



# The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
DATE: March 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Immigration Policy Update		Item Number: 3.4	
		Attachment: No	
CATEGORY:	Executive	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Paul Feist, Vice Chancellor	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor	Action	
		Information	X

**ISSUE:** The Board of Governors will be provided with an update on recent federal immigration policy changes and identified impacts on community college students and local districts.

**BACKGROUND:** Since the presidential election, the federal government has announced a series of immigration policy changes, both by executive order and department-level policy memos, which have the potential to affect tens of thousands of undocumented community college students throughout our system. Federal immigration policy is changing rapidly under the new administration. This item will provide the Board of Governors with a brief overview of certain executive orders, federal policy documents and recent developments in immigration policy that may impact our undocumented community college students.

At the district level, at least 16 local boards of trustees have taken steps to assure students that our colleges remain safe and welcoming to all students. The Board of Governors will be provided with an overview of these efforts at the local level.

This item will also provide the Board of Governors with an update on student applications for financial aid through the California Dream Act and efforts to encourage undocumented students to apply for financial assistance. *(Background cont.)*

**RECOMMENDATION:** This item is presented to the Board for information and discussion.

***(Background cont.)***

The California Student Aid Commission [\(CSAC\)](#) reported in early February that applications from undocumented students for financial aid under the California Dream Act were down about 40 percent compared to the previous year. The commission attributed the lower numbers to fears that information on the forms could be used to deport students and their families. In an effort to promote awareness that financial aid for undocumented students is available and protected by state law, the Student Aid Commission, state Legislative leaders, the Chancellor's Office, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and numerous college and K-12 leaders waged a successful media campaign to encourage undocumented students to apply.

By March 2, the deadline for new applications, [\(CSAC\) ~~the Student Aid Commission~~](#) reported that total applications stood at 35,882, which is about 5 percent more than had been received on the same date in 2016. Applications for Cal Grant renewals under the California Dream Act can be accepted after March 2, and the Chancellor's Office I Can Afford College Campaign will continue to get the word out to students that several forms of financial aid are available year round.

[Source: California Student Aid Commission](#)