

Alliance Updates:
**The GAINS for Student Parents Act &
California Student Parent Almanac**

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The CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE *for*
STUDENT PARENT SUCCESS 

Who We Are

The California Alliance for Student Parent Success brings together diverse stakeholders with the **shared goal of championing postsecondary success and well-being of over 400,000+ student parents enrolled in California's institutions.**



The CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE *for*
STUDENT PARENT SUCCESS

ADMINISTERED BY:



HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A STRONG ECONOMY

&



What We Do

DISCOVER THE ALLIANCE'S WORK



**Policy
Advocacy**



**Capacity
Building**

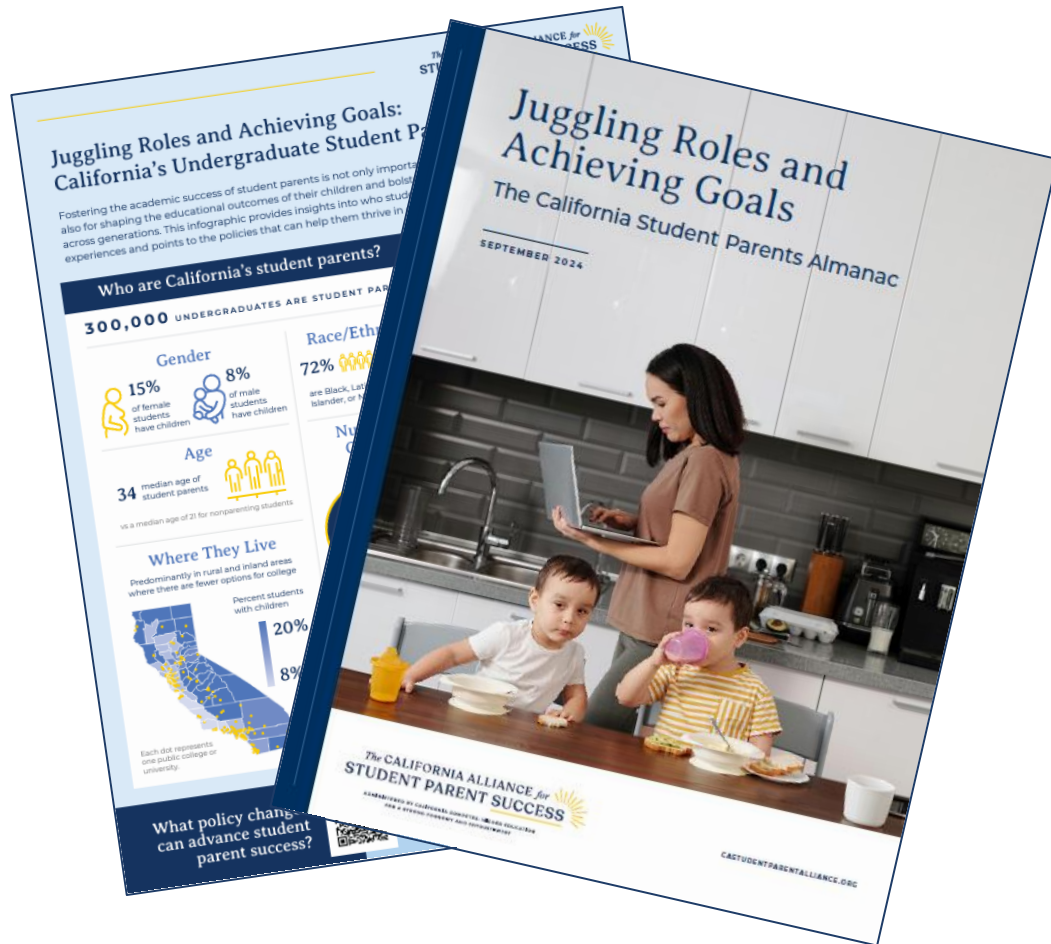


**Research
& Analysis**



**Community
Engagement**

Juggling Roles and Achieving Goals: The California Student Parents Almanac



Part 1: Demographics



Part 2: Educational Experiences



Part 3: College Financing



Part 4: Next Steps



Data Sources for Student Parents

American Community Survey

- US Census Bureau
- Access via usa.ipums.org/usa

National Postsecondary Student Aid Study Administrative Collection (NPSAS:20-AC)

- US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics
- Access via nces.ed.gov/datalab



Who Are California Student Parents?

300,000

Undergraduates are student parents

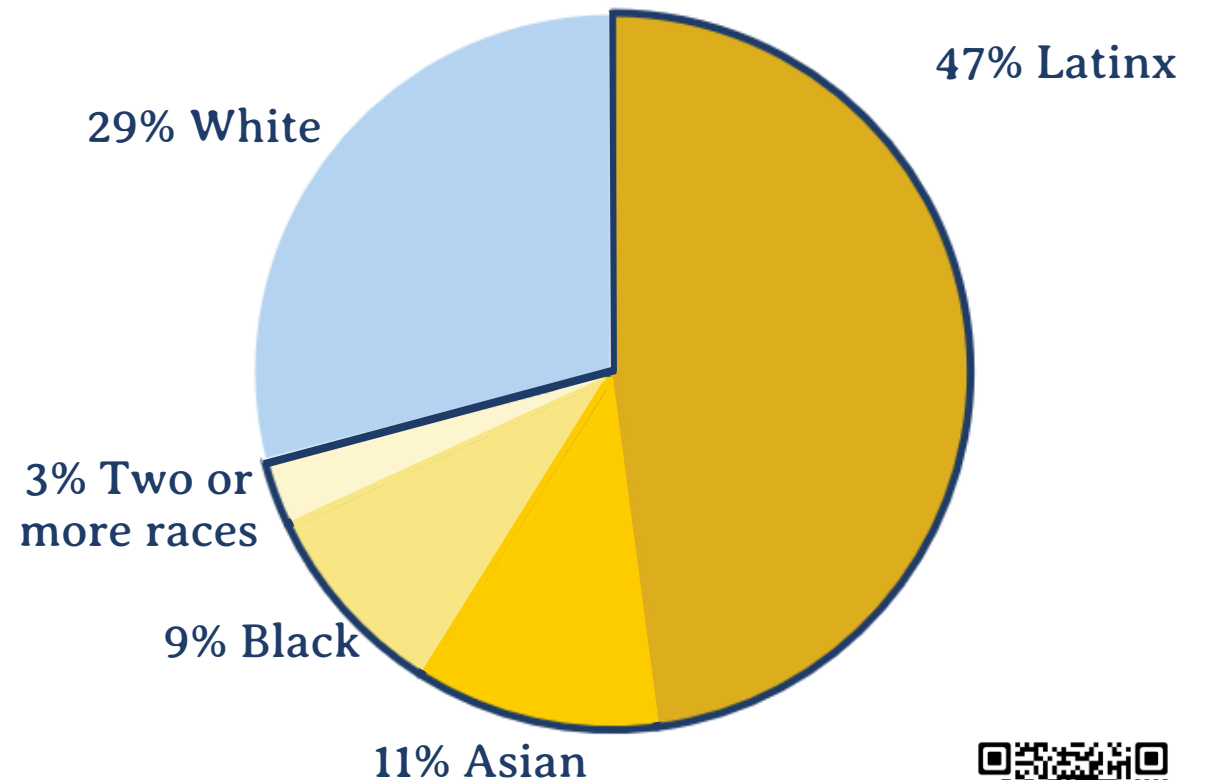
12% of the student population



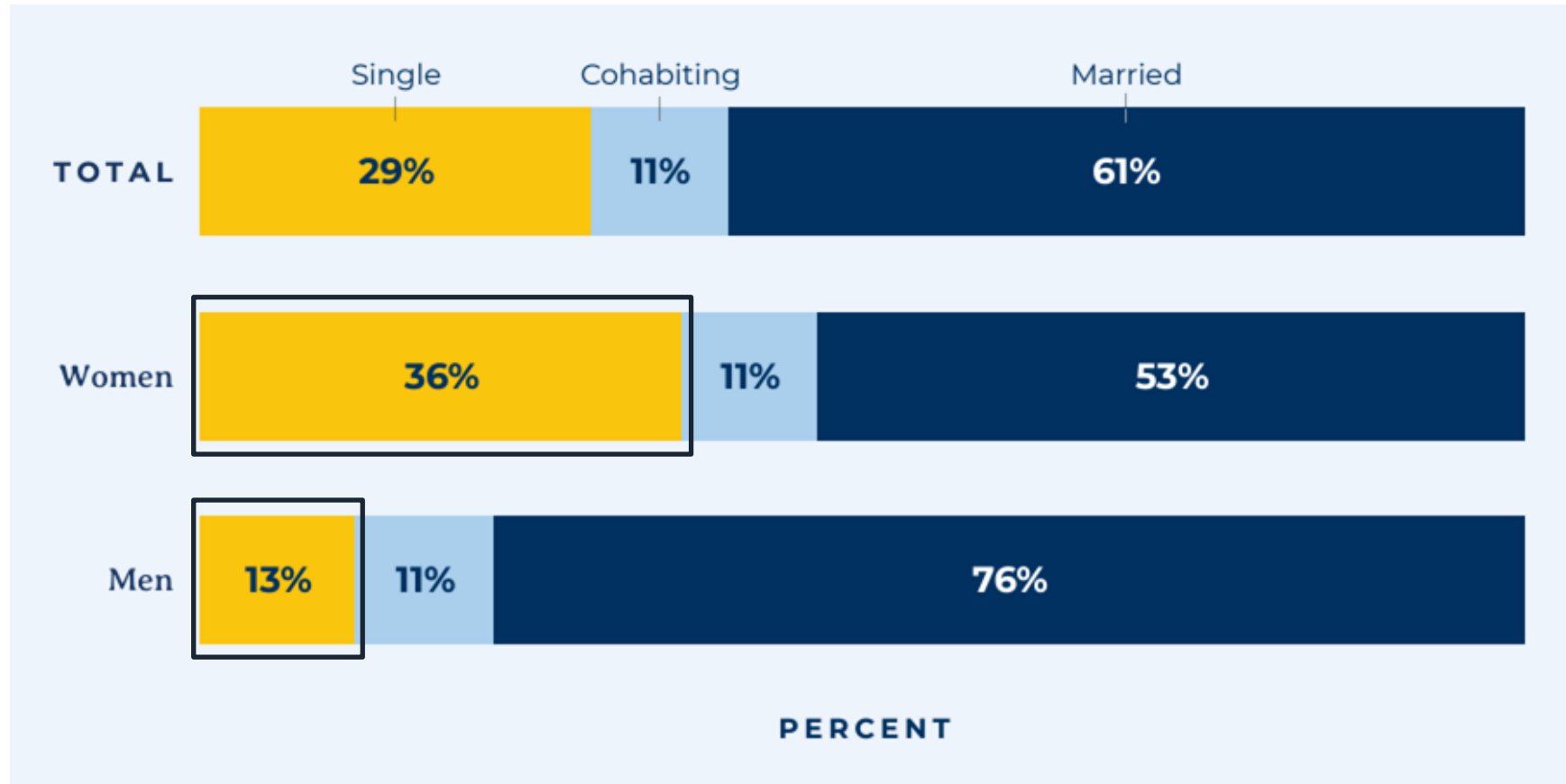
The majority of student parents are students of color

72%

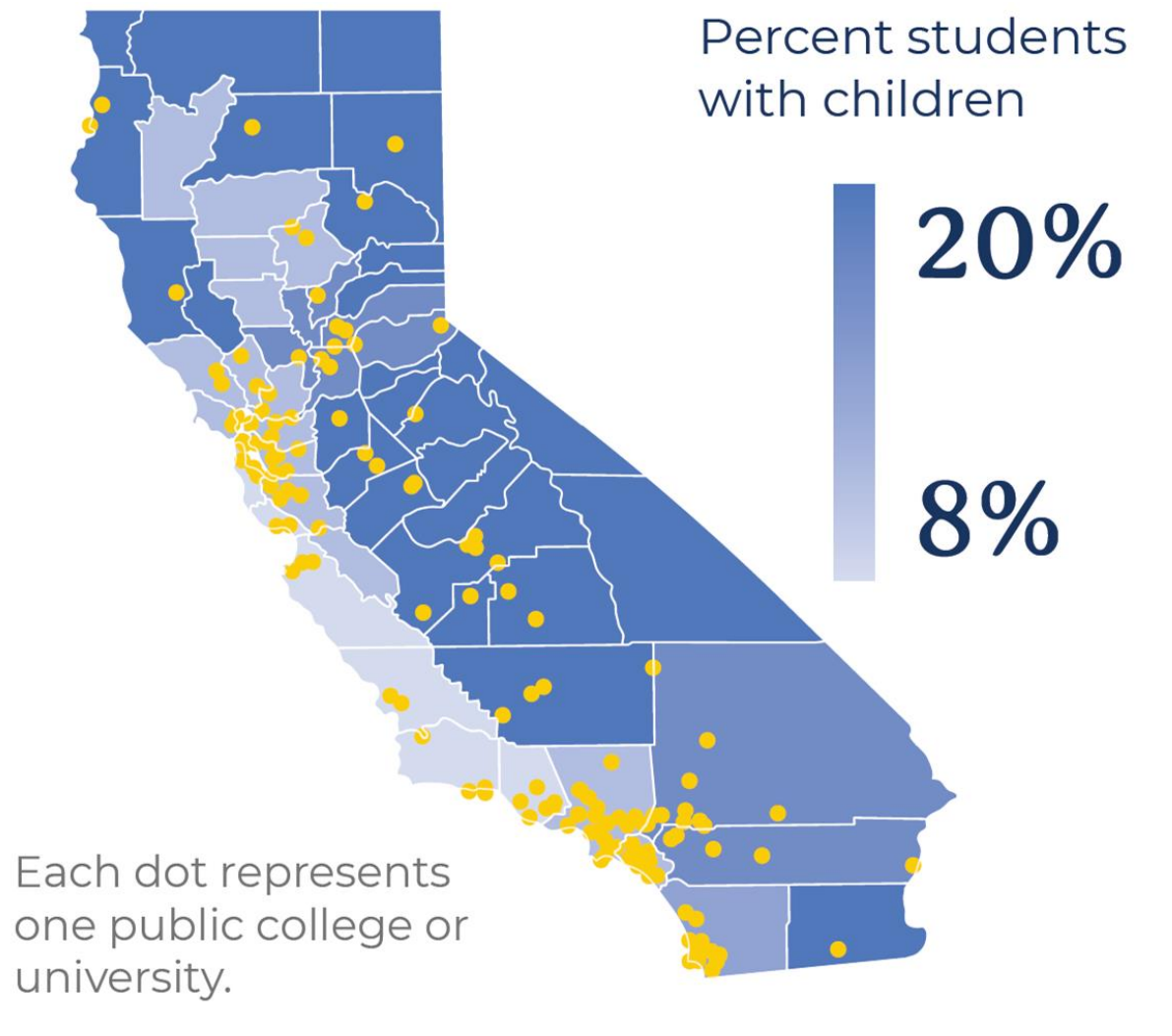
of student parents are Black, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander, or Native American



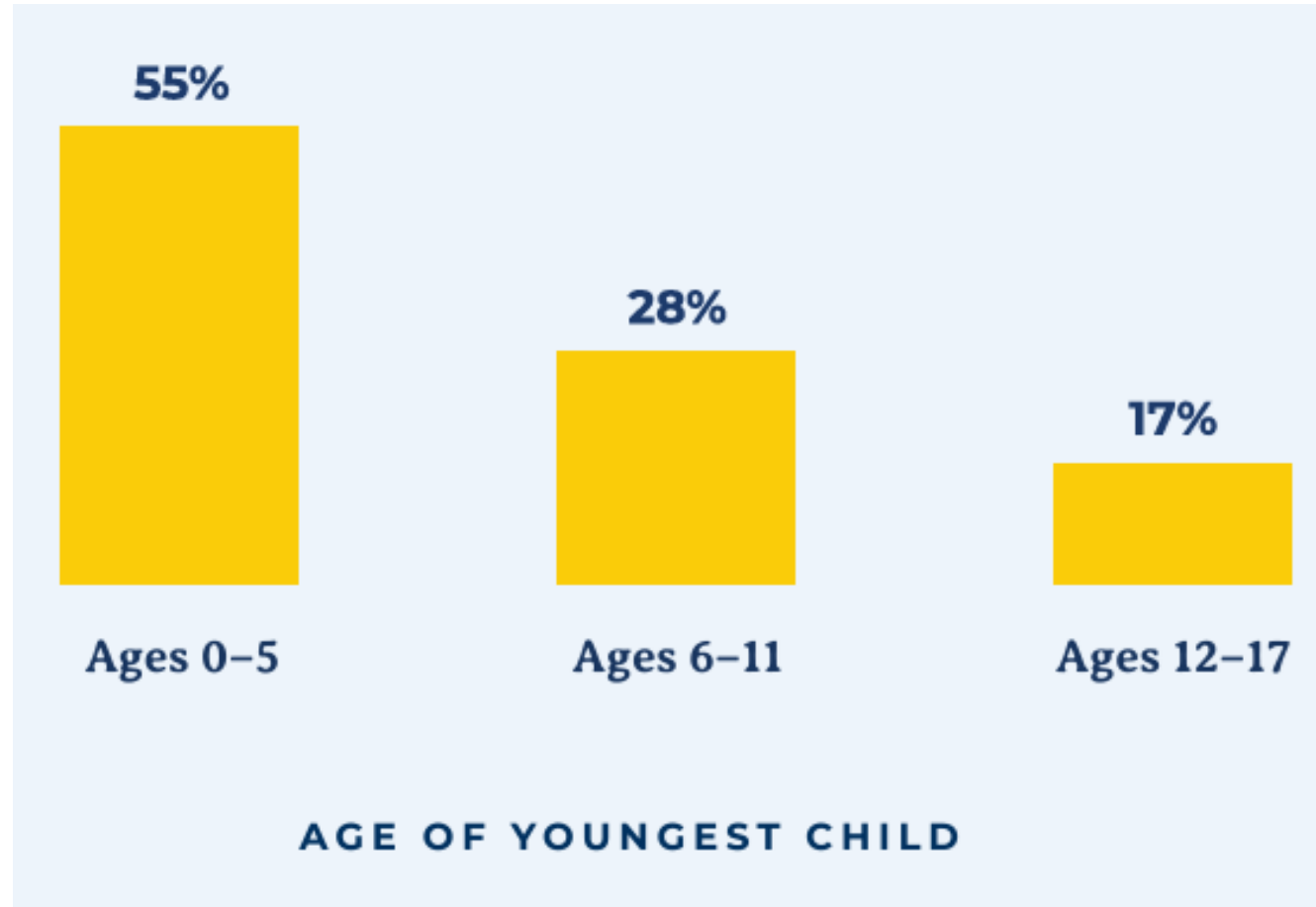
Most student parents are married, but women are almost 3x as likely as men to be single parents



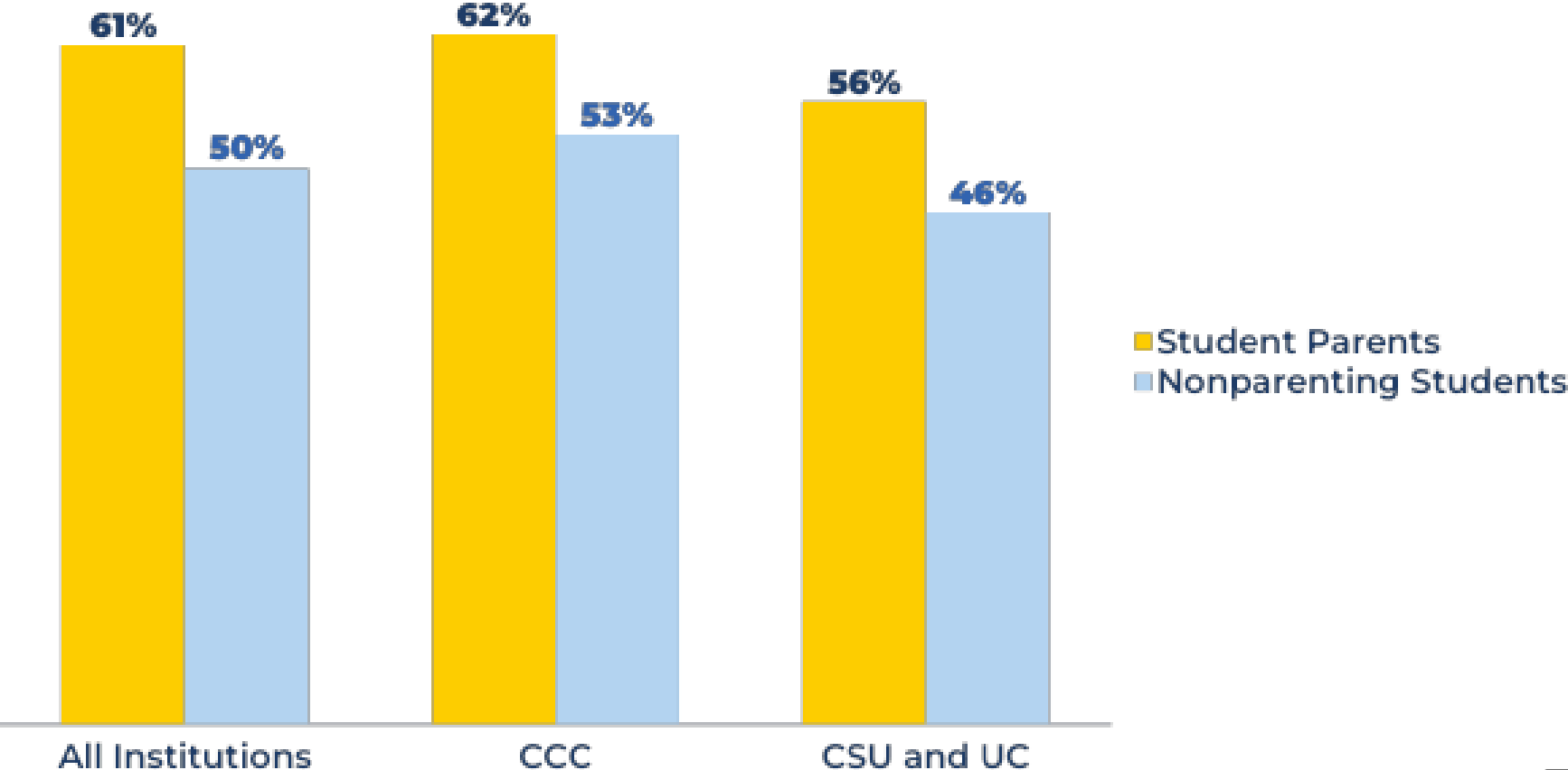
Student parents are more likely to live in rural and inland regions



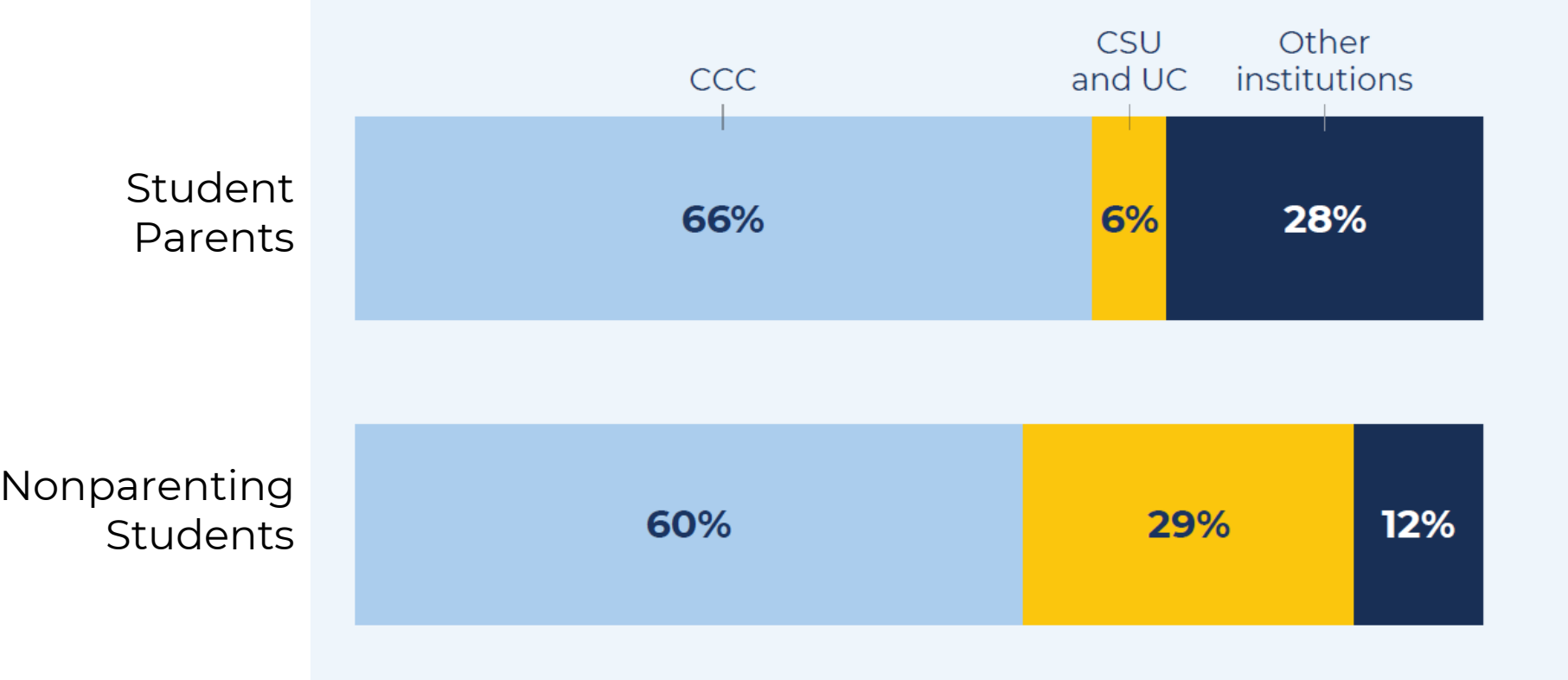
Most student parents have a child under six years old



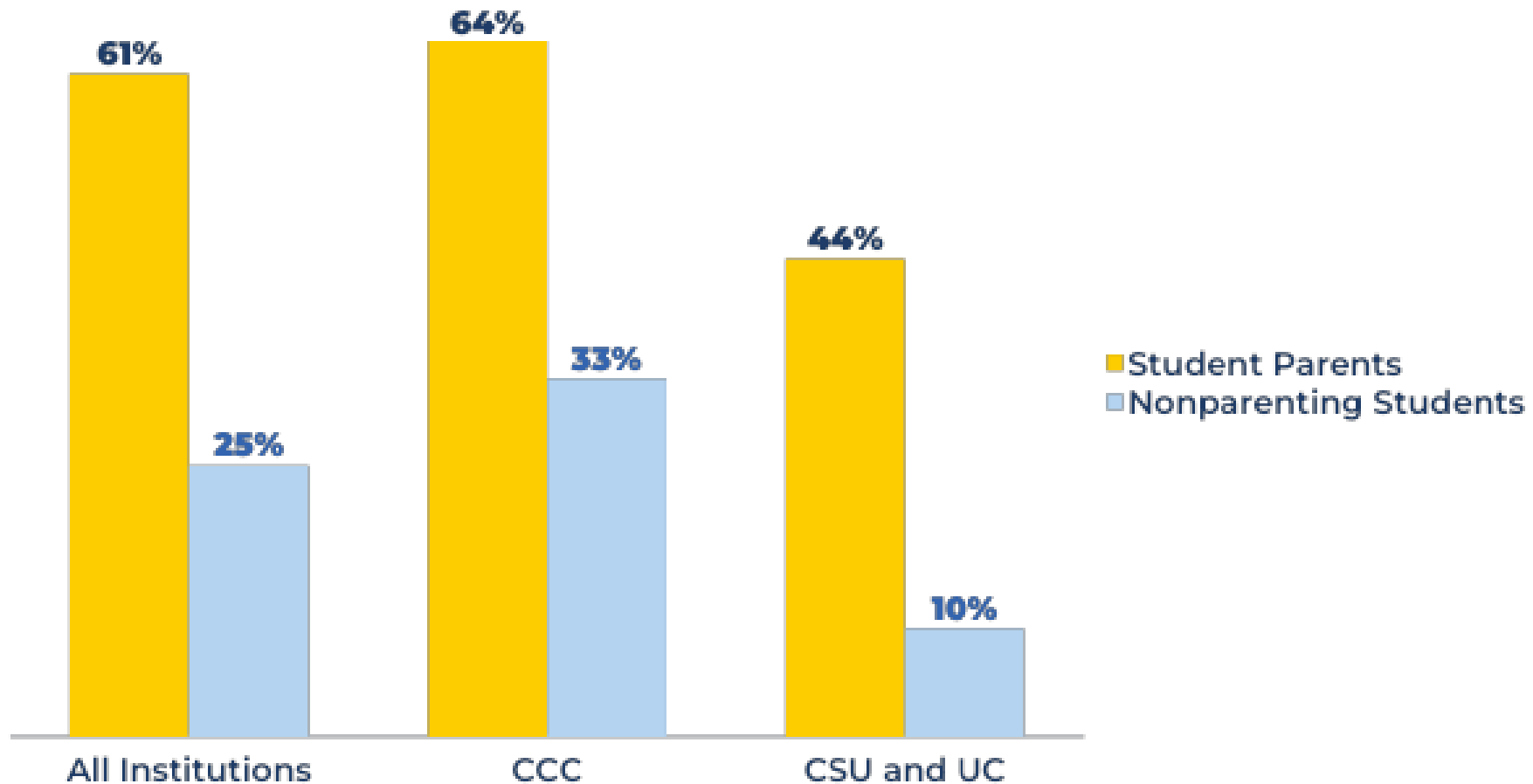
The majority of student parents are first-generation students



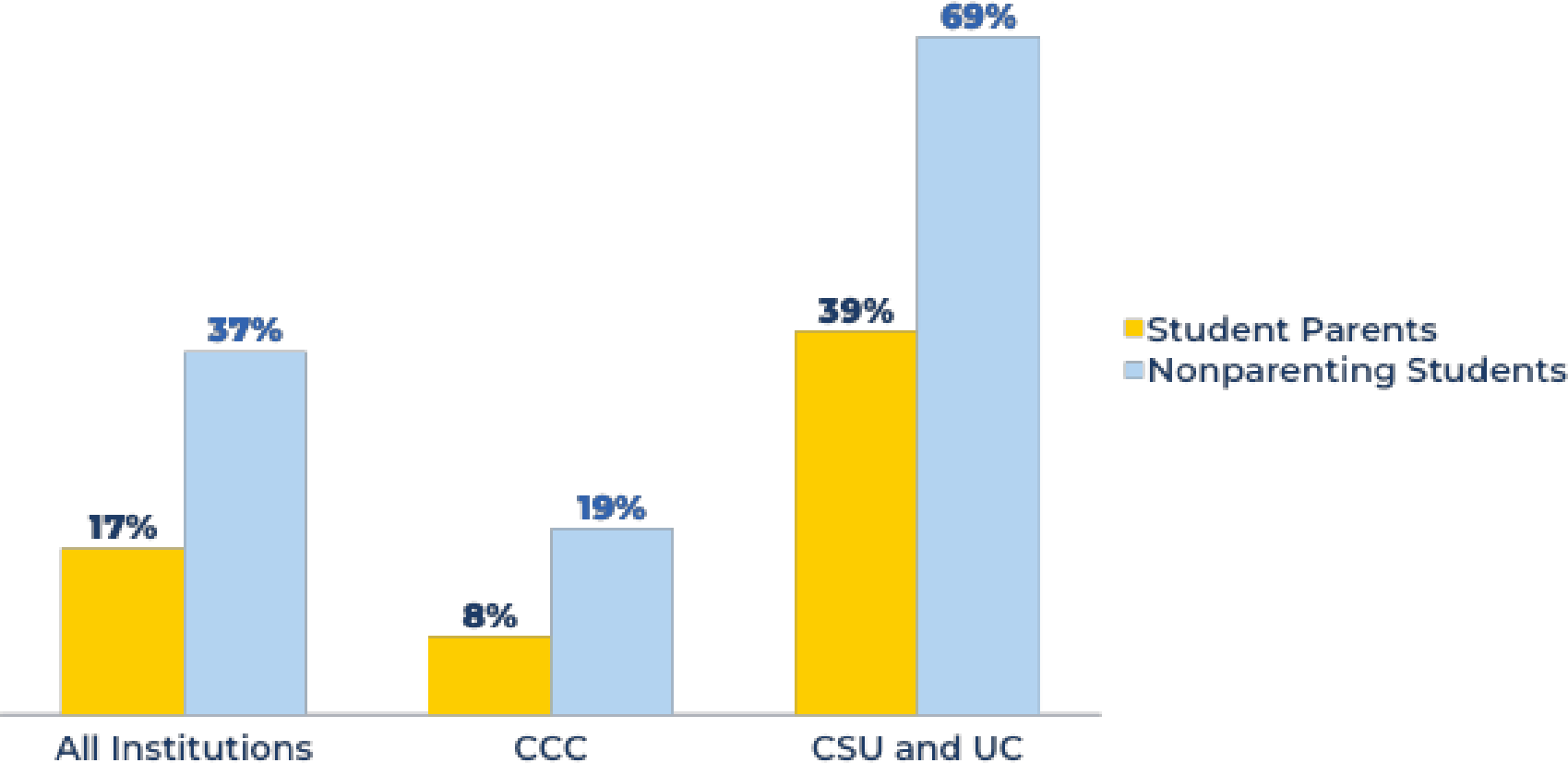
Two-thirds of student parents attend the state's community colleges, while few attend its public universities



Almost two out of three student parents delayed their enrollment in college at least one year.



Few student parents enroll full time for the full year, which delays and jeopardizes completion.



Student parents are more likely to balance full-time work with school



47%

of student parents work full time



19%

of nonparenting students work full time



Nearly half of student parents receive Pell grants



46%

of student parents received a Pell Grant

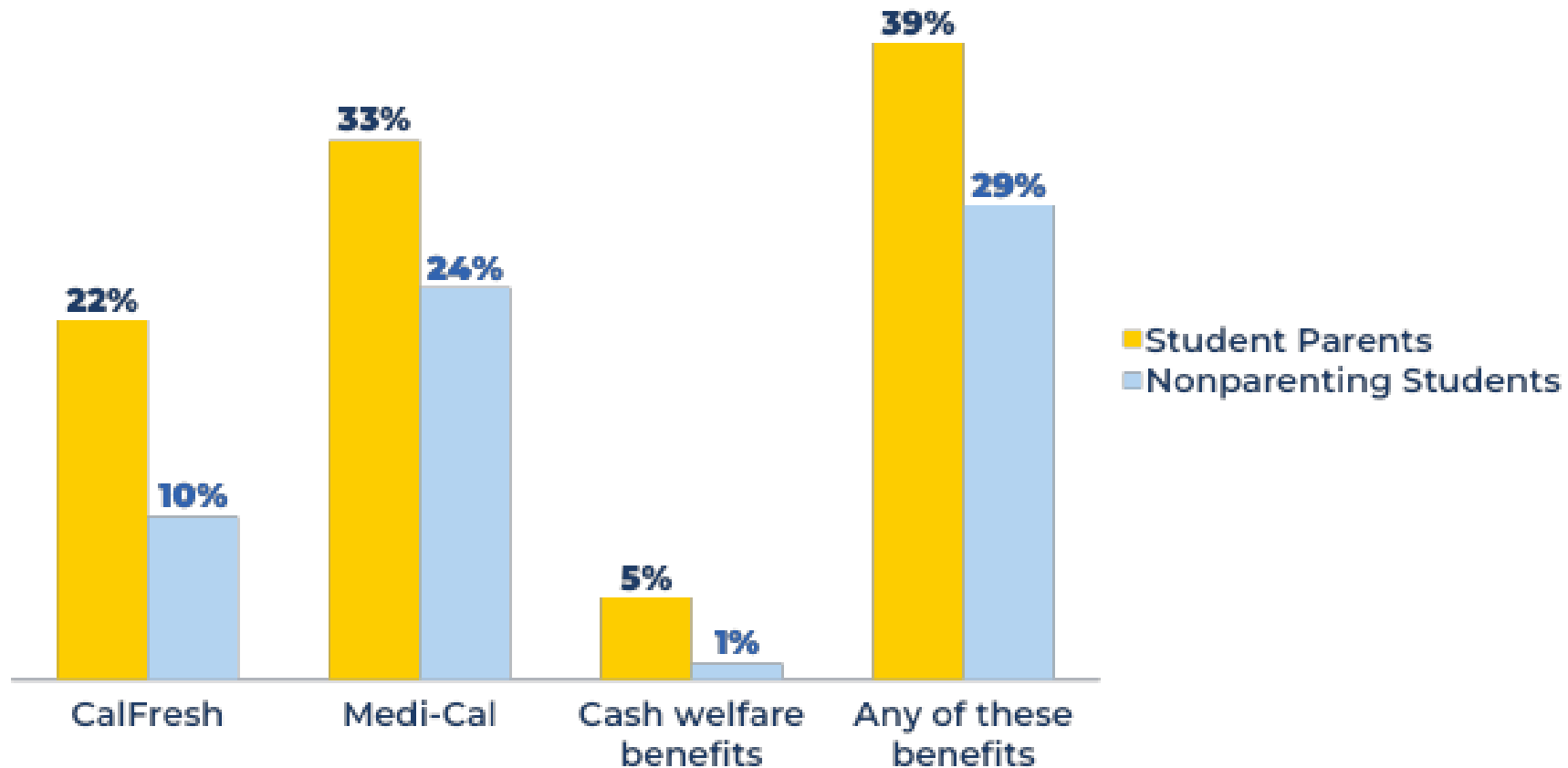


37%

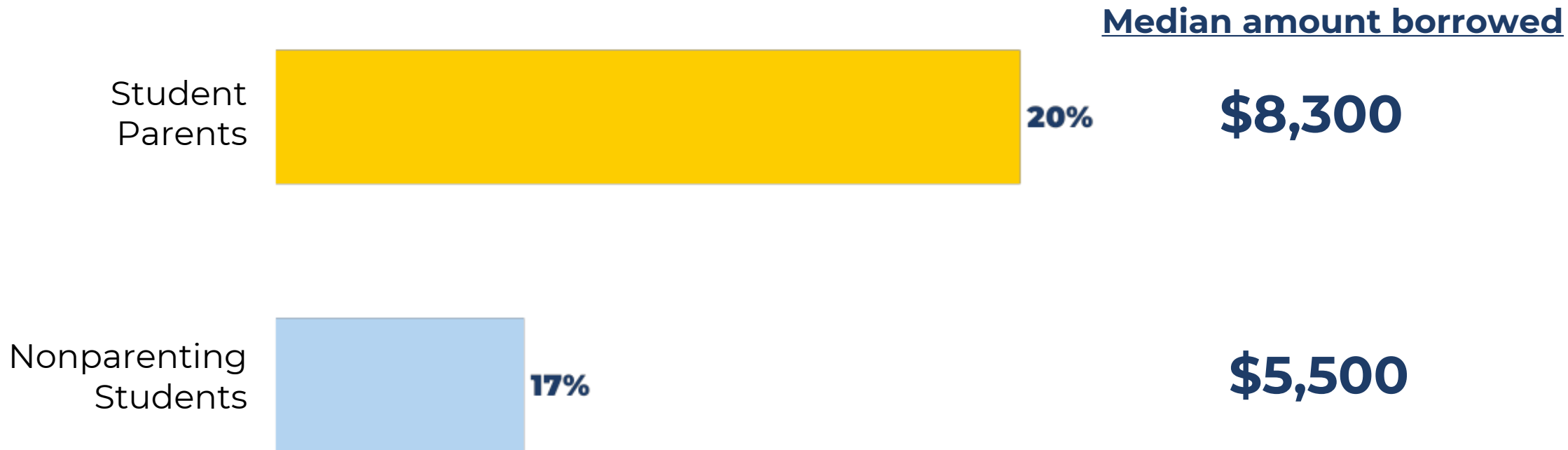
of nonparenting students received a Pell Grant




Student parents are more likely to receive public benefits



Student parents take out more federal loans and borrow more on average.



Big news on the GAINS for Student Parents Act!



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ADMINISTERED BY CALIFORNIA COMPETES: HIGHER EDUCATION
FOR A STRONG ECONOMY AND EDTRUST-WEST

**The GAINS for
Student Parents
Act Was Signed
into Law!**



The Need for AB 2458, the GAINS for Student Parents Act

- The **cost of college**, including childcare, is one of student parents' biggest barriers.
- Student parents have **additional childcare expenses**, which are not accounted for in the college's cost of attendance (COA) budgets.
- Federal regulations allow financial aid administrators to **adjust a student's COA to include dependent care expenses**, however, institutions often do not take full advantage. Instead, students are forced to individually request a "**dependent care allowance**", if they even know this is an option.
- In some cases, student parents may be asked to **provide further proof of their dependent care costs** or be incorrectly denied adjustments.
- This process is not well understood nor consistently applied, resulting in **unnecessary burdens on students and financial aid administrators**.
- The U.S. Government Accountability Office found that **student parents are not maximizing their federal financial aid**.

What will the GAINS for Student Parents Act do?



Streamline
**access to
financial
support**



Require
automatic
**cost of
attendance
adjustments**



Uniformly
**collect and
report
data**



Include data
in the **Cradle-to-
Career**
Longitudinal
Data System



How can you support the GAINS for Student Parents Act's implementation?



- ✓ Read and share the fact sheet and FAQs
- ✓ Thank the Governor and Legislature
- ✓ Support robust implementation



AB 2458 (Berman): Greater Accessibility, Information, Notice, and Support (GAINS) for Student Parents Act

DOWNLOAD:



VIEW BILL LANGUAGE



READ THE FACT SHEET



READ THE FAQ



DOWNLOAD SUPPORT LETTER TEMPLATE



VIEW SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT



DOWNLOAD AB 2458 COLORING PAGE FOR THE GOVERNOR



Cost of Attendance (COA) Adjustments

Instructions

1. Find your campus' financial aid cost of attendance adjustment website.
2. Find the COA adjustment form.
 - a. If it doesn't mention dependent care allowance (DCA), find the DCA form.
3. Review the Dependent Care Allowance instructions.
 - a. What does a student need to do to complete the process?
 - b. What barriers are there to obtaining this information?
4. Find the section of the COA form that covers medical expenses.
 - a. What medical expenses might pregnant or parenting students have?

Share the forms with a student parent at your school! Encourage them to complete the forms for this semester! Raise awareness of this process on your campus!

Thank You!

Contact:

StudentParentSucess@californiacompetes.org

