

State Policy and Advocacy Update

STATE ADVOCACY OVERVIEW

On June 27th, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 154, a bicameral state budget deal for the 2022-23 fiscal year. Another bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 178, proposes to amend the original bicameral bill to reflect negotiations between the Assembly, Senate, and the Governor. As part of these discussions, the three parties agreed to several policy changes and supplementary allocations as part of the higher education trailer bill (AB 183). As of this writing, only SB 154 has been signed into law, but the overall budget framework does fund several of our advocacy priorities:

- **Cal Grant Reform Act:** Trailer bill language streamlines the Cal Grant program by removing long-standing barriers and expands access to approximately 109,000 additional community college students. The Cal Grant Reform Act would become operative beginning in 2024-25 based on available revenues and multiyear forecasts.
- **Equitable Placement and Completion Block Grant:** The budget agreement includes \$64 million for an Equitable Placement and Completion Block Grant. Colleges may use these funds to support faculty professional development, expand concurrent supports and support services, and redesign curriculum consistent with AB 1705.
- **Streamlining Academic Pathways:** The budget agreement also includes \$65 million to implement the transfer improvement provisions required by AB 928 (Berman, 2021) and \$105 million for the implementation of a common course numbering system mandated by AB 1111 (Berman, 2021).

STATE LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

To date, we have identified 154 bills that have an impact on higher education or the Chancellor's Office. Of these bills, 58 are classified at Tier 1 and most likely to have a direct impact on the California Community Colleges (CCCs), our faculty, and students. A full Legislative Matrix and a list of all Tier 1 bills can be found by visiting the [State Relations page on the Chancellor's Office website](http://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Government-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action-State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation). (www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Government-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action-State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation).

Since our last meeting, the Chancellor's Office has taken a **Support** position on AB 1919 (related to transit passes). Overall, we have a **Sponsor** position on two active bills and a **Support** position on 11 active bills.

The following policy positions are in alignment with the 2022 Legislative Guiding Principles, which authorizes the Chancellor's Office to adopt official positions on legislation if it meets the goals established in the *Vision for Success*, advances the priorities established in the 2022-23 Students First Budget and Legislative Proposal, and is consistent with Board of Governors policy. A summary of how these bills are aligned to the Legislative Principles is included as part of this update.

For additional details on bills, visit the [Legislative Counsel's website](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/) (leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/).

NEW BILLS WITH A POLICY POSITION

AB 1919 (Holden) Transportation: free student transit passes.

Would, upon an appropriation, create the Youth Transit Pass Pilot Program to provide grants to transit agencies to create or expand free fare transit programs for students attending a CCC, California State University (CSU), or University of California (UC).

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Basic Needs**

SPONSORED LEGISLATION

SB 1141 (Limón) Public postsecondary education: exemption from payment of nonresident tuition.

Would remove the two-year cap on full-time enrollment in credit courses that can be counted towards achieving AB 540 status and change the threshold to qualify from three to two years of full-time attendance.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

SJR 9 (Limón) 20th anniversary of the nonresident tuition exemption: American Families Plan: immigration reform.

Recognizes October 12, 2021, as the twentieth anniversary of the passage of AB 540 and calls on Congress to pass the American Families Plan, which would allow undocumented students to qualify for federal financial aid.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Floor.

OTHER BILLS WITH A POLICY POSITION

AB 102 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.

Would remove the sunset date of January 1, 2027, for the College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) program and authorize a county office of education to enter into a CCAP partnership with a community college district

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Dual Enrollment**

AB 288 (Calderon) California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act of 2021.

Would prohibit each institution of higher education from reducing certain students' institution-based financial aid award below their financial need beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year.

Status: Referred to the Senate Floor.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Financial Aid**

AB 1187 (Irwin) Community colleges: tutoring.

Would provide that supervised tutoring for all credit and noncredit courses, as authorized pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board of Governors by July 31, 2023, is eligible for state apportionment.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Access**

AB 1232 (McCarty) Nonresident tuition fees: English as a second language courses.

Would create a nonresident tuition exemption for recent immigrants, refugees, and asylees who have settled in California, resided in the state for less than one year, and enrolled in credit ESL courses.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Special Student Populations**

AB 1705 (Irwin) Equitable placement and completion practices and policies.

Would prohibit colleges from placing and enrolling students in pretransfer-level math or English coursework except under very limited circumstances, provide clarifying amendments to current equitable placement practices consistent with existing regulations and guidance, and require colleges to utilize data and local research evidence to inform a student's placement and concurrent support.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Access**

AB 1746 (Medina) Cal Grant Reform Act.

Would overhaul the Cal Grant program by consolidating the existing entitlement programs into a Cal Grant 2 program for community college students and Cal Grant 4

program for four-year students, expand access by aligning eligibility requirements with income standards for the Pell Grant, and provide an automatic inflationary adjustment to the Cal Grant award for community college students.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Financial Aid**

AB 2315 (Arambula) Community colleges: records: preferred or affirmed names.

Would require each community college district to implement a process that allows students, staff, and faculty to declare an affirmed name, gender, or both name and gender identification to be used in records where legal names are not required by law.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Equitable Classroom Environment**

AB 2627 (Bauer-Kahan) Electronically collected personal information: California Community Colleges: memorandum of understanding.

Would authorize a local agency to enter into a memorandum of understanding with a community college district for the purpose of sharing contact information to facilitate outreach and access to support resources, unless the individual has not granted permission for that disclosure.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Data Sharing**

SB 641 (Skinner) CalFresh for College Students Act.

Would require the Department of Social Services to convene a workgroup that would submit a legislative report on how to improve the CalFresh application process for college students.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: **Support**

Principle: **Basic Needs**

SB 885 (Laird) Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program.

Would remove the 20 district cap on CAYFES/NextUp funds, formally change the name of the program to NextUp, eliminate the unit requirement for eligible students, and reduce the amount of funds the Chancellor's Office can set aside for administrative costs.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Position: Support

Principle: Special Student Populations

CHAPTERED LEGISLATION

AB 1736 (Choi) Community colleges: student government.

Would allow a student to be elected as an officer in student government if they are enrolled in an adult education program offered by a community college district or are a disabled student.

Status: Signed by the Governor on July 1st.

LEGISLATION UNDER REVIEW

AB 295 (Jones-Sawyer) Pilot program for free cost of attendance.

Would establish a working group with specified higher education representatives to consider the creation of a pilot program that would cover the total cost of postsecondary education in California.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 595 (Medina) University of California and California State University: student eligibility policy.

Would require the CSU, and request the UC, before adding any changes in student eligibility policy that affects students of that segment, to engage in a multi-step process prior to making said change.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 1106 (Cervantes) Employment Training Panel: pilot program: employment training needs.

Would require the Employment Training Panel to establish a pilot program to serve the employment training needs of small businesses and strengthen the linkages between higher education institutions and employers.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1467 (Cervantes) Student safety: sexual assault procedures and protocols.

Would require sexual assault counselors to be independent from the Title IX office, meet certain education and experience qualifications, and provide services regardless of whether a report is made to the Title IX office or law enforcement.

Status: Referred to the Senate Floor.

AB 1491 (McCarty) Adult education: consortia: carryover of allocated funds.

Would authorize an adult education consortium to reduce a member's allocation if the consortium makes a finding that the member has excessive carryover for at least two consecutive fiscal years, require a consortium with 20% carryover to submit a written expenditure plan, and require the Chancellor's Office and CDE to provide that consortium with technical assistance.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1505 (Rodriguez) Full-time faculty obligation number.

Would require the Board of Governors to adopt regulations that require the Fall 2023 full-time faculty obligation for each community college district to be set to the actual full-time faculty number reported for Fall 2022 and annually adjusted pursuant to these regulations.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 1602 (McCarty) California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022.

Would provide zero-interest loans to qualifying applicants of the UC, CSU, and the CCCs for the purpose of constructing affordable student, faculty, and staff housing.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1671 (Patterson) California Ban on Scholarship Displacement for Foster Youth Act of 2022.

Would prohibit public and private higher education institutions from reducing an institution-based financial aid award below the financial need of an undergraduate student who is a current or former foster youth and a California resident.

Status: Referred to the Senate Floor.

AB 1691 (Medina) Classified School and Community College Employee Summer Assistance Programs.

Would authorize classified employees of a participating community college district meeting certain requirements to withhold an amount from their monthly paycheck during an academic year to be paid out during the summer recess period.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 1712 (Medina) Campus safety: online survey tool.

Would require the CCCs, CSU, and UC to develop questions with trauma-informed language for review and approval by the United States Secretary of Education to be incorporated into an online survey tool, and would require the CCCs, CSU, and UC to submit a report on the results of the online survey to specified legislative committees beginning one year after the date on which the online survey becomes available.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1719 (Ward) Housing: Community College Faculty and Employee Housing Act of 2022.

Would establish the Community College Faculty and Employee Housing Act of 2022 with specified requirements to address the housing needs of community college faculty and employees.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 1764 (Medina) Student housing: survey.

Would require the CCCs, CSU, and UC to collect data on student housing insecurity at each of their respective campuses and submit a report to the Legislature every two years beginning on October 15, 2023.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1856 (Medina) Community colleges: part-time employees.

Would increase the number of instructional hours that a part-time community college faculty member may teach at one district from 67% to 85% of a full-time assignment.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1913 (Bryan) Los Angeles Community College District: California Center for Climate Change Education.

Would establish the California Center for Climate Change Education, as part of the Los Angeles Community College District, to promote climate change education at the CCCs.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 1942 (Muratsuchi) Instructional service agreements with public safety agencies.

Would require instruction provided by districts under instructional service agreements with public safety agencies to be funded under the apportionment formula used for instruction in career development and college preparation courses starting in 2024-25 academic year. Districts will also have to report information on instructional services agreements to the Chancellor's Office.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1958 (M. Fong) Community College Student Access, Retention, and Debt Cancellation Program.

Would establish the Community College Student Access, Retention, and Debt Cancellation Program to support efforts to increase student retention rates and enrollment by engaging former community college students who may have withdrawn from a community college due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1998 (Smith) Community colleges: nonresident tuition fees: Western Undergraduate Exchange.

Would authorize the Board of Governors to enter into the Western Undergraduate Exchange and allow certain community college districts to exempt certain out-of-state students from the mandatory nonresident fee requirement.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2045 (Jones-Sawyer) Personnel commissions: ranked groups.

Would require, upon approval of action by the personnel commission of a community college district to hold an election, classified employees to determine by majority vote if applicants for a vacancy to be placed on eligibility lists in ranked groups according to their relative merit as determined by competitive examinations.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2058 (O'Donnell) Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program: Strong Workforce Program.

Would consolidate specified K-12 career technical education programs, increase ongoing funding for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grant program to \$450 million per year, and delete authorization for the K-12 Strong Workforce Program.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2122 (Choi) Mental health hotlines: student identification cards.

Would authorize the CCCs, CSU, and UC to establish a campus mental health hotline for students to access mental health services remotely and require each campus with a mental health hotline to print the number of the hotline on student identification cards.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2232 (McCarty) School facilities: heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems.

Would require all K-12 schools, CCC, CSU, and UC campuses to ensure that facilities that have heating, ventilation, and air condition (HVAC) systems meet specified minimum ventilation rate requirement.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 2266 (Santiago) California College Promise: fee waiver eligibility.

Would remove, for the purpose of determining eligibility for the California College Promise (AB 19), the qualification that students be first-time students and would make certain returning students eligible for the fee waiver.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2359 (Gipson) Compton Community College District: personnel commission.

Would restore the powers of the Compton Community College District Personnel Commission one year after the district has repaid its loan from the state instead of the current date of 2029.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2413 (Carrillo) Classified school and community college employees: disciplinary hearings: compensation.

Would allow a classified community college employee who is not subject to binding arbitration in their collective bargaining agreement to retain their pay during a personnel investigation appeal.

Status: Referred to the Senate Floor.

AB 2459 (Cervantes) Student housing: data collection.

Would require UCs, CSUs, and CCCs campuses that provide student housing to post specified data regarding availability of student housing on the first day of every other month.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2482 (Calderon) Student health: pilot program: wellness vending machines.

Would create a pilot program, until July 1, 2029, that would require the CSU and CCCs to establish at least one vending machine that dispenses wellness products, as defined, at five campuses of their respective segments.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2617 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathways partnerships: best practices: communication and marketing strategy.

Would appropriate \$500 million to the State Department of Education, in consultation with the Chancellor's Office, to administer a competitive grant program to enable schools to provide dual enrollment opportunities.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 2683 (Gabriel) Postsecondary education: sexual violence and harassment: training and resources.

Would, beginning September 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, require a postsecondary institution to annually train its students on sexual violence and sexual harassment, including the differing rates at which students experience sexual harassment and sexual assault based on their race, sexual orientation, disability, gender, and gender identity.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 2738 (Reyes) Community colleges: matriculation: assessment.

Would require, by January 1, 2024, each community college district to make available the schedule of courses that must be completed to obtain, and the number of academic years or equivalent that it takes to obtain, each associate degree and certificate. This bill would also require, by January 1, 2024, districts to offer each course required for the completion of each associate degree and certificate within two years.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2747 (Nazarian) Tuition and fees: Team USA student athletes.

Would entitle any Team USA athlete who trains in California in an elite level program approved by the United State Olympic and Paralympic Committee to resident classification for tuition purposes.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2810 (Arambula) CalFresh: student eligibility: Federal Application for Student Aid data.

States legislative intent to codify federal administrative guidance encouraging higher education institutions to use Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) data to inform students of eligibility for CalFresh and would require the CSU and CCCs to use FAFSA data to identify students who meet the income requirements of the CalFresh program.

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

AB 2881 (Berman) Students with dependent children.

Would require public institutions of higher education to grant priority enrollment to student parents and ensure students have specified information to enroll in the California Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

Status: Referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2973 (Higher Education) Postsecondary education: omnibus bill.

Would make several technical and conforming changes within the Education Code, including revising the mission of the community colleges to include the provision of instruction and additional learning supports to close learning gaps and updating specified references of “remedial” to “pretransfer-level.”

Status: Referred to the Senate Floor.

SB 20 (Dodd) Student eligibility for CalFresh benefits.

Would require the California Student Aid Commission to notify California College Promise Grant students that they may also be eligible for CalFresh benefits.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Floor.

SB 367 (Hurtado) Opioid overdose reversal medication.

Would require each public higher education institution to provide educational and preventive information regarding opioid overdose as part of established campus

orientations and require each campus health center to apply to use the statewide standing order issued by the State Public Health Officer to distribute dosages of opioid reversal medication.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 851 (Portantino) Cal Grant Program: independent institutions of higher education.

Would, commencing with the 2022-23 award year, restructure the formula for determining the maximum Cal Grant award for independent institutions of higher education, conditioned on the achievement of associate degree for transfer (ADT) targets, and expand Cal Grant awards to students attending those institutions.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 874 (Cortese) Classified school district and community college employees: probation: promotion.

Would clarify that a classified employee of a merit school district or community college district may return to their previous classification if they are promoted but do not pass the probation for that promotional position.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Floor.

SB 886 (Wiener) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: public universities: housing projects.

Would exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act a university housing development carried out by a public university on real property owned by the public university if the project meets certain requirements.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 893 (Becker) San Mateo County Community College District: California College Promise.

Would authorize the San Mateo County Community College District to use local unrestricted general funds to provide fee waivers and authorize the district to use existing funds for the implementation of the California College Promise.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 964 (Wiener) Behavioral health.

Would require the CCCs, CSU, and UC to expand two accelerated programs of study related to associate's degrees, bachelor's degrees, and master's degrees in social work.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1144 (Wiener) Water efficiency and quality assessment reports: state buildings and public school buildings.

Would require state agencies and public schools to complete a water efficiency and quality assessment report on their facilities, including testing for lead, Legionella, and

other contaminants. If the report identifies noncompliant plumbing fixtures or contaminants, this bill would require the operating agency to remedy the problem, subject to available funding.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1351 (Durazo) California Youth Apprenticeship Program.

Would establish the California Youth Apprenticeship Program for the purpose of awarding grant funds to eligible applicants to develop new apprenticeship programs or expand existing apprenticeship programs to serve individuals from 16 to 24 years of age who are at risk of disconnection or are disconnected from the education system or employment.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1433 (Roth) California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009.

Would authorize a public institution of higher education, including those established by another state that provides in-person instruction at a physical location in California, to contract with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education to review and act on complaints concerning the institution, thereby allowing California students attending these institutions to access federal financial aid.

Status: Referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

ADVOCATES

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