

Juggling Roles and Achieving Goals: California's Undergraduate Student Parents

Fostering the academic success of student parents is not only important for their own advancement but also for shaping the educational outcomes of their children and bolstering California's economic prosperity across generations. This infographic provides insights into the identities and educational experiences of student parents. For more information, explore the California Student Parents Almanac.

Who are California's student parents?

300,000 UNDERGRADUATES ARE STUDENT PARENTS

Gender



15%
of female
students
have children



8%
of male
students
have children

Age

34

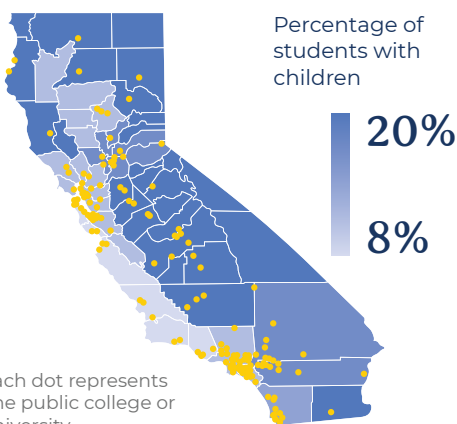
median age of
student parents



vs. a median age of 21 for nonparenting students

Where They Live

Predominantly in rural and inland areas,
where there are fewer options for college

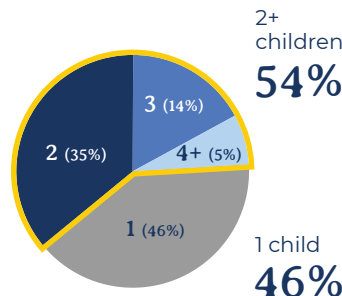


Race/Ethnicity

72%

are Black, Latinx, Asian, Pacific
Islander, or Native American

Number of Children



First Generation to Go to College

61%

are first-
generation
college
students



vs. 50% of nonparenting students

What do their educational experiences look like?



47% work full time

vs. 19% of nonparenting
students



83% enroll part
time or for part of the
year

vs. 63% of nonparenting
students



70% pursue
shorter-term credentials
(certificates and
associate's degrees)

vs. 58% of nonparenting
students



46% received a
Pell Grant

vs. 37% of nonparenting
students



66% attend
community college

vs. 60% of nonparenting
students

Sources: American Community Survey 2021 five-year estimates and 2019–20 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study Administrative Collection.

Explore the details in
the California Student
Parents Almanac.



Gain a clearer picture of student parents' demographics,
academic experiences, and how they pay for college at:

CASTUDENTPARENTALLIANCE.ORG/ALMANAC