

College/Career Indicator: Measures of College Readiness

The College/Career Indicator (CCI) shows how well local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools are preparing high school students for success after graduation, whether in postsecondary education or in a career. For this reason, the CCI consists of both college- and career-readiness measures. This flyer contains the college-readiness measures. For career-readiness measures, please access the Measures of College Readiness document on the [California Department of Education \(CDE\) College/Career Indicator web page](#).

College readiness means completing rigorous coursework, passing challenging exams, or receiving a state seal. Several measures have been approved by the State Board of Education as indicating college readiness, as shown below. For each measure, specific criteria are used to determine whether a student is “Prepared” or “Approaching Prepared.”



Prepared

Graduates classified as Prepared must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- **Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments**
Receive a score of Level 3 “Standard Met” or higher on both English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics
- **Advanced Placement (AP)**
 - Complete two AP courses with a grade of C– or better;
 - Receive a score of 3 or higher on two AP exams; or
 - Complete one AP course with a grade of C– or better and receive a score of 3 or higher on an AP exam. The qualifying AP course and qualifying AP exam topics cannot match.
- **International Baccalaureate (IB)**
Receive a score of 4 or higher on two IB exams
- **College Credit Courses**
Complete two semesters, three quarters, or three trimesters of college coursework within high school with a grade of C– or better in academic/Career Technical Education (CTE) subjects where college credits are awarded
- **State Seal of Biliteracy (SSB)**
Receive the SSB and a score of Level 3 or higher in ELA on the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments

- **Met University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) Requirements**

Meet all requirements for admission to a UC or CSU school and meet one of the additional criteria below:

- Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments: receive a score of Level 3 or higher in one subject area (ELA or mathematics) and a score of Level 2 in the other area
- Complete one semester, two quarters, or two trimesters of College Credit Courses within high school with a grade of C– or better in academic/CTE subjects where college credits are awarded for each course
- Complete one AP course with a grade of C– or better or receive a score of 3 or higher on one AP exam
- Receive a score of 4 or higher on one IB exam
- Complete a CTE Pathway

Approaching Prepared

Graduates classified as Approaching Prepared must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- **Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments**

Receive a score of Level 2 “Standard Nearly Met” on both ELA and mathematics

- **College Credit Courses**

Complete one semester, two quarters, or two trimesters of college coursework within high school with a grade of C– or better in academic/CTE subjects where college credits are awarded

- **Met UC and CSU Requirements**

Meet all requirements for admission to a UC or CSU school

For more information, visit the [CDE California School Dashboard and System of Support web page](#).

Contact the Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division by email at dashboard@cde.ca.gov.

