



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5, REGARDING  
ACADEMIC RENEWAL**

**45-Day Notice published February 25, 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 April 11, 2026.

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing will be held during the next regularly scheduled Board of Governors meeting on March 24, 2026.

**In-Person Participation**

California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office Building  
Sixth Floor, Board of Governors Chambers  
1102 Q Street  
Sacramento, CA 95811

Parking options can be found on our website.

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](mailto: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](mailto:regcomments@cccco.edu)

Comments must be received by the Regulations Coordinator prior to 4:00 p.m. on April 11, 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 the first reading of the proposed regulatory changes to amend title 5, California Code of Regulations, section 55046, relating to Academic Renewal Without Course Repetition, and related changes to section 55000. The revisions

seek to standardize academic renewal eligibility across the California Community College system and promote equitable access to academic renewal for students with differing levels of enrollment.

Academic renewal is a mechanism to disregard or alleviate recorded substandard academic work in the calculation of a student's grade point average when that coursework is no longer reflective of the student's current or demonstrated academic ability. Substandard academic work is defined as courses in which a student received a grade of D, F, FW, NP, or NC. Academic renewal serves to recognize student academic growth and mitigate the disproportionate impact of early or isolated academic challenges, supporting a student's re-engagement and persistence.

Currently, section 55046 permits community college districts broad discretion in determining the eligibility criteria for academic renewal. Though unintended, this flexibility has resulted in significant variation in district and college academic renewal standards throughout the state. As a result, students may encounter widely different eligibility thresholds and outcomes depending on the institution they attend, raising concerns regarding equity and access. To address these inequities and provide students, especially part-time students and those who must take courses at different institutions, a level of uniformity that will facilitate their ability to learn about and benefit from academic renewal, the proposed amendments establish a uniform and equitable policy for granting academic renewal while preserving local discretion for operational implementation. These amendments are adopted pursuant to the Board of Governors authority under Education Code section 70901(b)(1)(A) to establish "minimum standards to govern student academic standards relating to graduation requirements and probation, dismissal, and readmission policies."

The key proposed revisions are summarized as follows:

- Establish a minimum threshold of six semester units (or equivalents) with a 2.0 cumulative GPA or "Pass" to be completed after completion of the course to be disregarded.
- Permit students to request academic renewal multiple times with no unit cap.

- Limit eligibility for academic renewal to only substandard academic work, as defined, and specify that non-evaluative grading symbols are ineligible.
- Clarify that coursework used for degree or certificate conferral are not eligible for academic renewal except for “D” grades, provided the process does not invalidate or alter the degree or certificate.
- Ensure academic renewal procedures are clearly published and accessible through the college catalog and website.

## **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](mailto: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 March 24, 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.