

Modernizing California's Education Data System

November 29, 2018

Jacob Jackson & Kevin Cook

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Higher education is critical to California's future

- California has invested billions of dollars to improve public education over the past decade
- Many educational outcomes have improved
- But questions remain about key student transition points
 - For example, how are students faring when they go from K–12 to college, or from community college to a four-year institution

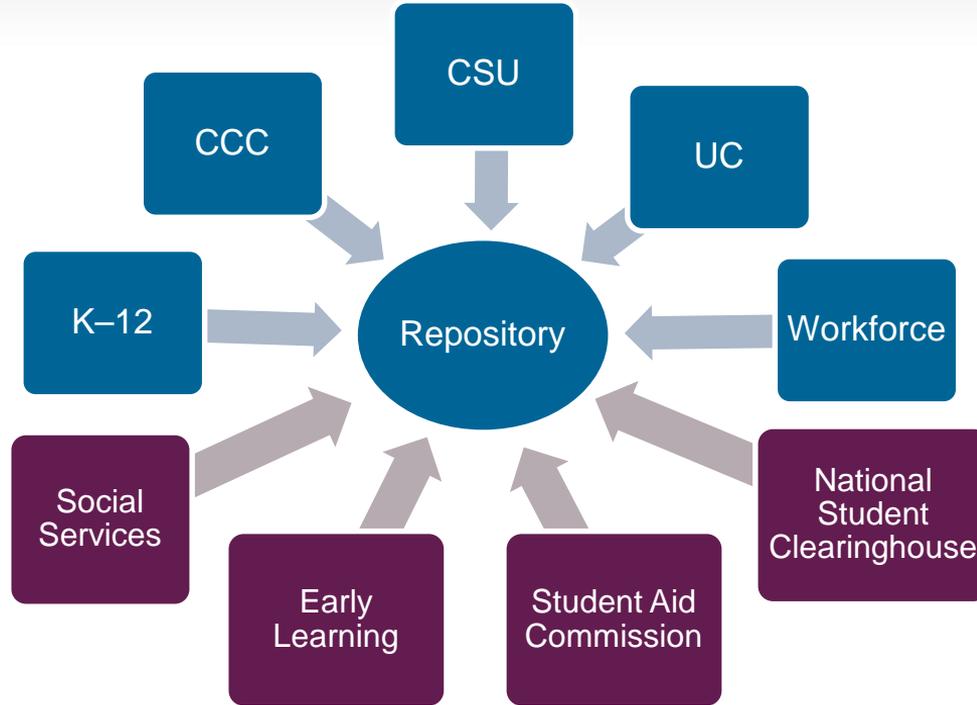
California's education data systems are fragmented

- Each education system collects and analyzes a lot of data
- Without connecting student records across systems, California cannot answer important questions about:
 - The educational pipeline
 - State investments in higher education
 - How education pays off in terms of work and earnings
 - The effectiveness of certain programs

California would benefit from a statewide longitudinal data system

- Better data can lead to better:
 - Feedback and efficiency for institutions
 - Evaluation and coordination for the state
 - Local coordination among institutions
- Linking student records across systems has been done effectively
 - Does stacking credentials in health fields provide economic benefits?
 - Does the Early Assessment Program reduce the need for remediation?
- However, linking data across systems is difficult and rare

California should build a flexible centralized repository



Governance of the system is important to its success

- Other states' lessons in governance of a data system can serve as models for California
 - Promote participation of educational segments
 - Ensure transparency, security, and privacy
 - Expand capacity by working with regional partnerships and external researchers
 - Inform a new higher education coordinating body

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Notes on the use of these slides

These slides were created to accompany a presentation. They do not include full documentation of sources, data samples, methods, and interpretations. To avoid misinterpretations, please contact:

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Thank you for your interest in this work.