rebranded BOG-Fee Waiver)

2017
- The California College Promise provides $46M of funding (allocated in fall 2018) for programs that
  - Close achievement gaps
  - Improve college readiness
  - Increase persistence, completion, and transfer rates (AB 19)

2019
- The College Promise provides $85M for College Promise programs (allocated in fall 2019) (AB19 and AB2)
Factors Contributing to a College Promise-Friendly Environment

- History of accessible higher education
- National College Promise visibility
- Supportive state leadership
- Mature programs as guides
- Convenings, workshops, guidebook
- College Promise policy
California College Promise
An overarching framework for improving college access, persistence, and completion.

Student Support Features

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
to minimize or eliminate economic barriers to higher education.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND STUDENT SERVICES
at all levels of education.

CLEAR, SIMPLE, AND CONSISTENT MESSAGING
about the program to prospective students and their families; and about advice, feedback, support, and deadlines to current students.

Program Features

CROSS-SEGMENT AND CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS
including a commitment to the program’s success, and participation in program activities and decision-making.

PLACE-BASED ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
and other eligibility and continuation requirements.

Please visit our California College Promise Project (CCPP) website at https://californiapromiseproject.wested.org/
Academic Support and Students Services in California College Promise programs

**Academic Support**

- **High School**
  - Tutoring
  - Mentoring
  - FAFSA & College Application support
  - Summer academic programs

- **College**
  - Tutoring
  - Workshops
  - Learning communities
  - Group study sessions
  - Early alert feedback

**Student Services**

- **High School**
  - Transition to college programs
  - Career counseling
  - Campus visits

- **College**
  - First year seminars/cohort programs
  - Coaching
  - Counseling
  - Advising
  - Peer mentoring
  - Workshops
Student Support in 3 College Promise Programs

Institution
San Diego Promise
San Diego Community College District

City
Kalamazoo Promise
Kalamazoo, Michigan

State
Tennessee Promise
Tennessee
San Diego Promise (2016)

Funding

Community College District

Last Dollar

Eligibility

Recent Graduate of high school in San Diego
California resident (or AB540 eligible)

Financial Support

Tuition and Fees

$250-$400 need-based book grants

Academic Support/Student Services

Orientation

Campus engagement activities

Student success team (peer mentor, promise counselor, promise coordinator)
Kalamazoo Promise (2006)

City

Funding
First dollar

Eligibility
Kalamazoo Public Public Schools (KPS) graduate (attended 9-12)

Financial Support
Up to 130 college tuition credits and fees at any MI public college or university

Academic Support/Student Services (started 2014)
Pathways coaches in high schools
Promise coaches in 2 colleges
Tennessee Promise (2015)  
Knox Achieves (2009)

*State*

**Funding**
- Last dollar

**Eligibility**
- Tennessee high school graduate

**Financial Support**
- Tuition and fees (until associate degree, applied technology certificate, or 5 postsecondary semesters)

**Academic Support/Student Services**
- Mentor to guide students through postsecondary application and enrollment processes
San Diego Promise
*Shakerra Carter*, Dean, Outreach & Student Affairs

Kalamazoo Promise
*Von Washington, Jr.*, Executive Director, Community Relations

Tennessee Promise
*Krissy DeAlejandro*, Executive Director, tnAchieves
Thank you!
californiacollegepromise.wested.org