

State and Federal Policy Update

This document is prepared by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office as part of its regular monthly and bimonthly updates for the Consultation Council and the Board of Governors, respectively. The information presented herein is current as of April 4, 2025, at the time of items were due. The latest information will be provided to Consultation Council at the time of the presentation.

STATE LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

As of this writing, the Chancellor's Office is tracking 101 Tier 1 Assembly Bills (AB) and Senate Bills (SB). These bills are most likely to have a direct impact on the California Community Colleges, students, faculty, staff, operations, programs, and services. A full Legislative Matrix with bill descriptions and bill status can be found by visiting the [State Relations page on the Chancellor's Office website](http://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Governmental-Relations/policy-and-advocacy/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation) (www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Governmental-Relations/policy-and-advocacy/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation). You can also find text for each bill on [LegInfo](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/) (<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>).

Board of Governors Sponsored Legislation

1. AB 363 (Bryan) Community colleges: CalWORKs Recipients Education Program: eligibility and services. Scheduled for Assembly Higher Education Committee on March 18, 2025.
2. SB 308 (Seyarto) Community colleges and the California State University: reports: elimination.
3. SB 391 (Laird) Community colleges: Chancellor of the California Community Colleges: data request fee policy.

Academic Pathways, Instruction, and Transfer

4. AB 9 (Quirk-Silva) University of California: California State University: transfer students.
5. AB 662 (Alvarez) Postsecondary education: intersegmental institution of higher education in the City of the Chula Vista: shared governance structure: joint powers authority: evaluation.
6. AB 664 (Alvarez) Community colleges: baccalaureate degree program: Southwestern Community College District.
7. AB 731 (Fong) Pupil instruction: dual enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.
8. AB 934 (Berman) Community colleges: degrees and certificates: education plans.
9. AB 988 (Fong) Pupil instruction: dual enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships: task force.

- 10.**AB 1093 (Solache) Public postsecondary education: California-Mexico Higher Education Development and Academic Exchange Program.
- 11.**AB 1122 (Bryan) Pupil instruction: dual enrollment.
- 12.**AB 1400 (Soria) Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program.
- 13.**AB 1462 (Hart) Public postsecondary education: community colleges: baccalaureate degree program: Allan Hancock College.
- 14.**SB 423 (Smallwood-Cuevas) Inmate labor: Enhancing Workforce Development for Incarcerated Firefighters Act.
- 15.**SB 438 (Cabaldon) School attendance: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.
- 16.**SB 640 (Cabaldon) Public postsecondary education: admission, transfer, and enrollment.
- 17.**SB 744 (Cabaldon) Community colleges: credit for students with prior learning.

Affordability, Financial Aid, and Tuition/Fees

- 18.**AB 88 (Ta) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: eligibility: dependents of members of the armed services stationed outside of California.
- 19.**AB 264 (Carrillo) Veterans: benefits.
- 20.**AB 313 (Ortega) Student financial aid: application deadlines: extension.
- 21.**AB 320 (Bennett) Public social services: eligibility: income exclusions.
- 22.**AB 402 (Patel) Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program and the California Community College Expanded Entitlement Program.
- 23.**AB 537 (Ahrens) Community colleges: California College Promise.
- 24.**AB 556 (Patterson) Public postsecondary education: waiver of campus-based fees: veterans.
- 25.**AB 700 (Caloza) Student loans: public service educational loan forgiveness program.
- 26.**AB 791 (Berman) Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program: cost of attendance.
- 27.**AB 850 (Pacheco) Institutional Debt Transparency Act.
- 28.**AB 1035 (M. Gonzalez) Community colleges: California College Promise: fee waiver eligibility.
- 29.**Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 40 Student financial aid: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data.
- 30.**SB 67 (Seyarto) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: eligibility: dependents of members of the armed services stationed outside of California.
- 31.**SB 305 (Reyes) Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012: Free Application for Federal Student Aid and California Dream Act application.

- 32.** SB 323 (Pérez) Student Aid Commission: California Dream Act application.
- 33.** SB 416 (Pérez) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: qualifying institutions: financial aid offer letter template.
- 34.** SB 837 (Reyes) Student financial aid: online technology platforms: guidance: training: media campaign.

Apportionments and Attendance Accounting

- 35.** SB 790 (Cabaldon) Postsecondary education: postsecondary education coordinating entity: interstate reciprocity agreements for distance education: out-of-state private postsecondary educational institutions.

Basic Needs

- 36.** AB 42 (Bryan) CalWORKs: CalFresh: eligibility: income and resource exclusions.
- 37.** AB 79 (Arambula) Public social services: higher education.
- 38.** AB 90 (Jackson) Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking.
- 39.** AB 593 (Wicks) CalFresh: data sharing.
- 40.** AB 861 (Solache) Community colleges: students: public transportation: Los Angeles Community College District.
- 41.** SB 271 (Reyes) Public postsecondary education: students with dependent children: childcare services, resources, and programs.

District Meetings, Organization, and Elections

- 42.** AB 240 (Alanis) Community colleges: study: Counties of Amador, Alpine, Mariposa, Modoc, and Sierra.
- 43.** AB 287 (Lackey) Elections: polling places and vote centers.
- 44.** AB 409 (Arambula) Open meetings: teleconferences: community college student body associations and student-run organizations.
- 45.** AB 541 (DeMaio) California Public Records Act Ombudsperson.
- 46.** AB 1060 (Ávila Farías) Local government: legal fee disclosures.
- 47.** AB 1433 (Sharp-Collins) Education finance: funding: noncredit instruction.
- 48.** SB 226 (Cabaldon) Community colleges: territory transfers between districts.

Facilities

- 49.** AB 48 (Alvarez) College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026.
- 50.** AB 648 (Zbur) Community colleges housing: Local zoning regulations: exemption.
- 51.** AB 893 (Fong) Housing development projects: objective standards: campus development zone.
- 52.** AB 905 (Pacheco) State general obligation bonds: disclosure requirements.
- 53.** AB 1470 (Haney) California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022.

- 54.** SB 486 (Cabaldon) Regional housing: public postsecondary education: changes in enrollment levels: California Environmental Quality Act.

Labor and Employment

- 55.** AB 65 (Aguiar-Curry) School and community college employees: paid disability and parental leave.
- 56.** AB 339 (Ortega) Local public employee organizations: notice requirements.
- 57.** AB 340 (Ahrens) Employer-employee relations: confidential communications.
- 58.** AB 374 (Nguyen) K–14 classified employees: payment of wages: itemized statements.
- 59.** AB 569 (Stefani) California Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2013: exceptions: supplemental defined benefit plans.
- 60.** AB 1028 (Fong) Community colleges: part-time faculty.
- 61.** AB 1163 (Elhawary) Employees: workplace violence prevention plans: topics and trainings.
- 62.** AB 1171 (Patel) Community colleges: part-time faculty: benefits.
- 63.** AB 1247 (Garcia) Classified employees: school districts and community college districts: contracting out: training requirements.
- 64.** SB 241 (Cervantes) Community colleges: personnel: qualifications.
- 65.** SB 494 (Cortese) Classified school and community college employees: disciplinary hearings: appeals: contracted administrative law judges.

Law Enforcement

- 66.** AB 992 (Irwin) Peace officers.
- 67.** SB 385 (Seyarto) Peace officers.

Local Administrative Policies and Procedures

- 68.** AB 466 (Solache) Public postsecondary education: student orientation: Donate Life California.

Omnibus Higher Education

- 69.** SB 619 (Education) Public postsecondary education.

State Operations

- 70.** AB 810 (Irwin) Local government: internet websites and email addresses.
- 71.** AB 883 (Lowenthal) California Public Records Act: personal information of elected and appointed officials.
- 72.** AB 1315 (Essayli) California American Freedmen Affairs Agency.
- 73.** SB 401 (Hurtado) Political Reform Act of 1974: state employees: financial interests.

Student Equity

- 74.**AB 243 (Ahrens) Postsecondary education: student financial aid dependency status: juvenile case file inspection.
- 75.**AB 335 (Gipson) The Designation of California Black-Serving Institutions Grant Program.
- 76.**AB 727 (M. Gonzalez) Pupil and student safety: statewide resources: identification cards.
- 77.**AB 1098 (Fong) Postsecondary education: undergraduate and graduate students: pregnancy or pregnancy-related issues.
- 78.**Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 7 Government preferences.

Student Safety and Protection

- 79.**AB 602 (Haney) Public postsecondary education: student conduct: controlled substances.
- 80.**SB 289 (Cervantes) Postsecondary education: statewide Title IX oversight office.

Undocumented Students

- 81.**AB 85 (Essayli) Law enforcement: cooperation with immigration authorities.
- 82.**AB 324 (Sanchez) California Values Act: exception.
- 83.**AB 421 (Solache) Immigration enforcement: prohibitions on access, sharing information, and law enforcement collaboration.
- 84.**AB 495 (C. Rodriguez) Family Preparedness Plan Act of 2025.
- 85.**AB 695 (Fong) California Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students Act.
- 86.**AB 713 (Solache) Public postsecondary education: student employment.
- 87.**AB 1066 (Castillo) Immigration services: grants.
- 88.**SB 98 (Perez) Elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education: immigration enforcement: notification.
- 89.**SB 554 (Jones) Law enforcement: immigration enforcement.
- 90.**SB 670 (Cervantes) Adult Education Program: immigrant integration.

Workforce and Career Education

- 91.**AB 95 (Fong) Postsecondary education: Coordinating Commission for Education in California.
- 92.**AB 323 (Fong) Strong Workforce Program: work-based learning opportunities.
- 93.**AB 338 (Solache) Workforce development: the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura: 2025 wildfires.
- 94.**AB 345 (Jackson) Apprenticeship programs: approval process.

- 95.** AB 694 (McKinnor) Department of Industrial Relations: advisory committee: occupational safety and health.
- 96.** AB 805 (Fong) Career Apprenticeship Bridge Program.
- 97.** AB 1136 (Ortega) California Workforce Development Board: high road training partnerships.
- 98.** AB 1207 (Irwin) Climate change: market-based compliance mechanism.
- 99.** SB 275 (Hurtado) Eligible training provider list.
- 100.** SB 345 (Hurtado) California Fire Service Training and Education Program: California Fire and Arson Training Act: fees.
- 101.** SB 845 (Pérez) Pupil instruction: career technical education, career education, and apprenticeships.

CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE

Budget Update

On April 5, the Senate adopted a reconciliation package with tax cuts, border security and defense funding. The legislation provides for \$5.2 trillion in tax cuts, including a \$1.5 trillion cost ceiling on new provisions not enacted in 2017. It states a preference for a minimum of \$2 trillion in spending reductions over 10 years but allows for flexibility.

The Senate passed the reconciliation bill on a vote of 51-48. The Senate reconciliation bill is now headed the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration.

ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

Negotiated Rulemaking on Title IV Higher Education Act Programs

On April 3, 2025, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education announced its intent to form one or more negotiated rulemaking committees to develop proposed regulations for programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act (HEA). Key topics under consideration include revisions to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, Pay As You Earn (PAYE), Income Contingent Repayment (ICR), and additional measures aimed at streamlining existing federal student financial assistance programs. Stakeholders are invited to submit public comments, with the deadline anticipated to be May 3, 2025. More information can be found [here](https://www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-educations-office-of-postsecondary-education-announces-negotiated-rulemaking) (https://www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-educations-office-of-postsecondary-education-announces-negotiated-rulemaking).

Office of Civil Rights Compliance Letter to K12

On April 3, 2025, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) has issued letters to State Education Agencies (SEAs) following a February 14th Dear Colleague letter, requiring K-12 institutions to certify their compliance with federal antidiscrimination obligations as a condition for continuing to receive federal financial assistance. The policy mandates adherence to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and incorporates legal responsibilities

stemming from the *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard* decision. It asserts that diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in K-12 schools are in clear violation of Title VI. SEAs are tasked with collecting compliance certifications from Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and must sign and return the required documentation within 10 days. This directive may signal forthcoming OCR guidance extending similar requirements to institutions of higher education.

On March 20, 2025, President Trump signed an [executive order](https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/improving-education-outcomes-by-empowering-parents-states-and-communities/) (https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/improving-education-outcomes-by-empowering-parents-states-and-communities/) titled “Improving Education Outcomes by Empowering Parents, States, and Communities” aimed at dismantling the Department of Education. This executive order calls for the phased closure of the U.S. Department of Education, stating that authority over education would be returned to states and local communities, while services and benefits would continue uninterrupted during the transition. The order also directs that federal education funds comply with laws prohibiting programs that promote DEI and gender ideology.

On March 21, 2025, President Trump indicated that he plans to move federal student loans to the Small Business Administration (SBA). Senate HELP Chair Bill Cassidy has indicated that he will introduce legislation to support President Donald Trump’s goal of closing the Education Department.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Termination of the U.S. Department of Education

On **January 31, 2025**, Rep. Thomas Massie (R, KY-4) introduced H.R. 899 to terminate the Department of Education on December 31, 2026. No additional details are available at this time.

ADVOCATES

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