

According to the According to the California Legislative Analysis Office (The California Legislature's Non-Partisan Fiscal Advisor):

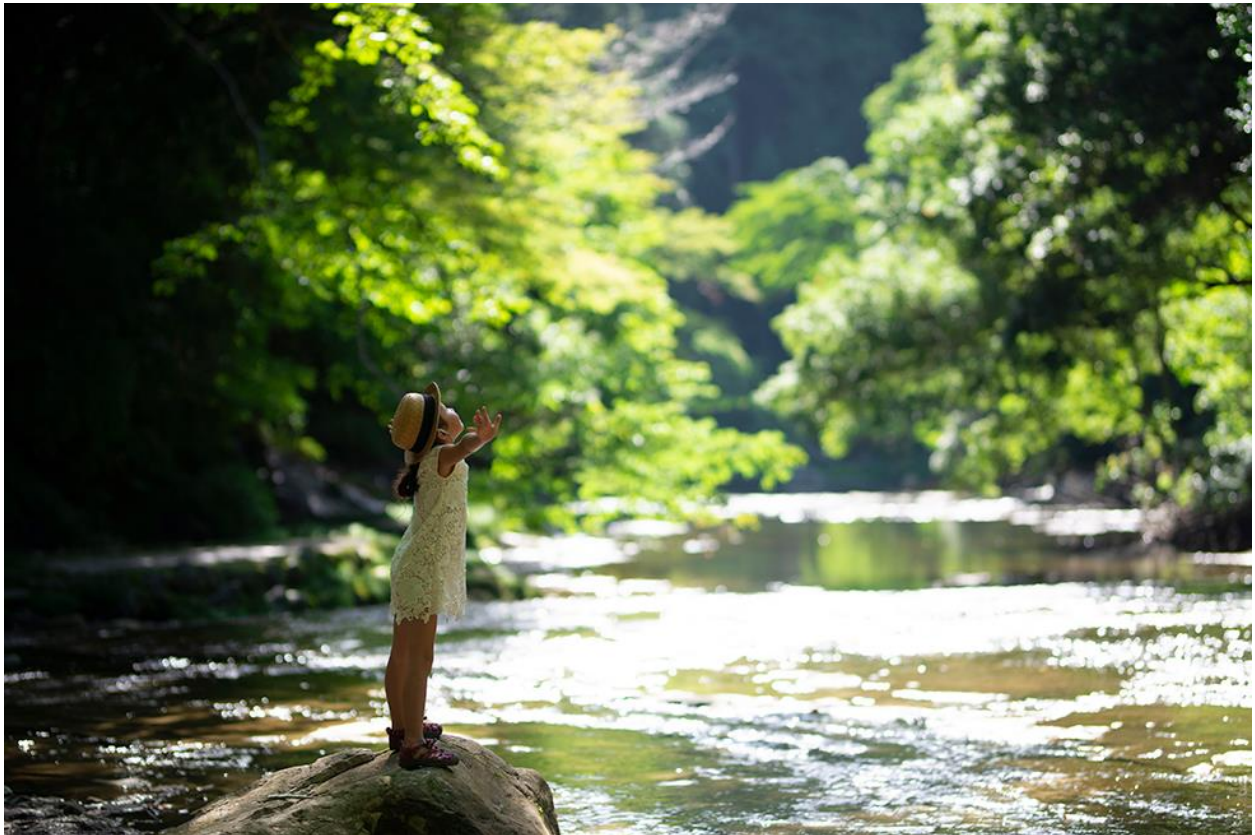
CA spends only \$6.5 million of \$291 annual Billion budget California State Library Parks Pass Program.

Career Pathway Suite of resources would cost patrons \$1100.00 individually.

State Library Established New Workforce Development Initiative With Federal Relief Funds. According to the State Library, \$4.4 million of CAREER Pathway's one-time federal relief funds is supporting subscriptions to six online learning platforms (Bendable, Coursera, Learning Express, LinkedIn Learning, Northstar, and Skillshare).

BrainFuse Tutorial Service: SMPL receives approximately \$10k/ year in state funding to provide this free tutorial service to kids. We used rely on donations from the LF for this funding.

Urge Governor and Legislature to Restore Funding for Popular Pass Program



In 2021, California State Parks received funding to create pilot park pass programs providing free access to state parks. Those programs included the [California State Library](#)

Parks Pass. The program provides free day-use entry to California State Parks anyone with a library card in California.

Last year, California State Parks Foundation released compelling survey data highlighting the success of the California State Library Parks Pass program. The survey yielded these key insights which show the impact and importance of the program:

- Majority of respondents (63%) previously considered cost to be their main reason for not having visited state parks previously.
- Thanks to the park pass program, a staggering 90% of respondents now plan to visit state parks over seven times a year.
- Nearly 70% of the survey's respondents indicated an income level of \$60,000 or less.
- Over 63% of respondents indicated that they are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

Unfortunately, the funding this popular and impactful program relies on is expiring at the end of this fiscal year. If new funding is not identified, libraries will not receive new passes for checkout after December 31.

California State Parks Foundation estimates that \$6.5 million in funding would keep the California State Library Parks Pass operating at its current level next year – a fraction of the \$291 billion overall budget proposed by the Governor.

Tell Governor Newsom and Legislative leaders to restore funding for this popular and effective park access program!

State Library Established New Workforce Development Initiative With Federal Relief Funds. According to the State Library, \$4.4 million of CAREER Pathway's one-time federal relief funds is supporting subscriptions to six online learning platforms (Bendable, Coursera, Learning Express, LinkedIn Learning, Northstar, and Skillshare). (The remaining \$785,700 in federal relief funds were spent on other platforms.) Similar to other CAREER Pathways programs, patrons can access these platforms by using a computer at their local library or on their own device using their local library's webpage. Virtually all libraries offer at least one online learning platform to their patrons, and more than half offer all six platforms. The platforms focus on many areas and offer several types of services and content. Coursera, for example, offers certificates in a variety of industries, including information technology, cybersecurity, and marketing. LearningExpress, by comparison, focuses on preparing participants for certain tests, including the California Basic Educational Skills Test, California Real Estate Salesperson Exam, and the California Police

Officer Exam. Another platform, Skillshare, offers numerous self-paced courses ranging from the creative arts, design, entrepreneurship, and technology. The State Library could not provide the number of patrons participating in these platforms, but it reports that participating patrons completed “well over 20,000” course hours across all libraries.

CAREER PATHWAYS



About

The California State Library supports a variety of workforce development and upskilling resources for all Californians through their local public libraries.

Public libraries are community hubs that bring people together and close the opportunity gap. The resources available through CAreer Pathways help libraries increase digital equity and support the information needs of a 21st Century society.

Below, learn more about CAreer Pathway resources for learners of all levels. Use the [CAreer Pathways Services Locator map](#) to see what is available through your local public library.

Impact

570,650+

hours of learning

Photo of young, African American man smiling, seated in front of a laptop, in loft-like setting with brick wall. Tag line caption reads: Learn new job skills.

864,500+

lessons taken

17,850

learners per month

Photo of young woman with newborn in arms, seated in front of laptop, in a home based environment. Tag line caption reads: Learn at your own pace.

68,200+

lessons per month

Statistics from January 2023 – December 2023.

In June 2023, a CAreer Pathways user survey demonstrated:

- Learners using the CAreer Pathways platforms report feeling more knowledgeable (79%), more confident (63%), more prepared (57%), more engaged/connected (46%), and more competitive in the job market (36%).
- Nearly three-quarters of learners used the skills they learned on CAreer Pathways resources to do something different or new (74%) and almost half of the learners (47%) reported they completed a task they could not do before using the resources.
- The majority of learners were 30–49 years old (54%), followed by 18–29 years old (17%) and 50–59 years old (17%). Two thirds of all learners (65%) identified as female.

My husband was unable to get a job with the degree he had as it had components that were out of date. When I found this resource was free through the library, we signed him up. He completed 5 different certificates and was able to find a job! His employer mentioned that the certificates were what got him the job as it taught him the updated skills he needed. We wouldn't have been able to complete courses without the library as we couldn't afford it.

Learner from Fresno County

I really appreciate you making the resources available for free. I work full time but I take classes basically every day for transitioning to a new career, so I really appreciate it that you make it all free and made the transitioning much easier for me.

Learner from Alhambra Civic Center Library