Executive Order: 2020-06

Effective Date: May 13, 2020

Title: Temporary Suspension of Regulations related to Community College District Fiscal Reporting Due Dates to Address the Continuity of Education in Community Colleges During the COVID-19 Declared State of Emergency

Executive Order 2020-06 is issued pursuant to Resolution of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors No. 2020-01 and title 5, section 52020, of the California Code of Regulations, which confers on the Chancellor emergency powers to take all appropriate actions, including the issuance of executive orders, to allow for the continued education of community college students during the period of emergency proclaimed by the Governor of the State of California on March 4, 2020. This authority allows the temporary suspension of regulations adopted by the Board of Governors and the suspension of local rules and regulations that are a barrier to the continuity of educational services.

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 state of emergency declared by the Governor on March 4, 2020 continues;

WHEREAS California’s Franchise Tax Board has provided special tax relief for all California taxpayers by postponing until July 15 all tax filing and payment deadlines for individuals and business entities;

WHEREAS delays in the receipt of tax revenues have substantially disrupted the state budget process, and amendments to the 2020-21 State Budget may be enacted as late as September 2020;

WHEREAS, the tax revenue and state budget delays described above will prevent community college districts from acquiring the accurate revenue data they need to develop their own budgets;
WHEREAS, college district administrators and administrative processes are expected to shoulder substantial burdens in many areas during the COVID-19 emergency, including uncertainties related to the amount of state and local funding that will be available to them;

WHEREAS, college districts would benefit from, and the continuity of educational services would be served by, temporary extension of deadlines set forth in regulations requiring the adoption of budgets by community college districts and the timely submittal of audits and annual financial and budget reports to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office;

THEREFORE, as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, I declare the following:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.

2. Due to the existing state of emergency, strict adherence to the following sections of title 5 of the California Code of Regulations will create barriers to the continuity of educational services and are hereby temporarily modified as follows:

   a. Section 58300: The requirement that each district prepare and file an annual statement by September 15, 2020, is temporarily suspended until October 31, 2020.

   b. Section 58301: The requirement that the governing board of each district hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for the ensuing fiscal year by September 15, 2020, is temporarily suspended until October 31, 2020.

   c. Section 58305, subdivision (a): The requirement that each district adopt a tentative budget and forward a copy to the appropriate county officer by July 1, 2020, is temporarily suspended until August 1, 2020.
d. Section 58305, subdivision (c): The requirement that the governing board of each district adopt a final budget by September 15, 2020, is temporarily suspended until October 31, 2020.

e. Section 58305, subdivision (d): The requirement that each district complete preparation of its adopted annual financial and budget report by September 30, 2020, is temporarily suspended until November 15, 2020. The requirement that each district submit this report to the Chancellor by October 10, 2020, are temporarily suspended until November 30, 2020.

f. Section 59106: the requirement that each district submit an audit report to the Chancellor by December 31, 2020, is temporarily suspended until February 28, 2021.

3. Any local district board policies or regulations in conflict with the above regulatory suspension shall also be suspended for the duration of the COVID-19 state of emergency or the expiration of Section 52020, whichever is earlier.

4. This executive order shall remain in full force and effect as long as the declaration of the COVID-19 state of emergency is in place.

Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor  Dated:  May 13, 2020