



# California Community Colleges

## SYSTEM WEBINAR SUMMARY (Dec. 2022): CELEBRATING 2022 & NEW OPPORTUNITIES

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This webinar focused on celebrating our accomplishments in 2022 and looking toward opportunities in the new year. Guest presenters included Amy Costa, President of the Board of Governors (BOG), and Paul Medina, a student member on the BOG.

### What Have Been Our Six Key Accomplishments in 2022?

1. **Extraordinary progress on reforming remedial education.** Ten years ago, most students were forced to begin in remedial education, a significant barrier to progress and completion. Implementation of AB 705 has resulted in improved student outcomes in both [English](#) and [math](#). Completion of transfer-level courses in one year [increased](#) from 46% to 66% in English and from 26% to 50% in math.
2. **Significant increase in awarding credentials.** Over the last five years, the number of students receiving credentials has increased by 27%.
3. **Progress in advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility (DEIA).** Most districts (94%) have participated in [DEIA](#) convenings and trainings, and 40 Boards of Trustees have taken public stands supporting these values.
4. **Improvement in student basic needs and college affordability.** We received funding for [student housing](#), for expanded financial aid through the Promise Grant and Student Success Completion Grants, and for training for workers displaced by the pandemic. We also received a commitment to change eligibility criteria for the [Cal Grant](#) by 2024-25 in ways that will allow more of our students to access grants.
5. **Record state support for community colleges.** The Governor and Legislature recognized the many innovations we have been leading to provide more access and more completion to Californians. With these [historic resources](#) must come historic action toward the goals outlined in the [Roadmap](#).
6. **Expansion of bachelor's degree programs.** Our [baccalaureate degree programs](#) were [expanded](#) to 18 and codified through new [legislation](#). We have the authority to create 30 new programs every year, which shifts what our role is in higher education and what it means for us to create a pipeline for students. Applications for the next cycle of program proposals are due January 13, 2023.

### What are Three Opportunities for Further Progress in 2023?

1. **Empowering equity in the equal employment opportunity (EEO) ecosystem.** A recent [analysis](#) suggested it will take 70 years for higher education institutions to fully reflect our students' diversity. We are offering numerous [webinars](#)\* and

providing an [EEO Online Community](#)\* on the Vision Resource Center to help colleges make their hiring and promotion processes and strategies more inclusive and equitable. At the system level, we adopted amendments to EEO regulations to require districts to submit [EEO plans](#), and we have improved our [EEO handbook](#).

2. **Educating new trustees.** Through their roles in oversight and accountability, setting local Vision goals, and creating local policies, trustees have a tremendous impact on supporting student success. On February 13, 2023, we will be hosting our inaugural New Trustee Orientation to help those new to the role learn about how our system operates and how we are transforming to foster equity and take ownership of student outcomes, and to help them better understand the alignment between local and system efforts in governing our colleges.
3. **Expanding alternative teaching and learning opportunities.** To facilitate more enrollment among the population of working adults over age 25, which has seen a significant [decline](#) during the pandemic, we can offer [alternatives](#) that meet their demand for education that includes work-based learning and leads to a good return on their investment of time and effort. This can include the incorporation of industry-recognized certificates and the use of [competency-based education](#) (CBE), among other approaches. Our eight pilot [CBE programs](#)\* will be focusing on the changes to instructional infrastructure and student services needed to be successful with this model, with the goal of producing a toolkit for colleges to use in adopting CBE.

## What are Some BOG Member Reflections and Expectations?

**Amy Costa, BOG President:** We have had significant accomplishments, including progress on affordable student housing. There is more work to do, and in the context of challenges given the headwinds facing California's budget. Our role will be even more important in helping students to increase their economic mobility. A particular opportunity is for improvement in the transfer pathway. The pathways to UC and CSU remain complex, and we need to ensure that we continue to work for a more streamlined and consistent path for our students.

**Paul Medina, BOG Student Member:** For older, non-traditional students, offering affordable and flexible opportunities to attend community college is critical. The increase in courses offered through multiple modalities has been very important for these students during the pandemic and must continue going forward to make it possible for them to succeed. The increased support for basic needs and technology support has also been a positive development for these students and should be emphasized to help more of them enroll and succeed.

\*Must log in to the Vision Resource Center to access these links