



**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5, REGARDING
ACADEMIC PROGRESS NOTICE AND PAUSE & ACADEMIC RENEWAL**

45-Day Notice published September 2, 2025

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, 2025.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held during the next regularly scheduled Board of Governors meeting on September 16, 2025.

In-Person Participation

Board of Governors Meeting location for September 16, 2025
North Orange Continuing Education
1830 W. Romneya Drive
Anaheim, CA 92801

Zoom Participation

[Join Zoom Meeting - Board of Governors](#)

(cccconfer.zoom.us/j/381430034?pwd=TjF4TTJVSE03OUxvdHFrUDhOWnpDZz09)

By Phone: (669) 900 6833

Meeting ID: 381 430 034

Passcode: 234632

All Board of Governors (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, 2025. 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 of Governors 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 first reading of this proposed regulatory action recommends amendments to Title 5, California Code of Regulations, sections 55031–55034 and 55046, that would change existing naming conventions for academic probation and dismissal and revise and standardize academic renewal standards within the California community college system. These revisions aim to normalize academic challenges as part of the learning process and reclassify the usage of academic standing from a deficit factor to an opportunity for improvement, learning, and ultimately program success across the system. These revisions would also make non-substantive amendments by updating the references to “probation” and “dismissal” in other regulatory sections accordingly. Specifically, the other sections to be amended in this non-substantive manner are sections 51018, 55022, 55024, 55510, 55521, 55523, 55525, 56404, 58106, 58108, 58621, and 58732.

Systemwide Change in Naming Conventions for Academic Standing

Currently, Title 5, sections 55031-55034 use naming conventions to classify students under academic probation, academic progress, continued program, and disqualification which often carry punitive or stigmatizing connotations. Terms like “probation” and “disqualification” can evoke associations with criminal justice or failure, leading students to feel ashamed, discouraged, or even fearful of continuing their education. This negative impact on student perception may result in increased attrition, as some students choose to drop out rather than seek support or re-engage with their academic journey.

To foster a more supportive and student-centered environment, several colleges within the California community college system have already adopted more compassionate and growth-oriented terminology. These changes have been informed by direct student input. Students who served on related task forces expressed strong support for renaming these academic statuses to better reflect encouragement, opportunity for improvement, and holistic support rather than punishment.

Academic Renewal

Currently, Title 5, Section 55046 grants districts a certain margin of freedom to craft their academic renewal policies. Though unintended, this has created an

inequity between colleges where, for the same circumstances, one college might grant academic renewal while another may not. The proposed amendments to this regulation will benefit community college students by ensuring a more standard and equitable application of academic renewal. Colleges are will also benefit, as standardization may inhibit "college shopping" by students seeking a second chance to succeed at colleges with alternative standards. The proposed amendments are intended to create a common expectation for students across the system.

Stakeholder Engagement

The Chancellor's Office recognizes the desire for a systemwide adoption of new, consistent naming conventions for academic standing that align with best practices and student feedback and acknowledges that this may trigger multiple changes throughout the system. For that reason, these revisions have been subjected to an inclusive process of advice and consent through a series of task force meetings. Stakeholder engagement was broad and representative and incorporated feedback and recommendations from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC), California Association of Community College Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACCRAO), California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association (CCCSFAAA), Chief Instructional Officers (CIOs), Chief Student Services Officers (CSSOs), Association of Chief Business Officials (ACBOs), the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC).

In the spirit of intersegmental consultation, feedback was also sought from the California State University (CSU) Office of the Chancellor, and the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) regarding potential transfer interactions with the other segments of California higher education. Discussions with the UCOP and the CSU Office of the Chancellor indicated that the proposed regulation and nomenclature changes do not pose any significant risk to the transfer process and are in alignment with recent efforts in their systems for similar nomenclature modifications.

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 16, 2025, 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.