

Today's Undergrads

Long Beach AAUW
September 6, 2025





Agenda

- LBCC and CSULB Mission and Demographics
 - National Higher Ed Trends
 - Class of 2025/29 Profile
 - Actionable Insights
 - Q&A

Mission



Long Beach City College is committed to empowering our students to become active, ethical participants in their learning, as well as in the democratic structures that give them voice and agency in shaping their society and world. In an environment that is caring, supportive, and inclusive, LBCC promotes equitable learning and educational achievement by delivering innovative, high-quality degree programs, certificate programs, holistic support services, and leading-edge workforce preparation for our diverse communities.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
LONG BEACH

CSULB enriches the lives of its students and its surrounding community through globally informed, high impact educational experiences with superior teaching, research, creative activity, and action for the public good.

THE LONG BEACH
COLLEGE PROMISE



- Established in 2008
- Two years of free tuition at LBCC
- Transfer assistance from HS or LBCC to CSULB
- First- and Second-year Experience programming and support
- Career development and mentorship assistance

Plus, recent statewide improvements to transfer pathways:

- Community colleges discontinued most placement tests and remedial classes in 2019
- Community colleges are offering Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs)
- Fall 2025: California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC) is the singular general education pathway for California Community College students to fulfill lower-division general education requirements for transfer to both the CSU and the UC, rather than two separate pathways for CSU and UC.

LBCC Demographics (2023-24)



Race/Ethnicity

59% Hispanic/Latinx

14% White

12% Black/African American

10% Asian & Filipino

5% Multi-ethnic

1% Pacific Islander

<1% Native American

Gender

55% Female

42% Male

3% Other

Modality

45% In Person

45% Online

10% Hybrid

Total Headcount 38,695

Financially Disadvantaged 64%

Part Time 64%

Age: 16% <19 years old
42% 19-24 years old
24% 25-34
17% 35+

CSULB Demographics (2023-24)

Race/Ethnicity

49.9% Hispanic/Latinx

15.4% White

3.7% Black/African American

<1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

4.5% Multi-ethnic

<1% Native American

Gender

59% Female

41% Male

Age

~27% 22–24

~25% 20–21

~20% 18–19:

~17% 25–29:

~5% 30–34:

~5% Older than 35



Total Headcount: 40,278 (Undergraduate and Graduate)

- ~34,243 Undergraduate
- ~6,035 Graduate

Fall 2025: 42,355

National Demographics₍₂₀₂₁₎

Gender

58% Female

42% Male

Age

8% <18 years old

61% 19-24 years old

20% 25-34

13% 35+

Race/Ethnicity

51% White

21% Hispanic/Latinx

12% Black/African American

7% Asian

4% Multi-ethnic

<1% Pacific Islander

<1% Native American

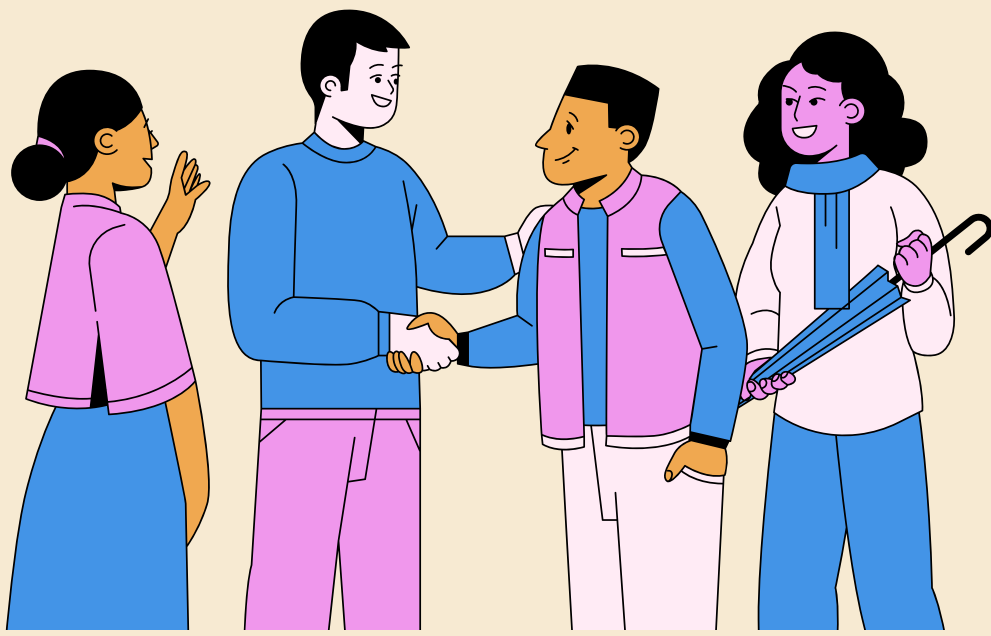
Projected Demographic Cliff

Falling birth rates since Great Recession (around 2007)

Number of HS grads expected to decline nationwide by 13% by 2041 (29% in California)

Declining international student enrollment

Between January-May 2025, the number of F-1 visas issued dropped by more than 14% compared to the same period the year before



National Demographics

73%

of respondents face basic needs insecurity when we consider other basic needs (mental health, child care, transportation, and internet/technology access) in addition to food and housing.

44%

of students experience clinically significant symptoms of anxiety and/or depression.



3 in 5

of students experience basic needs insecurity related to food and/or housing.

67%

of parenting students experience housing insecurity.

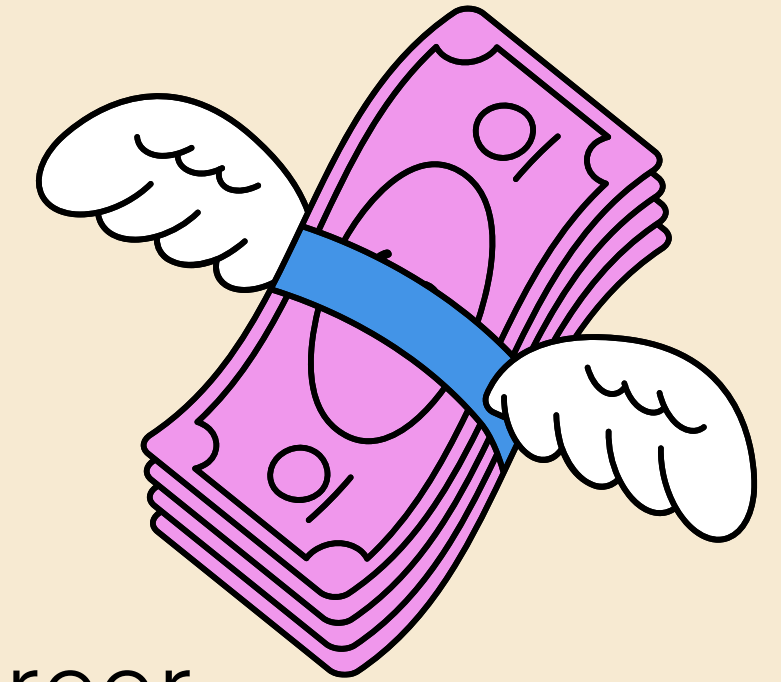


Most universities and community colleges offer all enrolled students:

- Food Pantry/Clothing Closet
- Housing Assistance
- Free Public Transportation
- Technology Loans
- Parent Centers
- Mental Health Counseling

The Hope Center 2023-24 Student Basic Needs Survey Report
(Published February 2025)

Class of 2025-29 Trends



Gen Z (aged 13-28):

- Fear they will be **worse off financially** than their parents
- **Don't expect four years of college** and then a lifetime career.
Instead, change majors, transfer schools, take gap years, and **struggle to get jobs** (gig economy, flexibility/uncertainty, wage stagnation).
- Do their **schoolwork on cell phones** or laptops.
- **Prefer texting or messaging** in apps to e-mail or voicemail
- **Use Apple Pay or Venmo** rather than cash or checks
- **Use TikTok and Instagram**, but not Facebook
- **Stream** TV shows, movies, and user-generated content online
- **Delay getting a driver's license or car**

Class of 2025-29 Trends

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- **ChatGPT for Education:** at CSULB is available to faculty, staff, and students through July 2026 as part of the CSU-wide ChatGPT contract. University data is protected.
- **Microsoft Copilot:** at CSULB and LBCC is available to faculty, staff, and students
- **Zoom AI Companion:** meeting summaries and other tools.
- **NotebookLM, Perplexity, Gemini, and Canva** are popular AI tools with simple interfaces. These tools are open to the public, but may require a subscription to access advanced features. These publicly available tools do not provide college/university data security restrictions.
- Many students are using AI as a **24/7, personalized tutor**.
- LBCC and other colleges have adopted **policies and procedures** about the ethical use of AI. Faculty include on the syllabus what, if any, AI use is acceptable.

Actionable Insights

- **Support for "non-traditional" students**
 - Diverse
 - First-generation
 - Older
 - Parenting
- **Recognition of mental wellness impacts and needs**
 - COVID-19
 - Climate Change
 - Housing Market
 - Student Debt
 - Unstable Job Market
 - Mental Health and Disability Awareness
- **Embrace new technology to communicate with Gen Z**
- **Support federal, state, and local policy that invests in higher education and diversity, equity, and inclusion**





Q&A