California Community Colleges

Item 6.4

Equity for Every Student: 2021 State of the System Report
“The success of California's broader system of higher education and workforce development stands or falls with the California Community Colleges. To meet California's needs, six goals have been defined for the system to strive to achieve.”

- Vision for Success
Adopted September 2017
Vision Goals

1. Increase credential obtainment by 20%
2. Increase transfer by 35% to UC and CSU
3. Decrease average unit obtainment for a degree to 79
4. Increase employment for CE students to 76% in their field of study
5. Reduce and erase equity gaps
6. Reduce regional gaps

Commitments

1. Focus on students’ goals
2. Design with the students’ experience in mind
3. High expectations and high support
4. Foster use of data and evidence
5. Own student performance
6. Thoughtful innovation and action
7. Cross-system partnership
2017

- **Spring 2017**: Vision for Success input collection starts
- **July 2017**: BOG presented with the Vision for Success

2018

- **September 2017**: BOG approval of the Vision for Success Goals
- **June 2018**: Student Centered Funding Formula approved
- **January 2018**: Phase-in of AB 705 begins
- **July 2018**: Streamlined Transfer Agreement Reached with AICCU

**September 2018**: Begin Major Advocacy Push for Cal Grant reform
May 2019
Local boards of trustees adopted district goals that align with Vision for Success

Fall 2019
Full implementation of AB 705 required by law

September 2019
Board of Governors Approves Diversity Equity and Inclusion Strategy

March 2020
COVID 19 brings disruption and hardship for students, but ushers in a new era of flexibility, innovation and student empathy

May 2020
Major court victory forcing federal government to extend CARES Act assistance to undocumented students

June 2020
Pandemic era racial reckoning prompts system-wide Call to Action

November 2020
Board of Governors Approves Competency-based Education Regulations
Aligning Resources & Programs to Put Students First

Tools
- Policy Connections
- Fiscal Reform
- Program Alignment & Support

Guided Pathways
- Clarify Path
- Enter Path
- Stay on Path
- Ensure Learning

Goals
- Increase Certificates & Degrees
- Increase Transfer to CSU & UC
- Decrease Units to Complete
- Increase Employment in Field of Study
- Close Equity Gaps
- Close Regional Achievement Gaps

Our Students and Communities

Policy Connections
Examples include Equitable Placement (AB170), Associate Degrees for Transfer, California Promise, and regulatory reforms.

Fiscal Reform
Examples include Student Centered-Funding Formula, Guided Pathways allocations, and Student Equity and Achievement Program.

Program Alignment & Support
Examples include Strong Workforce Program, Student Success Metrics, Vision Resource Center, investment in faculty and staff, regional support, and local board goals.
Vision for Success Goal 1:
Increase the number of students earning credentials by at least 20%

Goal #1 attained in 2019-20.
Vision for Success Goal 2:
Increase the number of students who transfer to UC and CSU by 35% over five years

Student transfer to UC and CSU increased by ~10%.
ADT is one promising tool for transfer pathways, but equity gaps persist.
Vision for Success Goal 3:
Reduce average units accumulated by students who complete degrees to 79

Average units accumulated continue to decrease slightly.
Vision for Success Goal 4:
Increase the number of students who get jobs in their field of study to 76%

Modest progress towards this goal.
Vision for Success Goal 5:
Reduce equity gaps among underrepresented students by 40% over five years and eliminate in 10 years.

Gaps are closing slowly as all groups increase attainment.
Vision for Success Goal 6:

Reduce state regional gaps in achievement.

Regional achievement gaps are slowly closing.
System of Continuous Improvement

- Verify Results with Data
- Evidence-Based Planning
- Bring to Scale
- Implementation
Pandemic’s Toll: Financial Hardship

- 41% experienced changes in employment
- 22% laid off or furloughed
- 19% hours reduced

- 53% of students report their income has decreased
Housing and Food Insecurity

57% of students reported basic needs deficits in one or more area including housing insecurity, homeless and food insecurity. Students of color reported higher rates of basic needs insecurity.

- 71% Native American
- 65% African-American/Black
- 63% Latinx
- 61% Asian
- 47% White

- Food Insecurity: 40%
- Housing Insecurity: 37%
- Homelessness: 18%
Stepping Up for Students During COVID

• The Foundation for California Community Colleges quickly launched the “Campaign for Student Relief and Recovery” to provide students with immediate, emergency aid that would help them overcome the barriers standing in the way of their success.

• With contributions from generous donors, funders, and corporate partners, the campaign delivered almost $1 million in crucial emergency support, focusing efforts on students working toward certificates or degrees in health care, an essential component of the workforce needed to respond to the pandemic.

• Local district foundations did the same and coordinated with district leaders to make an impact.
I didn’t know how I would manage to pay for living expenses, classes or books or even if I could be successful in such a rigorous program. [Funds from the Campaign for Student Relief and Recovery] will go directly towards paying for my application to the Board of Registered Nursing. I had been holding off on applying because I just didn’t have the resources, but today I received this award, and it couldn’t have come at a more perfect time.

— Dalia G., Glendale Community College
Stepping Up for Students During COVID

30,000
Chromebooks

5,000
mobile hotspots delivered through CollegeBuys

800
community college nursing students connected to life-changing scholarships
Leading by Example: Our Far Reaching Impact

1. Federal stimulus funds available to undocumented and international students throughout the nation as a result of our legal challenges.

2. Leading national conversations on basic needs for students.

3. Shaping Cal Grant reform to be more equitable for community college students.

4. Leading state and national conversations on the integration of diversity, equity and inclusion and anti-racism within guided pathways.
Leading by Example: Our Far Reaching Impact

5. Governor’s Recovery with Equity higher education roadmap in strong alignment with Vision for Success.

6. Regional accreditor (ACCJC) now adopting standard for equity and social justice and aligning their standards to our goals.

7. Changes to student placement have had profound effects on higher education, spurring national changes in the recognition of student capacity and getting students fair credit for their skills, reducing the reliance nationwide on inaccurate standardized tests in community colleges and in admission, including at the University of California.

8. Shifting views on philanthropy in higher education, with $100 million pledge for California community colleges from Jay Pritzker Foundation.
The Work Ahead: Recovery with Equity

1. **Policy Change with Fidelity**: Full implementation of policy and fiscal tools that will advance equitable student outcomes and reduce regional gaps (e.g. equitable placement with fidelity, Competency Based Education as an equity tool and empowerment of equity-centered decisions via the Student Centered Funding Formula.)

2. **Sustainable implementation of the Call to Action**: Continued progress to address systemic racism through efforts focused on Diversity Equity and Inclusion, campus and classroom culture, curriculum review, and campus policing and training.

3. **Fierce advocacy**: Continued advocacy for federal and state resources, including for Cal Grant reform, more support for Basic Needs and increased Pell grants, as well as for adoption of new approaches to teaching and learning that will help students complete their education faster.
Economic Impact

• As part of fierce advocacy—working to create a website to show our impact—tell our system’s, colleges’ and students’ stories.
Thank you!

• Students for your grit and resiliency.
• Faculty and staff for your commitment, flexibility and empathy.
• Governor and Legislature for valuing this system’s unique role in helping our state recover with equity. And for supporting our students—who are this state’s future.
• Board of Governors for your steadfast support of the Chancellor’s Office response and support of local district and campus leaders.
• District Chancellors and Superintendent/Presidents for your leadership and dedication to your communities