Since 1953, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has been strengthening higher education, workforce development, and behavioral health throughout the region. As an interstate compact, WICHE partners with states, territories, and postsecondary institutions to share knowledge, create resources, and develop innovative solutions that address some of our society’s most pressing needs. From promoting high-quality, affordable postsecondary education to helping states get the most from their technology investments and addressing behavioral health challenges, WICHE improves lives across the West through innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy.
WICHE's quadrennial **Knocking at the College Door** report is the foremost U.S. resource for projections of college-ready students. There is an abundance of information on [knocking.wiche.edu](http://knocking.wiche.edu), including the publication and other reports, projections data, interactive data dashboards, recorded webinars and presentations, and California’s state profile.

**Fosters idea sharing**

- **WICHE’s Legislative Advisory Committee** provides valuable insights on trends and promising practices to California's legislative leaders as they build partnerships with leaders in other Western states.

- Seven California institutions are members of the **Western Academic Leadership Forum (the Forum)**, a consortium of academic officers at bachelor's, master's, and doctoral institutions and chief executives and chief academic officers for systems and state governing boards. California members include California State University System, California State University, Long Beach, California State University, Monterey Bay, California State University, Northridge, California State University, San Marcos, Sonoma State University and University of California, San Diego. Loren Blanchard, California State University Office of the Chancellor, serves on the Forum executive committee. Academic leaders at community colleges (cc) and technical schools and at systems and state governing and coordinating boards associated with two-year institutions are members of the **Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders (the Alliance)**. The California members of the Alliance are California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and Cerritos College. Both the Forum and the Alliance exchange ideas and information, share resources and expertise, and collaborate on regional initiatives. Marty Alvarado, California Community Colleges, serves on the Alliance executive committee.

- Eighteen higher education institutions are members of **WCET (WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies)**, the leader in the practice, policy, and advocacy of technology-enhanced learning in higher education. WCET’s growing membership includes almost 400 institutions, higher education agencies and systems, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations in all U.S. states and several Canadian provinces. Through its **Frontiers** blog, convenings, and active online discussions, WCET keeps members informed of the latest in policy change, regulations, and trends in educational technology. And WCET offers a host of resources related to educational technology and faculty support, including advice and guidance for institutions on how to transition their face-to-face offerings to emergency online alternatives and how to increase quality in these courses over time. See [wcet.wiche.edu/current-members](http://wcet.wiche.edu/current-members) for a list of WCET members.

- The **State Authorization Network (SAN)** provides institutional support in managing regulations related to online courses and programs. California has 144 members. See [wcetsan.wiche.edu/member-institutions-organizations](http://wcetsan.wiche.edu/member-institutions-organizations) for a list of members.

**Responds to urgent priorities**

- WICHE is partnering with our states, institutions, and partners to respond and be proactive during the COVID-19 pandemic. WICHE is facilitating peer-to-peer videoconferences for higher education leaders to connect and identify solutions to common challenges; following legislation passed in response to the crisis; and identifying how emergency funding for students and higher education institutions, as well as block grants to states, can be best used to support education in the West. The Behavioral Health Program is hosting webinars that offer guidance to support the mental wellbeing of their students, and WCET is providing updates and resources to help institutions address issues that arise due to the COVID-19 outbreak. 

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**About the WICHE Commission**

The WICHE Commission oversees the development of WICHE programs and assures that the Western Regional Compact is carried out for the benefit of the citizens of the West. WICHE’s 48 commissioners, who are appointed by the governors of the 15 Western states and the U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States, are leaders in higher education; they include state higher education executive officers, college and university presidents, legislators, business and community leaders, and other key partners. Susan Anderson from Alaska is the 2021 Chair of the Commission.