



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5, REGARDING
MATHEMATICS, ENGINEERING, SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT (MESA) PROGRAM**

45-Day Notice published September 2, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors (Board) Procedures and Standing Orders, that the Board proposes to adopt the regulatory action described below after a public hearing, and consideration of all comments, objections, or recommendations received regarding the proposed regulatory action during the public comment period, which closes on October 17, 2026.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held during the next regularly scheduled Board of Governors meeting on September 15, 2026, from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

In-Person Participation

College of Marin, Kentfield Campus
Center for Student Success Building (CSS #200), 2nd Floor
835 College Avenue
Kentfield, CA 94904

All Board meetings are held in locations that are open to the public and wheelchair accessible. Other disability-related accommodations, such as alternate media materials, sign language interpreters, or real-time transcription, may be provided to persons with disabilities upon request. Persons requesting such accommodations should notify the Board Liaison at ccastro@cccco.edu, (916) 323-5889, no less than five business days prior to the meeting.

Public Comments at the Board Meeting

Members of the public seeking to comment on the proposed regulatory action at the Board meeting should refer to the Board's agenda for information on how public

comment on Board items will be received. The [Board's agendas](https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Board-of-Governors/Meeting-schedule-minutes-and-agendas) are available here: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Board-of-Governors/Meeting-schedule-minutes-and-agendas>.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action. To help ensure comments are understood as they are intended, we suggest that they clearly identify the proposed regulatory action that each comment addresses, with reference to specific section and subparagraph numbers where appropriate. Please arrange comments in the same order as in the proposed regulatory action. Comments should be addressed to:

Regulations Coordinator
California Community Colleges
Chancellor's Office
1102 Q Street, Suite 4550
Sacramento, CA 95811-6549
regcomments@cccco.edu

Comments must be received by the Regulations Coordinator prior to 4:00 p.m. on October 17, 2026. All written comments received by Chancellor's Office staff during the public comment period are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act.

CHANGES OR MODIFICATIONS TO PROPOSED TITLE 5 AMENDMENTS

Following the public hearing and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Board may adopt the proposed regulatory action substantially as described in this Notice or may modify the proposed regulatory action if the modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposed regulatory action will be subject to a second 15-day notice period prior to its adoption at a subsequent Board meeting.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

This is a first reading of proposed regulatory amendments to title 5, sections 56300 through 56304, related to the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program. The current regulations rely on grant agreements to establish program requirements. MESA funding has changed from a competitive grant process to apportionment, providing capacity for full-scale

implementation. The proposed regulations embed program requirements directly in title 5.

The MESA regulations were initially developed for a competitive grant program serving 34 community colleges. Subsequent state investments have expanded MESA to 115 California community colleges. The regulations must account for a non-competitive, apportionment-based program.

The proposed amendments update and clarify the existing regulations to reflect the current administration and operation of MESA. The amendments clarify program eligibility, operations, funding, reporting, and program administration requirements; recognize eligible California Community Colleges STEM baccalaureate degree programs while allowing colleges to determine locally whether to serve eligible students enrolled in those programs; and incorporate program requirements previously addressed through grant administration into title 5.

The amendments also reflect the Chancellor's statutory authority under Education Code section 88682(e) to reserve up to 3.5 percent of appropriated MESA funds for statewide coordination and administrative costs beginning in 2026-27.

The proposed regulatory text includes recommendations from the Community College Association of MESA Directors (CCAMD).

ESTIMATED COST OR SAVINGS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The estimated cost or savings attributable to the proposed regulatory action are anticipated to be as follows:

Mandate on local agencies or community college districts: *None*.

Cost or savings to state agencies: *None*.

Costs to local agencies or community college districts for which reimbursement would be required pursuant to part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of division 4 title 2 of the Government Code: *None*.

Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on community college districts: *None*.

Cost or savings in federal funding to state agencies: *None*.

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries concerning the content of these regulations may be directed to the Regulations Coordinator, at regcomments@cccco.edu.

TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS AND CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTS

Copies of the language of the proposed regulatory action, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained online at:

[Office of General Counsel - Pending Regulatory Action](#)

Those who receive the Board of Governors Agenda package for the September 15, 2026 meeting can find a further description of the proposal and the full text of the regulatory action. You may also request a copy of the proposal from the Regulations Coordinator using the contact information provided above.