



# CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COLLEGE

## Welcome & Highlights



### Welcome to the CCIC Newsletter!

Check out the latest from the California Center for Inclusive College! Across the state, students, families, educators, and college campus partners continue to build momentum toward inclusive, equitable postsecondary opportunities. In this issue, you'll find highlights from recent conferences, student voices and impact stories, campus visits across California, and practical resources to support college preparation and transition planning. Thank you for being part of this growing statewide community.

### SOTA Conference Comes to Sacramento, California! October 27-29, 2026

California has been selected to host the 2026 State of the Art Conference, which will take place in the Fall of 2026 in Sacramento. This conference will include a Student Leadership Conference, hosted by the UC Davis Redwood Seed Scholars program. Stay tuned for more information.

#### Read the Year 1 Legislative Report



[Read more](#) >>

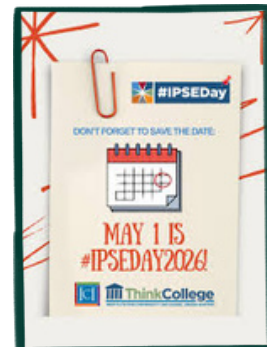
#### What's new:

#### Think College Resources



[Read more](#) >>

#### IPSE DAY



[Read more](#) >>

# Scholar Spotlight & Impact Stories



## Inclusive Programs Shine Across California

This quarter, the California Center for Inclusive College (CCIC) collaborated with college campuses across the state, including Fresno State Wayfinders, and CSU San Marcos Aspiring Scholars, to connect with program directors and observe inclusive excellence in action. Highlights included student housing, observed vocational internships at sites, and witnessed how peer mentors and faculty partners create equitable academic and residential spaces for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## Highlight: CSU Fresno Wayfinders



Wayfinders is a 2-year non-degree inclusive independent living certificate program for young adults with intellectual disabilities. Participants of Wayfinders enhance their independence by residing in student apartments, participating in work experience internships, enrolling in courses at Fresno State through Open University, and actively participating in the community.

Wayfinders is recognized as a Comprehensive Transition and Post-Secondary Program and participants who complete the program receive a Work Readiness and Life Skills Certificate.

## Highlight: CSU, San Marcos Aspiring Scholars



The CSUSM Aspiring Scholars Program is a 2-year, non-degree university program for students with intellectual disabilities that cultivates an inclusive and empowering environment where students learn, grow, and thrive as integral members of the CSUSM community. This program is recognized as a Comprehensive Transition and Post-Secondary Program and received the U.S. Department of Education Model Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID) grant (2025-2030).

CONTACT US: [info@cainclusivecolleges.org](mailto:info@cainclusivecolleges.org)

# Scholar Spotlight & Impact Stories



## Inclusive College Programs Highlighted at the TASH National Conference



CSU Northridge and CSU San Jose proudly represented at the TASH Conference, where they shared program highlights and insights. A California contingency (pictured above) engaged in national conversations focused on equity, inclusion, and disability justice. Panels highlighting student and mentor voices showcased California's deep and evolving commitment to this work.

## ICP Students Shine at DADD Conference

California inclusive college students shared their lived experiences and voice at the 27th Annual Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities Conference (DADD), featuring voices from CSUN Explorers, UCLA Extension Pathway, and Think Beach to share their college experiences and future plans. These voices are the very reason CCIC exists!

## California Strong at State of the Art (SOTA) Conference



California universities, educators, researchers, students, and advocates at the State of the Art (SOTA) Conference shared space with and learned from national leaders about inclusive higher education. The California contingency brought back new ideas and gained alliances with other states that have also launched inclusive college programs. Visit the [SOTA website](#) for more details.

## Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities Conference (DADD)



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# PK-12 CONNECTION

## Upcoming Transition Fairs

**March 14, 2026**

- Downey- Montebello SELPA

**March 25, 2026**

- Centinela Valley Union High School District

**April 14, 2026**

- Meet your Match, Sierra College



## Read about First Year Tips



## Stay Connected



Join our listserv  
for updates,  
resources, and  
announcements.

Whether you're a high school student beginning to explore college, a family planning next steps, or a student already on campus, Think College offers tools to support every stage of the journey. From college planning and IEP resources to application guidance and real advice from current students and alumni, these resources are designed to help you build confidence, prepare for transitions, and move toward a successful college experience.

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