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## *A New Vision for California Higher Education?*



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College Access Foundation 2014 Regional Convenings  
Los Angeles and Oakland  
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## Topics

1. Why do we need a new vision?
  - Performance shortfalls
  - Shortcomings of Master Plan
2. Some promising developments
  - State policy
  - Institutions
  - Regions
3. A suggested *New Vision*
4. Discussion

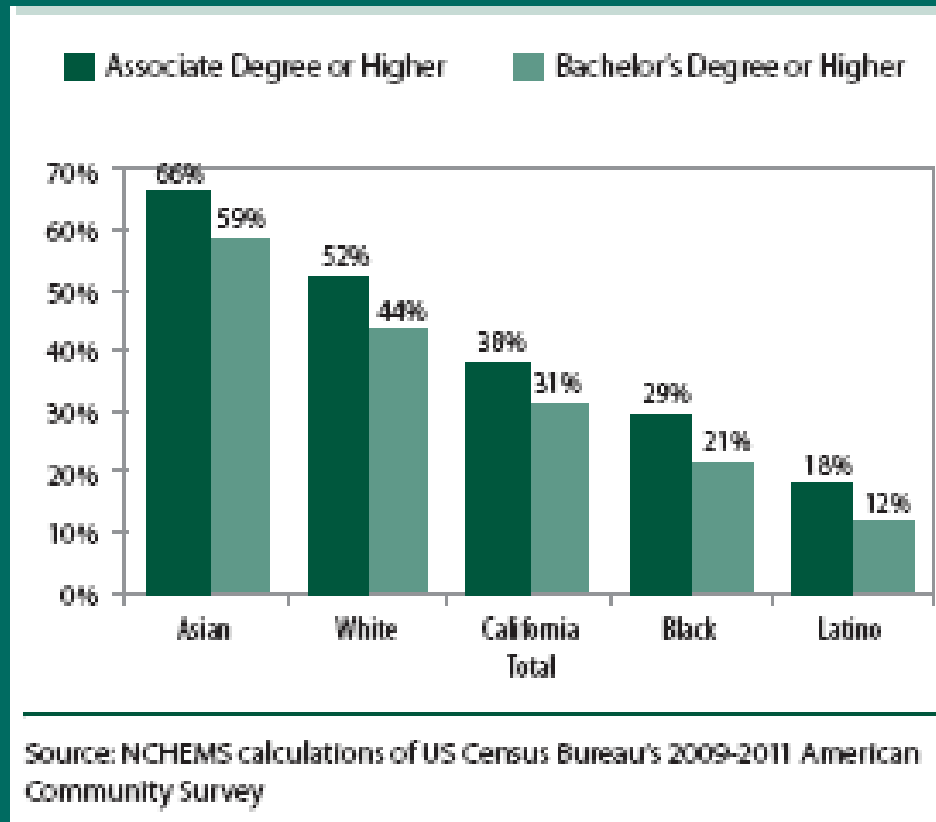
# Educational Attainment Problem

(Rank Among States in % with College Degrees, 2011)

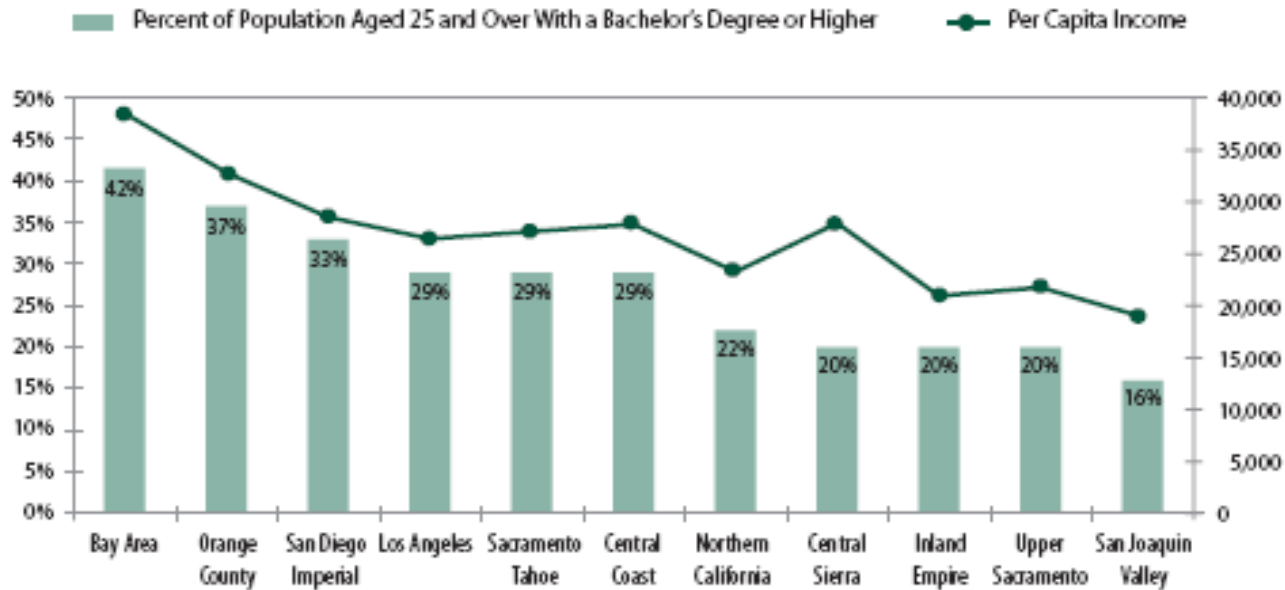
Age Group	AA or Higher	BA or Higher
>64	4 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
45-64	17 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>
35-44	30 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>
25-34	29 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>

Source: NCHEMS Information Center for Higher Education Policymaking and Analysis, based on U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey

# Disparities in Educational Attainment Among Racial/Ethnic Groups, Ages 25-34



# Gaps in Educational Attainment and Per Capita Income by Region

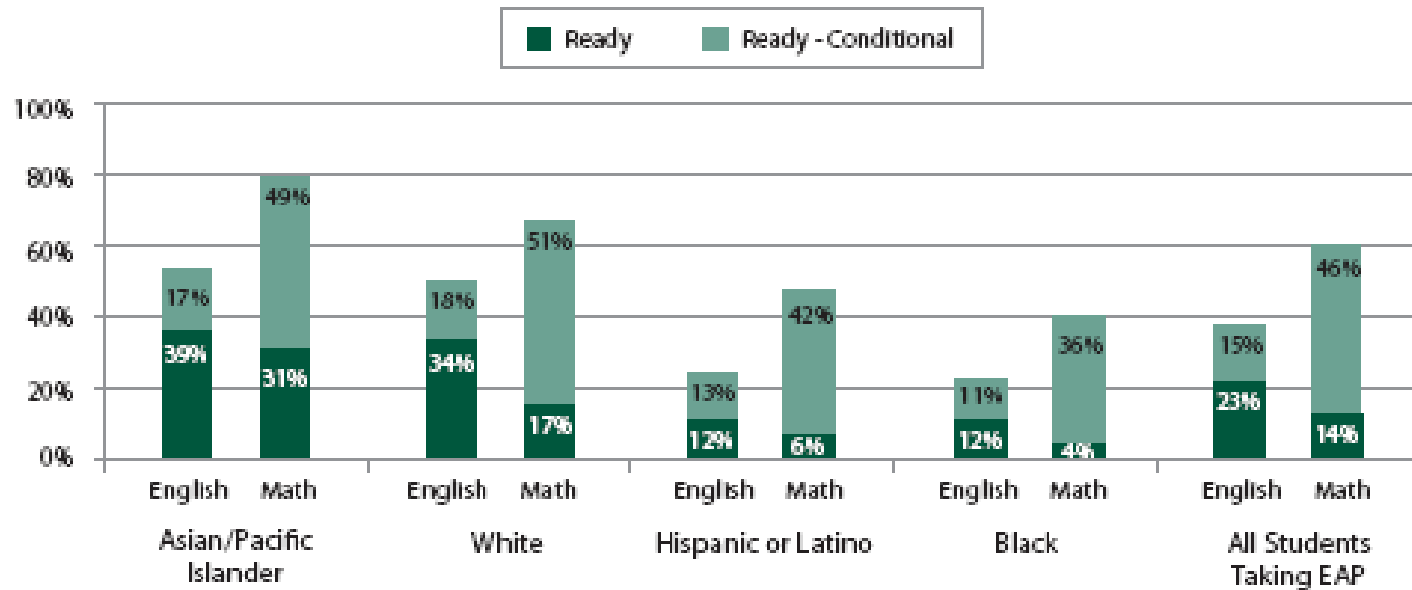


Source: Authors' calculations based on US Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 2008-2012 estimates for attainment data and 2012 estimate for income data

Range among regions in:

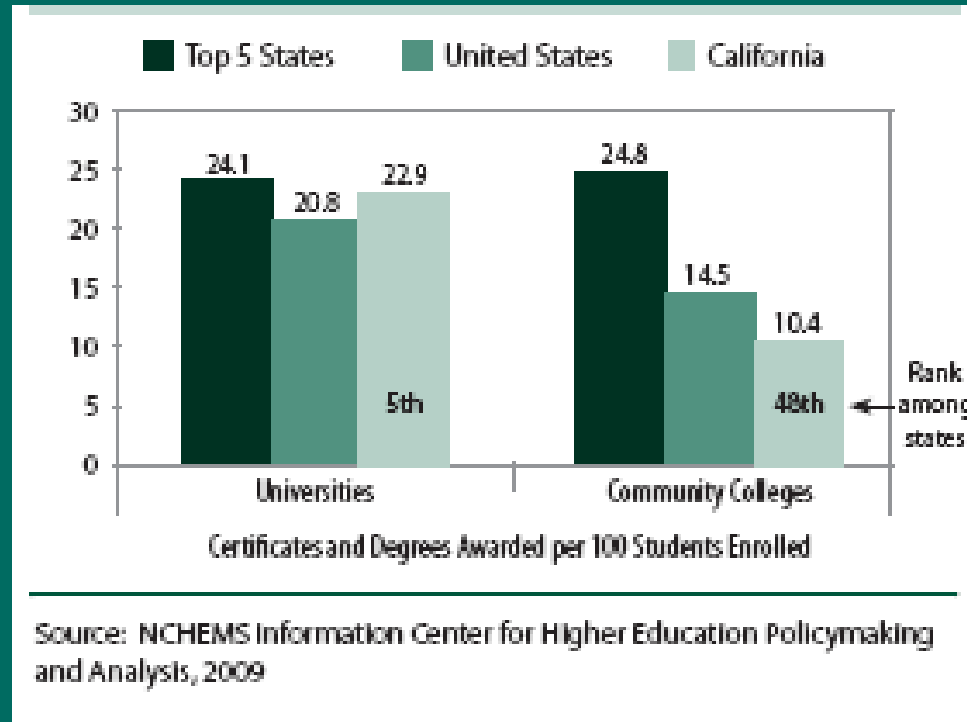
- Direct college going: 41% - 69%
- College enrollment (ages 18-24): 25% - 54%

# College Readiness of 11<sup>th</sup> Graders as Indicated by the Early Assessment Program (EAP) Exam, 2013



Source: California State University, EAP 2013 Test Results (<http://eap2013.ets.org/ViewReport.asp>)

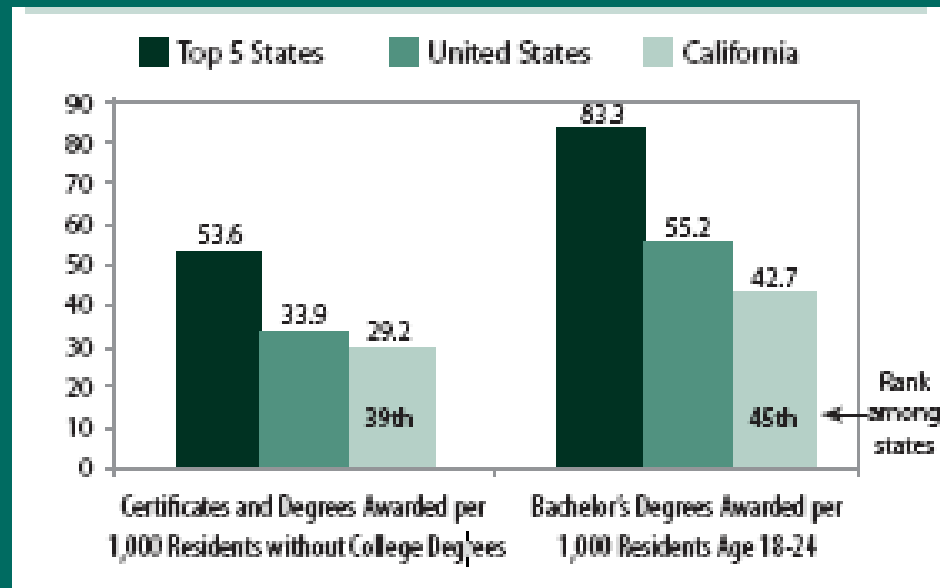
# California Lags in Certificates/Degrees Awarded in Community Colleges; not in Universities



But CSU Graduation Rates are low:

- Six-year rate: 51%
- Four-year rate: 16%

# California Ranks Low among States in Degrees Awarded per Capita



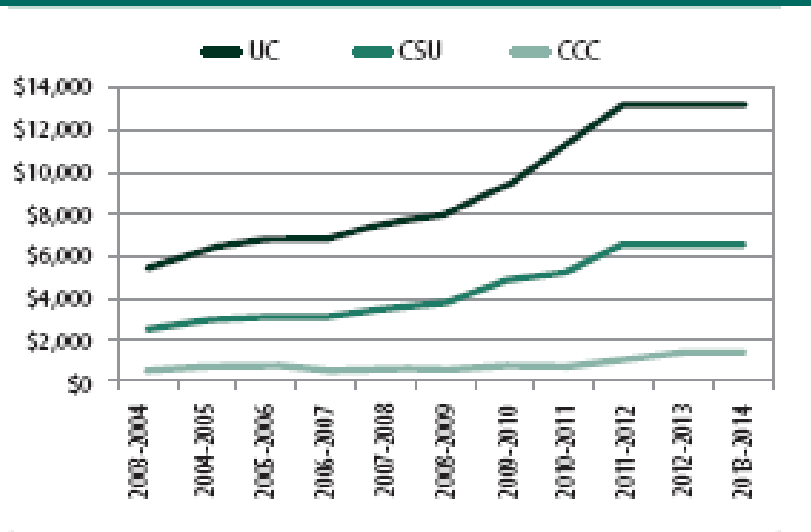
Source: NCHEMS Information Center for Higher Education Policymaking and Analysis, 2009 (certificates/degrees) and National Science Foundation Science and Engineering Indicators 2014 (bachelor's degrees)



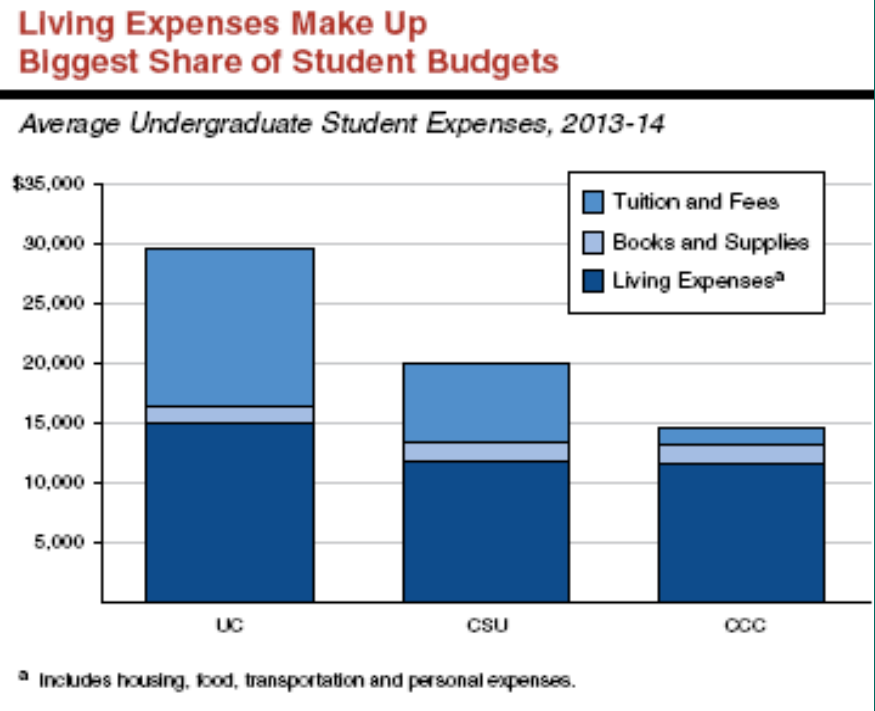
# Affordability Concerns

Steep fee increases (student share of cost has doubled in last 10 years)

Low tuition and fee waivers don't make community colleges affordable



Source: California Postsecondary Education Commission, *Resident Undergraduate Fees in Actual Dollars for 2001-02 through 2010-11*; subsequent years from the California Legislative Analyst's 2013-14 *Analysis of the Higher Education Budget*





## It's Not 1960 Anymore

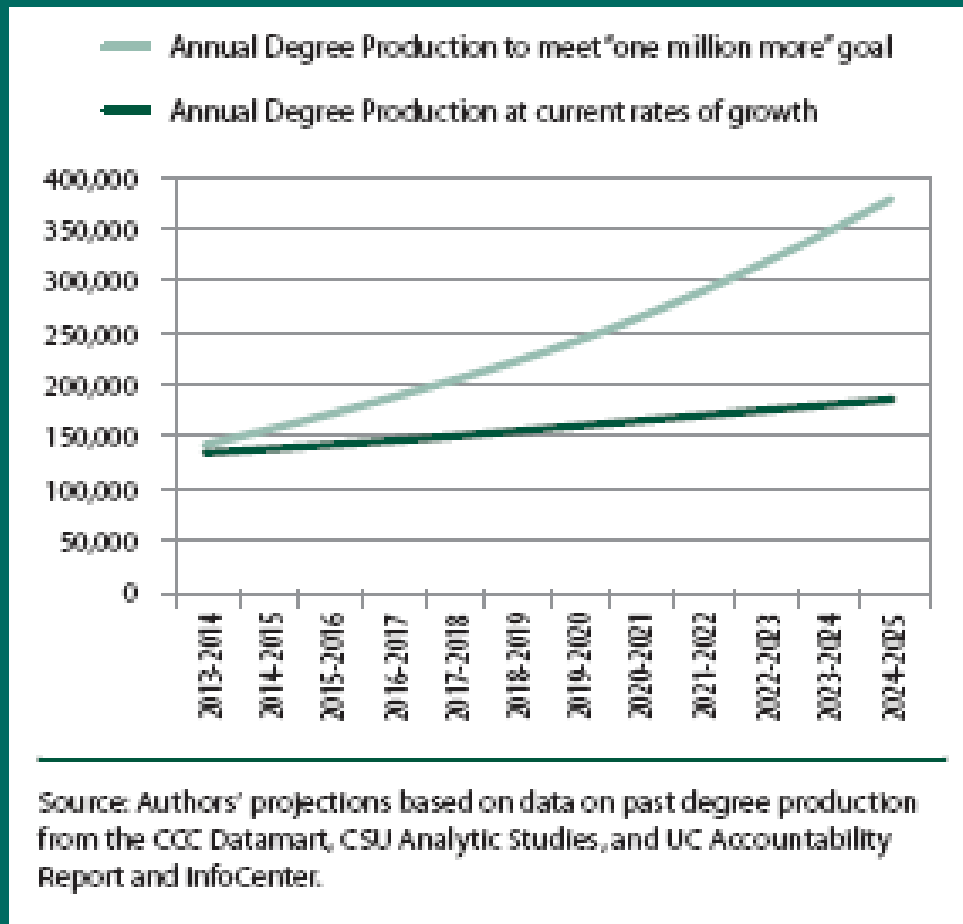
- Demographics (92% v 40% white)
- College-going rates (not for the few, well-prepared anymore)
- Instructional technology (what's chalk?)
- Knowledge economy

# Structural Problems with Master Plan

- Lack of capacity in baccalaureate programs
- Under-resourced community college system serving 70% of public enrollments
- Poorly structured financial aid for community college students
- System built on inter-dependence yet no provision for state policy leadership
- Insufficient differentiation of mission and program

# Too Big a Lift?

“One Million More” Means Going from 3% to 9% Annual Growth in Bachelor’s Degrees



## Some Promising Developments – State Policy

- Common Core State Standards
- Student Success Act
- Associate degrees for transfer
- CTE gaining stature
- New system heads pledging collaboration
- State budget

# Student Transfer Achievement Reform

## Goals of SB 1440, SB 440

- Clearer pathways to reduce units
- Incentivize associate degree
- Increase transfer
- Transfer degree “becomes the preferred transfer pathway for all students across the state”

## Progress on Implementation

- 25 Transfer Model Curricula (TMC) - more underway
  - 18 units of major preparation coursework
- Each CSU decides if a particular TMC is “similar” to its offerings in that discipline
- Much progress but access to pathways is uneven
  - # degrees offered at CCs ranges from 2 - 19
  - 7 CSUs have deemed TMC similar in every major offered; only 2 for at least half of the concentrations in the majors
  - 4 CSUs have deemed all offerings “not similar” in four or more of the TMC disciplines
- Very limited student awareness

# Conclusions and Recommendations of IHELP/PPIC Study

## *Conclusions:*

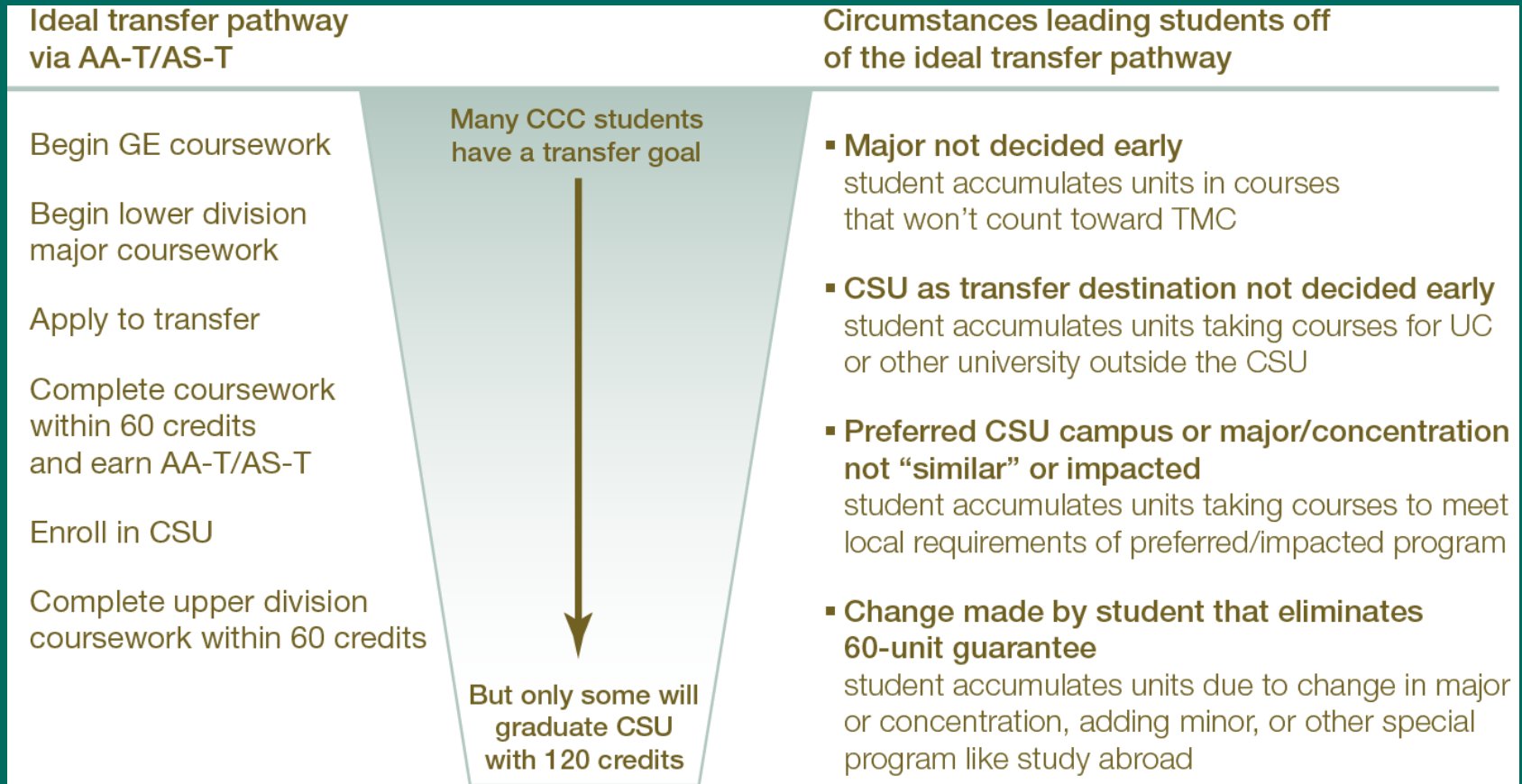
- Will lead to clearer pathways and more students earning associate degrees
- But actual transfers limited by capacity
- May not have major impact on reducing units
- Need reasonable expectations – not suited for everyone

## *Recommendations:*

- Review “not similar;” flexibility in some majors might help
- More effort to inform counselors and students
- Resource sharing to help small CCs offer more degrees
- More effort to involve UC



# Many circumstances can reduce benefits of “ideal” pathway



# Some Promising Developments – Institutions

- High schools
  - Better use of senior year
  - Linked Learning
- Community colleges
  - Developmental education acceleration (Chabot)
  - Structured pathways (CTE consortium grants)
  - Scorecards and dashboard
- CSUs
  - Graduation initiative
  - Dashboard
  - Data analytics

## Some Promising Developments – Regions

- Coachella Valley Economic Partnership
- Long Beach Promise
- Decade of Different (Humboldt County)
- Community college CTE regions
- Career Pathways Trust applicant consortia
- Many others....



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A NEW VISION FOR  
CALIFORNIA HIGHER EDUCATION:  
*A Model Public Agenda*

MARCH 2014

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“Master Plan”  
shapes a discussion  
about three  
institutions

“Public Agenda”  
shapes a discussion  
about the needs of  
Californians

*The time appears to be ripe for a new Master Plan, one that would: (1) replace emphasis on the distinguishing characteristics of the three public segments with concern for regional cooperation and organization, and (2) include K-12 education within its scope as a full partner.*

*(National Center, 1998)*

*The Governor and Legislature should encourage the drafters to think responsibly about how higher education is structured and...re-examine the rationale for how the three-tier system is currently organized and to explore greater campus-level specialization in all segments.*

*(Little Hoover Commission, 2013)*

*The magnitude of this underperformance is such that it will not be successfully addressed by modest injections of funding or by tweaks in current educational policy and practice.*

*(Committee on Economic Development, 2013)*

*All of the problems that have led to the current crises can be solved, but doing so will require new vision and strong leadership both by policymakers in Sacramento and by higher education officials.*

*(Public Policy Institute of California, 2010)*

# Emerging Consensus for Transformative Changes

- Approach to structuring and financing higher ed is out of sync with needs of students and state
- Master Plan is not *only* under-funded
- Imposes an unagile, state-centered structure on a dynamic, multi-region state
- Needs that fall outside, between, or outgrow capacities of segments not well addressed

# A New Approach

1. Regional consortia to guide planning
2. Greater program specialization to match assets with regional needs
3. Technology to ensure access to broad offerings
4. Office of Higher Education – to provide state policy leadership

# Goals of Public Agenda

**Goal 1** ■ Increase access to higher education institutions and attainment of high-quality degrees and certificates, with an emphasis on access and attainment among younger adults

**Goal 2** ■ Reduce performance gaps in higher education access and attainment

**Goal 3** ■ Improve the stability and adequacy of public and private investments in higher education

**Goal 4** ■ Provide state policy leadership that enables an effective regional approach to meeting California's higher education needs, connected to an overall state-level vision





## Discussion

- Reactions to regional vision? Implications for CAF grantees?
- How to get institutions to change, i.e., increase capacity to help students succeed?
- Community college or university?
- What gets institutions to collaborate?
- Other?