

# PERFORMANCE MATTERS

News from the CSDE Performance Office



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## Next Generation Accountability Results Released

On December 8, the [CSDE released the 2021-22 results from the Next Generation Accountability System](#). The system moves beyond test scores and graduation rates to provide a more holistic, multifactor perspective of district and school performance and incorporates student growth over time.

These accountability results confirm the broader impact of the pandemic on other student outcomes. In addition to academic achievement, other indicators such as chronic absenteeism, on-track to high school graduation, postsecondary entrance, and physical fitness also lag pre-pandemic levels. Indicators such as academic growth, high school graduation, and arts access show increases.

With this release, the CSDE is identifying **11 new Turnaround schools** for comprehensive support and improvement due to their consistently low overall performance, bringing the total number of Turnaround schools to 40. The CSDE is also identifying **nine new Focus schools** for a consistently underperforming student group bringing the total number of Focus

schools to 32. All Turnaround and Focus schools are eligible to seek to join the Commissioner's Network, apply for School Improvement Grant funding when available, and access CSDE resources and professional learning experiences for school improvement.

The CSDE is identifying **129 Schools of Distinction** for high overall performance (66 schools) and/or high academic growth (100 schools); 35 of these 129 schools are in Alliance Districts.

The accountability results also indicate that **dual credit opportunities**, where students earn three or more nonremedial college credits while in high school, have the potential to accelerate postsecondary readiness for all students. Such dual credit opportunities where students take college courses while in high school (which is now included in Indicator 6 of the accountability system) have been [found in research](#) to have positive effects on students' college access and enrollment, credit accumulation, and college degree attainment.

## Accountability Reports on EdSight

### Overview Reports/Documents

- [Next Generation Report - Table](#)
- [Next Generation Report - Dashboard](#)
- [Using Accountability Results to Guide Improvement](#)
- [Detailed presentation](#)
- [School Categories, Support Schools, and Schools of Distinction](#)

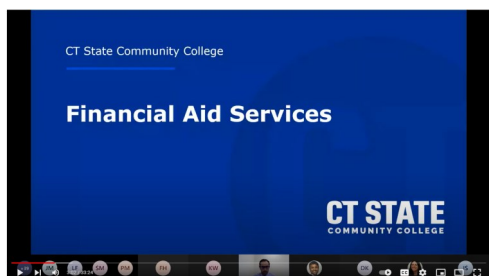
### Indicator Level Reports

- [Performance Index Report](#)
- [Pandemic Recovery Dashboard](#)
- [Smarter Balanced Growth](#)
- [Chronic Absenteeism](#)
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- [Postsecondary Outcomes](#)
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## Webinar Recordings Available on Financial Aid/PACT and CT Auto Admit Program (CAAP)

### Financial Aid and the Pledge to Advance Connecticut (PACT) for CT State

On Wednesday, November 9, from 2:30 – 3:30 pm, Steven McDowell, Jr., Assistant Vice President of Financial Aid for CT State (Connecticut's community college system), discussed the types of financial aid offered through CT State. He also reviewed the Pledge to Advance CT (PACT) which allows first-time college students to attend community college at no cost to them. The recording and accompanying handout are available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmxtYvBYkG4>.



### Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program

On Thursday, November 10, from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, the CSDE held a webinar on the Connecticut Automatic Admissions Program (CAAP) where representatives from the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) and all the participating colleges discussed the specifics of this program. Some districts also shared their approaches to calculating the CAAP GPA and implementing the program. A recording and handout of this webinar is available at <https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Performance/Information-and-Resources-to-Support-Connecticut-Schools-for-CT-Automatic-Admissions-Program/Related-Resources>. If you have any questions, please email [SDE.AutoAdmit@ct.gov](mailto:SDE.AutoAdmit@ct.gov).



## Daily FAFSA Updates in EdSight Secure

In 2022-23, the Office for Higher Education (OHE) hired a new vendor to manage its financial aid data. The CSDE has partnered with this vendor to receive FAFSA completion data on a nightly basis. The CSDE developed automated processes to match those FAFSA data with PSIS and provide FAFSA completion updates to districts and schools on a nightly basis. This will allow individuals with authorized access to EdSight Secure to track completion on a near real-time basis and ensure that students complete their FAFSA accurately and in a timely manner. Use the [troubleshooting document](#) to identify reasons why some student submissions of FAFSA may not appear on EdSight. The [public FAFSA dashboard](#) will continue to be updated on a weekly basis.



## New Study Shows Strong Relationship Between Accountability Metrics and College Success

[This study](#) examined the relationship between Indicators 5 (postsecondary preparation) and 6 (postsecondary readiness) of the Next Generation Accountability System and college success. The study found that the postsecondary readiness metric (Indicator 6) is strongly related to attending college and success in early college. Among students who attended college, those who met a benchmark in high school were significantly more likely to attend a 4-year institution and to attend at least three semesters, and they attended significantly more semesters during the observation period than students assessed as not meeting any benchmark.

Similar to the postsecondary readiness, taking two or more AP, IB, or dual credit courses in high school (part of Indicator 5) was linked to stronger college attendance and performance. Among students who attended college, those who took at least two AP, IB, or dual credit courses outperformed their peers who didn't take those courses in terms of attending a 4-year institution, attending at least three semesters, number of semesters attended, and first-year Math and English GPAs. [Download full report.](#)