

Final Revisions to Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Related to the Rising Scholars Network and Related Registration and Enrollment Procedures

SUBCHAPTER 7 OF CHAPTER 7 OF DIVISION 6, OF TITLE 5 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS IS ADDED TO READ:

Subchapter 7. Rising Scholars Network

§ 56800. Purpose.

The purpose of the Rising Scholars Network is to encourage the enrollment, retention, and success of justice-involved students in the California Community Colleges through a program that provides education and services that promote academic success. Providing this education and support to justice-involved students in California's community colleges serves a significant governmental and public interest, namely reduced recidivism and reduced poverty among Californians who have been involved in the criminal justice system. To achieve these goals, the Rising Scholars Network is built around three broad principles: (1) on-site programming in prisons, county jails, juvenile facilities and at community and alternative schools; (2) supported transition to college campuses upon release; and (3) college buy-in and commitment to program success.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901 and 78071, Education Code.

Reference: Sections 70901, 70902, 78070 and 78071, Education Code.

§ 56801. Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this subchapter:

(a) "Justice-involved" means a person who is currently or formerly incarcerated in a California correctional facility, or currently or formerly detained in a juvenile facility.

(b) "Rising Scholars Network" is a Chancellor's Office program to award to community college districts funds appropriated by the Legislature to expand the number of justice-involved students participating and succeeding in the community colleges.

(c) "Rising scholar" means a justice involved California community college student receiving services from the Rising Scholars Network.

(d) "Affiliated program" means a district program that provides supports and services to justice-involved students but does not receive funding through the Rising Scholars Network.

(e) "Student-facing college services" means programs, services, or resources that are intended to support student success and promote academic achievement, which may include tutoring, counseling, mentoring, or other forms of academic and personal support that are directly provided to participating students to support their academic goals.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901 and 78070, Education Code.

Reference: Sections 70901, 70902 and 78070, Education Code.

§ 56810. Rising Scholars Network Elements.

(a) Districts participating in the Rising Scholars Network shall have the following administrative supports:

(1) a Rising Scholars Network director, coordinator, or liaison who has experience working with currently or formerly incarcerated students;

(2) a dedicated campus space for the Rising Scholars Network, including sufficient meeting space for Rising Scholars students if the program serves Rising Scholars on campus;

(3) a process to build support from, and competency for, a broad range of college stakeholders including, but not limited to, administration, faculty, and students;

(4) capacity to develop and maintain strong relationships with external partners, including community-based programs, probation, parole, county jails, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation;

(5) capacity to provide Rising Scholars with the services described in subdivision (b);

(6) outreach to prospective justice-involved students, particularly those in jail, in prison and/or on active supervision;

(7) capacity to assist justice-involved students apply, matriculate, and persist to graduation;

(8) capacity to conduct annual degree audits or equivalent processes; and

(9) capacity to respond promptly to inquiries from prospective or current Rising Scholars or their representatives.

(b) Districts participating in the Rising Scholars Network shall use program funds to provide the following services to Rising Scholars:

(1) priority registration;

(2) basic needs support;

(3) assistance with identifying and accessing campus resources, including financial aid;

(4) individualized academic counseling and tutoring, including in relation to clear pathways to a certificate or a degree;

(5) frequent in-person contact with Rising Scholars Network faculty and staff;

(6) instructional materials support;

(7) foster and peer-to-peer support or mentoring;

(8) assessments of community resources, such as housing assistance, mental health support, or social services;

(9) courses designed specifically for Rising Scholars;

(10) career counseling and placement services; and

(11) other similar supports.

(c) Students receiving services from Rising Scholars Network programs shall be coded in the Chancellor's Office Management and Information System (COMIS) with the Special Population Data Elements SG04, SG15, or SG24.

(d) To the extent possible, services funded through the Rising Scholars Network shall be coordinated with, and shall not supplant, other services provided by the county and state.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901, 78071, 78072 and 78073, Education Code.

Reference: Sections 70901, 70902, 78071, 78072 and 78073, Education Code.

§ 56811. Accommodating Incarcerated Students.

(a) Participating districts shall adopt flexible practices designed to facilitate incarcerated students' participation in the Rising Scholars Network.

(b) Notwithstanding section 58620, Rising Scholars shall not be required to provide documentation related to enrollment, matriculation, financial aid applications, and similar processes, when they are unable to obtain or possess such documentation due to their incarceration status, unless otherwise required by federal or state law.

(c) Rising Scholars shall have access to all student-facing college services, including transcript requests and student complaints, through regular United States mail, online, or in person to the extent possible given the student's particular circumstances.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901 and 78072, Education Code.

Reference: Sections 70901 and 70902, Education Code.

§ 56820. Chancellor's Authority.

The Chancellor is authorized to designate up to five percent of the funds allocated for the Rising Scholars Network by the Legislature for program administration, development, and accountability.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901, 78074 and 78076, Education Code.

Reference: Sections 70901, 70902, 78074 and 78076, Education Code.

SECTION 58108 OF ARTICLE 1 OF SUBCHAPTER 2 OF CHAPTER 9 OF DIVISION 6 OF TITLE 5 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

§ 58108. Registration and Enrollment Procedures.

(a) Districts shall adopt policies and procedures for registration and standards for enrollment in any course that are consistent with these and other sections of title 5 and uniformly administered by appropriately authorized employees of the district.

(b) It is the intent of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to provide priority registration for students who enroll in a community college for the purpose of degree or certificate attainment, transfer to a four-year college or university, or career advancement.

(c) Districts adopting policies and procedures that include the administration of a registration system that grants priority enrollment to certain students, shall grant registration priority in that system, for each term the registration priority system is administered, to students who:

(1) are first time students within the meaning of section 55530(c) and have completed orientation, assessment, and developed student education plans; or

(2) are not first time students within the meaning of section 55530(c) and have not lost registration priority pursuant to subdivision (h).

(3) who are continuing students not on academic or progress probation for two consecutive terms as defined in section 55031, ~~and first time students who have completed orientation, assessment, and developed student education plans.~~

(d) Districts shall provide highest and equal priority to students eligible for registration priority pursuant to subdivision (c) who are:

(1) ~~a member of the armed forces or a veteran pursuant to Education Code section 66025.8;~~ A member or veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States and who is a resident of California, as specified in Education Code section 66025.8;

(2) a student parent who has a child or children under 18 years of age who will receive more than half of their support from that student;

~~(2)(3)~~ a foster youth or former foster youth who is not older than 25 years of age at the commencement of the academic year, as specified in Education Code section 66025.9; ~~pursuant to Education Code section 66025.9;~~

~~(3)(4)~~ a verified homeless youth or former homeless youth under 25 years of age at the commencement of the academic year, as specified in Education Code section 66025.9; ~~determined to be eligible for Disabled Student Program and Services as set forth in Education Code section 66025.91;~~

~~(4)(5)~~ determined to be eligible for Disabled Student Programs and Services; ~~receiving services through the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services as set forth in Education Code section 66025.91;~~

~~(5)(6)~~ receiving services through Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS); ~~receiving aid from the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Program as set forth in Education Code section 66025.92.~~

~~(6)(7)~~ receiving aid from the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids program (CalWORKS) or the Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program (Tribal TANF); or

(8) receiving services from a program funded by Rising Scholars Network funds.

(e) To the extent districts have the capacity and resources to require orientation, assessment, and education plans for continuing students, districts may establish orientation, assessment and education plans or any combination thereof as a condition for registration priority.

(f) Districts are permitted to adopt registration priorities for subcategories of students eligible for registration priority pursuant to subdivisions (c) and (d) provided that highest and equal registration priority is granted to students meeting the requirements of subdivision (d)(1) through (d)~~(5)~~(8). Districts may not prioritize students in one statutory group, as set forth in (d)(1) through (d)~~(5)~~(8), over another.

(g) Districts may establish additional registration priorities for students with priority lower than student groups covered by subdivision (c) of this section.

(h) Registration priority specified in subdivision (c) of this section shall be lost at the first registration opportunity after a student:

(1) is placed on academic or progress probation or any combination thereof as defined in section 55031 for two consecutive terms; or

(2) has earned one hundred (100) or more degree-applicable semester or quarter equivalent units at the district.

~~(A) For purposes of this section a unit is earned when a student receives a grade of A, B, C, D or P as defined in section 55023.~~

~~(B)~~(A) The 100-unit limit does not include units for non-degree applicable English as a Second Language or noncredit basic skills courses as defined in section 55000(j) or special classes as defined in section 55000.

~~(C)~~(B) Districts may set the unit limit lower than 100 units and may consider units from other higher education institutions.

~~(D)~~(C) Districts may adopt policies to exempt from the 100-unit limit categories of students, including but not limited to, those enrolled in high unit majors or programs.

~~(E)~~(D) Districts may exempt from the 100-unit limit units earned through credit by examination, advanced placement, International Baccalaureate, or other similar programs.

(3) This subdivision shall not apply to students granted registration priority pursuant to subdivision (d)~~(2)~~(3).

(i) ~~Beginning in the spring 2013 term, districts~~Districts shall notify students who are placed on academic or progress probation, or who have earned 75 percent or more of the unit limit, of the potential for loss of enrollment priority. The district shall notify the student that a second consecutive term on academic or progress probation will result in the loss of priority registration until the student is no longer on probation or that enrollment priority will be lost when the student reaches the unit limit.

~~(j)~~ Except as otherwise provided by state law, no student shall be required to confer or consult with or be required to receive permission to enroll in any class from any person other than those employed by the college in the district.

~~(k)~~(j) Students will not be required to participate in any preregistration activity not uniformly required; nor shall the college or district allow anyone to place or enforce nonacademic requisites that are not expressly authorized in this chapter or in state law as barriers to enrollment in or the successful completion of a class.

~~(l)~~(k) With respect to accessibility to off-campus sites and facilities, no student is to be required to make any special effort not required of all students to register in any class or course section. Once enrolled in the class, all students must have equal access to the site.

~~(m)~~(l) Each community college district shall establish written procedures by which a student may appeal the loss of priority enrollment status due to extenuating circumstances, or where a student with a disability applied for, but did not receive reasonable accommodation in a timely manner. Extenuating circumstances are verified cases of accidents, illnesses or other circumstances beyond the control of the student. Districts may allow students who have demonstrated significant academic improvement to appeal the loss of priority enrollment status. Significant academic improvement is defined as achieving no less than the minimum grade point average and progress standard established in section 55031 for the term or terms.

~~(n)~~(m) Districts shall ensure that the requirements of this section are adopted in local board policies and fully operational for registration for fall 2014 courses. Districts shall ensure that all policies and course catalogs reflect the requirements of this section and that appropriate and timely notice is provided to students.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901 and 78215, Education Code. Reference: Sections 66025.8, ~~66025.81~~, 66025.9, 66025.91, 66025.92, 66025.95, 70901, ~~78210 et seq.~~ 78215 and 84500, Education Code.