

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 25, 2025, at the time of items were due. The latest information will be provided at the time of the presentation.

STATE LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

As of this writing, the Chancellor's Office is tracking 83 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.
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 662 (Alvarez) Postsecondary education: intersegmental institution of higher education in the City of Chula Vista: South County Higher Education Planning Task Force.
5. AB 731 (Fong) Pupil instruction: dual enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.
6. AB 934 (Berman) Community colleges: degrees and certificates: education plans.
7. AB 988 (Fong) Pupil instruction: dual enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships: task force. **SUPPORT**
8. AB 1093 (Solache) Public postsecondary education: California-Mexico Higher Education Development and Academic Exchange Program.
9. AB 1255 (Education) Pupil instruction: dual enrollment programs: regional occupational centers or programs: migrant education: migrant regions.
10. AB 1400 (Soria) Community colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program.

- 11.** SB 423 (Smallwood-Cuevas) Inmate labor: Enhancing Workforce Development for Incarcerated Firefighters Act.
- 12.** SB 438 (Cabaldon) School attendance: College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.
- 13.** SB 640 (Cabaldon) Public postsecondary education: admission, transfer, and enrollment.
- 14.** SB 744 (Cabaldon) Community colleges: credit for students with prior learning.

Affordability, Financial Aid, and Tuition/Fees

- 15.** AB 88 (Ta) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: eligibility: dependents of members of the armed services stationed outside of California.
- 16.** AB 264 (Carrillo) Veterans: benefits.
- 17.** AB 313 (Ortega) Student financial aid: application deadlines: extension. **SUPPORT**
- 18.** AB 402 (Patel) Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program and the California Community College Expanded Entitlement Program.
- 19.** AB 537 (Ahrens) Community colleges: California College Promise. **SUPPORT**
- 20.** AB 556 (Patterson) Public postsecondary education: waiver of campus-based fees: veterans.
- 21.** AB 791 (Berman) Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program: cost of attendance.
- 22.** AB 850 (Pacheco) Institutional Debt Transparency Act.
- 23.** AB 1035 (M. Gonzalez) Community colleges: California College Promise: fee waiver eligibility. **SUPPORT**
- 24.** Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 40 Student financial aid: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) data. **SUPPORT**
- 25.** SB 67 (Seyarto) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: Middle Class Scholarship Program: eligibility: dependents of members of the armed services stationed outside of California.
- 26.** SB 305 (Reyes) Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012: Free Application for Federal Student Aid and California Dream Act application.
- 27.** SB 323 (Pérez) Student Aid Commission: California Dream Act application.
- 28.** SB 416 (Pérez) Student financial aid: Cal Grants: qualifying institutions: financial aid offer letter template. **SUPPORT**

Apportionments and Attendance Accounting

- 29.** AB 268 (Kalra) State holidays: Diwali.
- 30.** AB 395 (Gabriel) Holidays.

- 31.**AB 1346 (DeMaio) Public postsecondary education: residency: dependents of members of the Armed Forces: reenrollments.
- 32.**SB 790 (Cabaldon) Postsecondary education: postsecondary education coordinating entity: interstate reciprocity agreements for distance education: out-of-state private postsecondary educational institutions.

Basic Needs

- 33.**AB 42 (Bryan) CalWORKs: CalFresh: eligibility: income and resource exclusions.
- 34.**AB 79 (Arambula) Public social services: higher education.
- 35.**AB 90 (Jackson) Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking.
- 36.**AB 593 (Wicks) CalFresh: data sharing. **SUPPORT**
- 37.**SB 271 (Reyes) Public postsecondary education: students with dependent children: childcare services, resources, and programs. **SUPPORT**
- 38.**SB 761 (Ashby) CalFresh: student eligibility.

District Meetings, Organization, and Elections

- 39.**AB 240 (Alanis) Community colleges: study: Counties of Amador, Alpine, Mariposa, Modoc, and Sierra.
- 40.**AB 287 (Lackey) Elections: polling places and vote centers.
- 41.**AB 409 (Arambula) Open meetings: teleconferences: community college student body associations and student-run organizations.
- 42.**AB 1433 (Sharp-Collins) Education finance: funding: noncredit instruction.
- 43.**SB 226 (Cabaldon) Community colleges: territory transfers between districts.

Facilities

- 44.**AB 48 (Alvarez) College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2026. **SUPPORT**
- 45.**AB 648 (Zbur) Community colleges housing: Local zoning regulations: exemption. **SUPPORT**
- 46.**AB 893 (Fong) Housing development projects: objective standards: campus development zone.
- 47.**AB 942 (Calderon) Net energy metering: eligible customer-generators: tariffs.
- 48.**AB 1470 (Haney) California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2022.
- 49.**SB 486 (Cabaldon) Regional housing: public postsecondary education: changes in enrollment levels: California Environmental Quality Act.

Labor and Employment

- 50.**AB 65 (Aguiar-Curry) School and community college employees: paid disability and parental leave.
- 51.**AB 340 (Ahrens) Employer-employee relations: confidential communications.

- 52.**AB 374 (Nguyen) K–14 classified employees: payment of wages: itemized statements.
- 53.**AB 569 (Stefani) California Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act of 2013: exceptions: supplemental defined benefit plans.
- 54.**AB 1028 (Fong) Community colleges: part-time faculty.
- 55.**AB 1163 (Elhawary) Employees: workplace violence prevention plans: topics and trainings.
- 56.**AB 1247 (Garcia) Classified employees: school districts and community college districts: contracting out: training requirements.
- 57.**SB 241 (Cervantes) Community colleges: personnel: qualifications. **SUPPORT**
- 58.**SB 494 (Cortese) Classified school and community college employees: disciplinary hearings: appeals: contracted administrative law judges.

Law Enforcement

- 59.**AB 992 (Irwin) Peace officers.
- 60.**SB 385 (Seyarto) Peace officers.

Local Administrative Policies and Procedures

- 61.**AB 466 (Solache) Public postsecondary education: student orientation: Donate Life California.
- 62.**AB 810 (Irwin) Local government: internet websites and email addresses.

Omnibus Higher Education

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

Student Equity

- 64.**AB 243 (Ahrens) Postsecondary education: student financial aid dependency status: juvenile case file inspection.
- 65.**AB 335 (Gipson) The Designation of California Black-Serving Institutions Grant Program. **SUPPORT**
- 66.**AB 727 (M. Gonzalez) Pupil and student safety: statewide resources: identification cards.
- 67.**Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 7 Government preferences.

Student Safety and Protection

- 68.**AB 602 (Haney) Public postsecondary education: student conduct: controlled substances.
- 69.**AB 1098 (Fong) Postsecondary education: undergraduate and graduate students: pregnancy or pregnancy-related issues.

Undocumented Students

- 70.** AB 695 (Fong) California Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students Act.
- 71.** SB 98 (Perez) Elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education: immigration enforcement: notification. **SUPPORT**
- 72.** SB 670 (Cervantes) Adult Education Program: immigrant integration.

Workforce and Career Education

- 73.** AB 95 (Fong) California Education Interagency Council.
- 74.** AB 323 (Fong) Strong Workforce Program: work-based learning opportunities. **SUPPORT**
- 75.** AB 338 (Solache) Workforce development: the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura: 2025 wildfires. **SUPPORT**
- 76.** AB 345 (Jackson) Apprenticeship programs: approval process.
- 77.** AB 694 (McKinnor) Department of Industrial Relations: advisory committee: occupational safety and health.
- 78.** AB 1082 (Flora) Nursing: students in out-of-state nursing programs.
- 79.** AB 1136 (Ortega) California Workforce Development Board: high road training partnerships.
- 80.** AB 1207 (Irwin) Climate change: market-based compliance mechanism: price ceiling.
- 81.** SB 275 (Hurtado) Eligible training provider list.
- 82.** SB 345 (Hurtado) California Fire Service Training and Education Program: California Fire and Arson Training Act: fees.
- 83.** SB 638 (Padilla) California Education and Workforce Development Coordinating Entity: Career Technical Education and Career Pathways Grant Program.
- 84.** SB 845 (Pérez) Pupil instruction: career technical education, career education, and apprenticeships.

CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE

Budget Update

On May 2, 2025, President Donald Trump sent an outline of his proposed budget, commonly known as the “skinny budget,” for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 to Congress for their consideration. As is expected during the first year of a new administration, the simplified budget submission provides a summary of what the President would like to see in terms of government spending for the next fiscal year, which begins on October 1, 2025.

The cuts proposed in President Trump’s budget submission represent an overall 22.6% reduction in projected spending from FY 2025 enacted levels. (Note that the skinny budget

proposal does not address “entitlement” spending, most notably for Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.)

Brief skinny budget highlights: cuts proposed for domestic, non-defense spending

The President is proposing a total of \$163 billion in cuts to non-defense spending, most notably:

- Education funding would be cut by 15%.
- The National Science Foundation’s budget would be cut by more than 50%.
- The Environmental Protection Agency’s budget would be cut by more than 50%.

The following programs are proposed for termination:

- The National Endowment for the Arts
- The National Endowment for the Humanities
- The Corporation for Public Broadcasting
- AmeriCorps

Defense and border security are proposed for significant increases, including:

- A 13% increase for defense spending.
- A 65% increase for the Department of Homeland Security for border security efforts.

Next Steps

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees will be holding hearings on the administration’s budget proposals in the weeks ahead. The administration’s full budget, including all spending and revenue projections, will follow in the coming months.

Congress has completed its work on FY 2025. A final continuing resolution was passed in March to fund the government through the end of the fiscal year. However, as of early May 2025, Congress is currently working on the annual appropriations for FY 2026, which determines discretionary spending from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026.

On April 29, 2025, the House Education and Workforce Committee held a markup session for budget reconciliation legislation, as directed by the recently passed budget resolution House Concurrent Resolution 14 (H.Con.Res. 14). This resolution outlines the federal budget for fiscal year 2025 and sets budgetary levels through 2034. The Committee was tasked with developing legislation that achieves **at least \$330 billion** in savings (cuts) over the next decade.

The proposed bill covers a range of higher education issues, including student eligibility, loan limits, repayment terms, Pell Grants, accountability measures, regulatory relief, and restrictions on federal authority. A section-by-section summary of the bill is available on the [Committee on Education and Workforce website](#)

3(https://edworkforce.house.gov/uploadedfiles/4.29_reconciliation_bill_summary_final.pdf).

Among other things, this proposal would limit Pell Grant eligibility for hundreds of thousands of community college students, by increasing the number of units students must take to receive federal financial aid. This legislation was approved by the Committee with a 21-14 vote and will be combined with proposals from other committees into a broader reconciliation package for consideration on the House floor.

ADMINISTRATION

Department of Education

On April 29, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education held its first public hearing for the 2025 negotiated rulemaking on various programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 - SAVE, Income-Contingent Repayment, and PSLF, or other topics that would streamline current federal student financial assistance programs. The U.S. Department of Education published the [press release](https://www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-education-office-of-postsecondary-education-announces-negotiated-rulemaking) (www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-education-office-of-postsecondary-education-announces-negotiated-rulemaking). The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was officially published and the Department has announced an extension of the comment deadline from May 5 to May 8. Another notice will be published providing more detail on negotiated rulemaking dates and nominations. The dates and locations of negotiated rulemaking meetings will be published in a subsequent Federal Register document and posted online at: [Negotiated Rulemaking for Higher Education 2025-2026 | U.S. Department of Education](https://www.ed.gov/laws-and-policy/higher-education-laws-and-policy/higher-education-policy/negotiated-rulemaking-for-higher-education-2025-2026) (<https://www.ed.gov/laws-and-policy/higher-education-laws-and-policy/higher-education-policy/negotiated-rulemaking-for-higher-education-2025-2026>).

Executive Orders and Memorandums

April 28, President Trump issued an executive order titled *Protecting American Communities from Criminal Aliens*, directing the Department of Homeland Security to publish a list of "sanctuary" jurisdictions that do not cooperate with federal immigration authorities. The order requires those jurisdictions to comply with immigration orders, or risk losing federal funding. The executive order can be found here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/protecting-american-communities-from-criminal-aliens/>. We are monitoring the order and any pertinent discussions and actions.

April 9, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum, *Directing the Repeal of Unlawful Regulations*, ordering the evaluation of existing regulations under *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*, *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*, and *Carson v. Makin*, among a list of ten recent Supreme Court decisions. It states, "in effectuating repeals of facially unlawful regulations, agency heads shall finalize rules without notice and comment, where doing so is consistent with the 'good cause' exception in the Administrative Procedure Act." Also, agency heads must "submit to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs a one-page summary of each regulation that ... has not

been targeted for repeal, explaining the basis for the decision not to repeal that regulation.” The Memorandum can be found on the [Whitehouse webpage](https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/directing-the-repeal-of-unlawful-regulations/) (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/directing-the-repeal-of-unlawful-regulations/>).

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Antisemitism Awareness Act (S. 558) and Protecting Students on Campus Act (S. 163)

On April 30, the Senate HELP Committee considered S. 558, *Antisemitism Awareness Act*, providing for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes, and S. 163, *Protecting Students on Campus Act*, requiring institutions of higher education participating in Federal student aid programs to share information about title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including a link to the webpage of the Office for Civil Rights where an individual can submit a complaint regarding discrimination in violation of such title, and for other purposes. Votes on both bills were postponed.

ADVOCATES

If you have not already subscribed to the Government Relations listserv, where information is routinely distributed, you are welcome to join. To subscribe, send an e-mail to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.CCCNEXT.NET and put SUBSCRIBE ADVOCATES in the body of a BLANK, NON-HTML e-mail. NO SUBJECT OR SIGNATURES.