**Frequently Asked Questions**

Data that is available in the Staff Dashboard includes information on Foundation funded students from postsecondary academic year 2008-2009 to 2014-2015. This includes College Futures, Los Angeles Investment Fund, and College Bound Brotherhood scholars, and students a part of the persistence, expanded financial aid, and college bound brotherhood initiatives. Sources include student-level match data from the National Student Clearinghouse, student- and high school–level data from the California Student Aid Commission, and grantee reported student- and high school-level data.

*\*\*Please use Internet Explorer to run the Staff Dashboard. Features of the dashboard are not supported on other browser types\*\**

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**Filters Panel**

Filters are available on the left hand side of the dashboard and are separated into 3 sections: Students, Location, and Program. Note the following filters are available in each section:

* Students
	+ HS Graduation Year
	+ Postsecondary AY
		- Note: This filter follows cohorts of students and is not a cross-section of student data. i.e. AY2009-10 looks at students who we received data on during the AY2009-10 collection cycle.
	+ Race/Ethnicity
	+ High School GPA
	+ Gender
* Location
	+ Postsecondary Institution Type
	+ Region
	+ HS County
	+ HS District
* Program
	+ Initiative
	+ Outcome Area
	+ Grantee Organizational Type
	+ Grantee
	+ My Portfolio
		- Note: This filters data on only request records you have access to.

Note that these filters are Global Filters. This means that the filters are applied to all panels and all pages of the dashboard.

Filters will only be applied after you click, “Run”. You can see all the filters that have been applied to the dashboard by clicking,” Values”. The “Reset” button will reset the dashboard to its default, “All” setting.

**Overview Page**

*Key Indicators Panel*

* Underrepresented students include students who identify as Hispanic/Latino, Black or African America, Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, and Southeast Asian.

*Matriculation, Persistence, and Graduation Rates*

* This panel includes data for students that matched with the National Student Clearinghouse. In AY2014-15, the Foundation’s match rate was 85%.
* Please see “Defining Foundation’s Persistence and Retention” that goes over the Foundation’s definition and calculations of persistence and retention.
* Panels on persistence rates will only show data when one postsecondary academic year is chosen. This is because the Foundation follows student persistence by cohort. Choosing more than one academic year will display the following message:



* The HS Graduation Year filter is not applicable to all persistence, retention, and graduation panels.
* The Postsecondary AY filter automatically takes into account the high school graduation year filter. i.e. if you choose Postsecondary AY 2008-2009, the data on all persistence, retention, and graduation panels will be for students who entered school in AY2008-09 who graduated in 2008.

*Financial Aid Uptake*

* Data available for this panel begins in AY2010-11 to present. Please note that the Foundation started collecting financial aid information beginning in AY2010-11.
* CSAC rejection reasons are only available for AY2012-13 and AY2013-14.
* Pell Grant-eligible students include students whose EFCs are at or below the maximum threshold as defined by Federal government standards for any given academic year. You may access this information by clicking this link (path: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships/pell>).
* Cal Grant-eligible students include students attending a CA postsecondary institution who meet the required GPA and EFC thresholds. Note that because the Foundation does not collect income information, the Foundation uses the Pell Grant-eligible EFC threshold as the maximum EFC bound to determine eligibility for Cal Grant B and we use $10,000 as the maximum EFC bound to determine eligibility for a Cal Grant A. Based on consultation from a financial aid counselor, $10,000 EFC is roughly equivalent to the asset ceiling determined by CSAC for Cal Grant A. More information on Cal Grant eligibility can be found by clicking this link (path: <http://www.calgrants.org/index.cfm?navId=12>).
* Board of Governor (BOG)-eligible students include students attending a CA postsecondary institution who also submitted a FAFSA or Dream Act. We include a larger pool of students as eligible because each CA Community Colleges determines eligibility for BOG Waivers differently.

**Persistence, Retention, and Graduation Page**

Every year, College Futures Foundation (Foundation) matches its student data with the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) to obtain individual-level enrollment records. The NSC uses full names and birth dates to conduct the data match. The Foundation sends all students’ data whether or not a particular student is a current scholarship recipient. Since 2009, the rate at which its student data matched with NSC has increased. The latest match was performed in early 2015, and the match rate to individual student records was 85%.

* Please see “Defining Foundation’s Persistence and Retention” that goes over the Foundation’s definition and calculations of persistence and retention.
* Panels on persistence rates will only show data when one postsecondary academic year is chosen. This is because the Foundation follows student persistence by cohort. Choosing more than one academic year will display the following message:



* The HS Graduation Year filter is not applicable to all persistence, retention, and graduation panels.
* The Postsecondary AY filter automatically takes into account the high school graduation year filter. i.e. if you choose Postsecondary AY 2008-2009, the data on all persistence, retention, and graduation panels will be for students who entered school in AY2008-09 who graduated in 2008.

**High School Analysis Page**

The denominator used to calculate all rates are the 12th grade enrolled student reported by grantees.

The trend lines that are shown next to the *FAFSA completion rates over the years* and the *Cal Grant application completion rates over the years* panels are sparklines to quickly depict trends, which typically do not have accompanying x- and y-axes.

*Gap between Cal Grant awards and paid over the years (per CSAC)*

* This panel shows the gap between count of students who were notified of a Cal Grant award and count of students to whom CSAC made Cal Grant payments. The data shows only for high schools that have grantee-reported report as in the other three panels.

Please note that not all 14 Global Filters are applicable to the High School Analysis Page. The filters that are applicable only include:

* Postsecondary AY
* Region
* HS County
* HS District
* Initiative
* Outcome Area
* Grantee Organizational Type
* Grantee
* Portfolio

**Drill-Down Reports**

When there is a line under a data point (and a hand icon appears), this indicates a drill down report. Some drill down reports have multiple levels that will appear in a separate tab of your browser. Several of the drill down reports are also exportable into an Excel spreadsheet. Per image below, click on the white triangle on any of the columns and click according to the pathway as shown. If you’re doing this for the first time, depending on how your computer is set up, you might have tell your machine to use Excel to open the document. Thereafter, your setting would be set to open these documents directly in Excel.

