

# PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

## Youth Program Strategy

### FOLLOW THE STUDENT

Earning a postsecondary credential is increasingly important — to individuals and their ability to earn family-supporting wages, and to California as we face an acute shortage of qualified workers. The James Irvine Foundation Youth program strategy aims to prepare young people for success on this educational journey, from high school to postsecondary completion.

### GOAL

Increase the number of **low-income young people** in California who complete **high school on time** and earn a **postsecondary credential BY AGE 25.**



#### INCOME DISPARITY

**70%**

of low-income students who start at a two-year college do not complete a credential within five years

**Complete**  
program of study prerequisites

#### PROGRESS PERIL

**58%**

of California community college students start in remedial courses, extending time and money to degree and reducing their odds of completion

**Enroll**  
in 12+ credits per term

#### PLANNING BREAKDOWN

**30%**

of excess credit hours — which delay degree completion — stem from students' lack of information or intentional planning

**Enter**  
into aligned program of study

**Select**  
& enroll in postsecondary

#### MISSED OPPORTUNITY

**1 IN 5**

high school graduates who have been admitted to college never matriculate

**Apply**  
for financial aid

### BRIDGE THE GAPS

The path from high school to postsecondary degree completion is disconnected, with many gaps along the way. By connecting institutions and people, we can bridge these gaps and ensure smoother transitions.

#### LATE START

**64%**

less likely to complete postsecondary — the disadvantage of students who postpone enrollment a year after high school

**Apply**  
directly to postsecondary

**Graduate**  
college and career ready



**Develop**  
college knowledge and readiness competencies

#### DISCONNECTED

**1:854**

ratio of California students to a college/career counselor — 1:250 is the recommended ratio

**Engage**  
in rigorous, aligned curriculum

#### UNPREPARED

**58%**

of California high school students haven't completed a-g requirements for university admission