Lesson Plan: Understanding College Types

Objective: Students will distinguish between different types of colleges in order to identify which of the California public institutions offer the education level aligned to their career interests.

ASCA Standards	
B-LS 5.	Media and technology skills to enhance learning
B-LS 7.	Long- and short-term academic, career, and social/emotional goals
B-LS 9.	Decision-making informed by gathering evidence, getting others' perspectives, and recognizing personal bias
B-SMS 5.	Perseverance to achieve long- and short-term goals
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards	
R.CCR.10	Read and comprehend complex literary and informational text independently and proficiently.
AVID Standards	
6.OK.ACP.2.c)	Classify the various types of college
7.OK.ACP.2.b)	Explore college options and terminology
8.OK.ACP.2.b)	Compare various college campus structures, services, and opportunities

Lesson Duration

This lesson can be completed in one 45-60 minute class period or broken into several 20- or 30-minute smaller lessons.

Student Materials

- Chromebook/laptop
- Internet access
- Understanding College Types Student Worksheet
    - Instructional tip: The student worksheet is designed to complement the lesson; it is a fillable PDF that can be used electronically or printed.
- CaliforniaColleges.edu article: Types of Colleges

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Educator Script/Introduction:

"Today you will learn about the different types of postsecondary—aka, college—options in California. There are lots of options for college in California, and financial aid can help give you more options. In fact, most students in California get some kind of financial aid to pay for college! There's still plenty of time for you to prepare so don't limit your options as you explore."

Warm-Up (5 minutes)

— Instruct students to make a list of colleges they know about in the Understanding College Types Student Worksheet. Encourage students to think about local colleges, colleges their friends and/or family have attended, and well-known colleges.

- Instructional tip: Consider asking volunteers to share out the names of colleges they identified so that you may compile a comprehensive class list.

Two-Year and Four-Year Colleges (20 minutes)

— Direct students to sign in to **CaliforniaColleges.edu** and read the article titled Types of Colleges.

- Instructional tip: Consider pairing or grouping students together so they may take turns reading (or summarizing what they read) out loud.

— Say this to students: "As a class, we are going to sort colleges into the Two-Year Colleges and Four-Year Colleges charts." Direct students to refer to the **Student Worksheet**.

- Instructional tip: In addition to sorting the colleges on their worksheets, also guide your students to sort your local/closest California Community College(s), California State University, and University of California.

— Sort the following:

- California Community College
- Oregon Community College
- California State University
- Stanford University
- University of California
- Harvard University

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	Two-Year Colleges	
	In-State	**Out-of-State**
Public	*(Any of the 116 California Community Colleges)*	*Oregon Community College*

	Four-Year Colleges	
	In-State	**Out-of-State**
Public	*(Any of the 22 California State University campuses or any of the 9 undergraduate University of California campuses)*	*University of Oregon*
Private	*Stanford University*	*Harvard University*

- Instructional tip: Consider asking volunteers to name colleges from their warm-up and then identify where on the Two-Year Colleges or Four-Year Colleges charts that college belongs.

Career and College Connection (15 minutes)

- Direct students to navigate to **My Plan** at the top of the page on **CaliforniaColleges.edu** and click on **My Career Plan**.

- Ask students to identify the primary **Education Level** for at least three favorited (❤) careers in order to determine which California public institution offers that type of degree. Direct students to fill in the chart below in the **Student Worksheet**.

  - Instructional tip: If a student does not have any favorited careers, direct them to use the **Career Search Tool** on **CaliforniaColleges.edu** to identify careers of interest.

Career Select from your favorited careers.	**Education Level** Choose the first level that is listed first (which is the most common education level) for each career.	**California College** What type of California public institution offers this type of degree: CCC or CSU and UC?

  - Instructional tip: Consider asking students to share, with a partner or in small groups, whether the three careers they selected have the same or different Education Levels.

Reflection/Exit Ticket (5 minutes)

— Collect students' completed worksheets.

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Extension of Learning

- Encourage students to explore the **College Search Tool** on **CaliforniaColleges.edu** in order to learn more about the California Community College (CCC), California State University (CSU), and University of California (UC) campuses.

    - Instructional tip: Remind students that they have the ability to favorite colleges; every college they favorite can be found by navigating to **My Plan** at the top of the page and clicking on **My College Plan**.

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