

# 2023 Legislative Guiding Principles

## WHAT GUIDES OUR WORK

Adopted by the Board of Governors in 2017, the *Vision for Success* outlines bold goals for the California Community Colleges to continuously improve student outcomes with a focus on closing equity gaps, reducing excess unit accumulation, increasing degree and certificate attainment and transfers to four-year institutions, and securing gainful employment for our graduates. This *Vision* guides our policy advocacy work and in 2022, Governor Newsom unveiled a mutually aligned framework that reinforces the *Vision* goals and further underscores the importance of the *Vision* goals. The Governor's *Roadmap for the Future* sets a bold new goal that by 2030, 70% of working age Californians would have a degree or credential. Together, the *Roadmap* and the *Vision* frameworks will guide our policy advocacy efforts and serve as a basis for determining the Chancellor's Office recommendations on legislative proposals.

## WHAT WE STAND FOR

Anchored in the *Vision* and the *Roadmap*, the Chancellor's Office stands for equitable access, success, and completion. The Chancellor's Office will support legislation that strengthens the California Community Colleges' ability to meet the goals established in both the *Vision* and the *Roadmap*, advances the priorities established in the annual System Budget and Legislative Request, and is supported by our Board of Governors.

## 2023 LEGISLATIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Board of Governors provides representation, advocacy, and accountability for the California Community Colleges (Ed Code § 70901(b)(4)). The Procedures and Standing Orders of the Board of Governors directs the Chancellor to represent the system on matters pending before the state and federal governments and authorizes the Chancellor to take positions on pending legislation on behalf of the Board, as specified (Procedures and Standing Orders § 317). Except under limited circumstances, the Chancellor's Office consults with Consultation Council prior to adopting a formal position on pending legislation; and all Chancellor's Office adopted positions are included in published updates to both Consultation Council and the Board of Governors.

Every year, the Legislature introduces thousands of bills and hundreds of them will have an impact on community colleges or higher education in general. Some will directly impact students and student services, others will impact critical supports such as faculty, counseling and classified professionals, and others impact community college operations such as facilities, funding, and employment. To help guide the Chancellor's Office in assessing hundreds of bills and engaging in matters before the state and federal governments, establishing a set of guiding principles will provide staff with a baseline framework.

## 2023 Legislative Priorities

The Chancellor's Office will support legislative proposals that focus on the following:

## **Reducing Time to Degree**

Legislation that supports and/or strengthens structures, policies and practices that help students complete their educational degree in a timely manner. This can include proposals that improve gateway course placement, innovation in teaching and learning, streamline pathways to students' educational goal, and eliminates unnecessary duplication of courses.

## **Close Statewide Equity Gaps**

Legislation that closes equity gaps and supports the diverse needs of our students, including students of color, first-generation college students, working parents, veterans, foster youth, students with disabilities and other vulnerable populations. This can include proposals that expands access to child care, flexible course schedules, financial aid, and more.

## **Improve Educational Outcomes**

Legislation that supports and/or strengthens structures, policies and practices that improves the educational opportunities and outcomes for our students. This can include supporting colleges through investments in faculty, professional development, and innovation in financial aid services and cross-departmental collaboration to effectively deliver student services.

## **Support Intersegmental Collaboration and Data Sharing**

Legislation that strengthens intersegmental collaboration between community colleges, K-12 and four-year universities. This can include proposals that fosters collaboration across segments to improve transparency and data sharing, processes that support incoming students and transfer students, and improvements in reporting processes.

## **Establish Clear Pathways to Transfer and Careers**

Legislation that improves structures and processes that increase students' chances of transferring to a four-year university and places them into livable wage careers after program/degree completion. This can include support for clearer transfer pathways, investments in apprenticeship opportunities, and support for workforce and innovation practices.