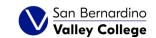
Board Retreat Briefing:Legislative Update

SBCCD Government Relations, Strategic Communications & Grants Department

June 24, 2025







Advancing Our Board-Approved Strategic Priorities

GOAL 1

Eliminate barriers to student access and success.

GOAL 2

Be a diverse, equitable, inclusive, and anti-racist institution.

GOAL 3

Be a leader and partner in addressing regional issues.

GOAL 4

Ensure fiscal accountability & sustainability.

Board-Approved 2025 Legislative & Budget Priorities:

- College Affordability
- Workforce Development
- Community Prosperity



What's Happening in Washington, D.C.?







Federal Budget Cuts Threaten Key Student Supports

What's at Risk	What Could Change	What This Means for SBCCD
Pell Grants	 Reduces the maximum Pell Grant by 23%, from the current level of \$7,395 down to \$5,710. No Pell Grants for students enrolled below half-time (fewer than 6 credits) 	 Support Senate proposal: No eligibility cuts, +\$10B to Pell In 2024-25, SBCCD awarded \$23M to 5,231 students. Cuts would reduce this drastically.
Federal Work Study	× Reduce funding by 80%	 SBCCD students earned \$515K in 2024-25 through Work Study. This helps them stay in school and gain job experience.
TRIO, GEAR Up, SEOG	Eliminate Dept. of Education student support grants.	 In 2024-25, SBCCD delivered \$406K in support to first-gen and low-income students
WIOA, Apprenticeship Program, Reentry Employment Opportunities	Eliminate Dept. of Labor programs and replace them with "Make America Skilled Again"	SBCCD partners with WIOA-funded organizations to provide upskilling programs to underserved youth/adults
Economic Development Administration	Cut Dept. of Commerce budget for EDA by 57%	Cuts to EDA = Jeopardizes grants to modernize workforce infrastructure
Corporation for Public Broadcasting	Cut \$1.1 billion to local television and radio stations for the next two fiscal years.	 KVCR could lose \$1M over two years, threatening local educational programming.

Promising Developments

What's Moving Forward

Bipartisan Workforce Pell (NEW)

- ✓ Would expand Pell Grant eligibility to short-term career programs (8–15 weeks, 150–599 hours)
- Covers fast-track job training in fields like welding, HVAC, public safety, and more

HSI & MSI Grants Protected

- No cuts proposed to Hispanic-Serving or Minority-Serving Institution programs
- SBCCD continues to compete for these federal grants to support our students

What This Means for SBCCD

- ✓ SBCCD's short-term training could become more affordable for working adults, reentry learners, and students advancing their careers.
- ✓ Could increase enrollment in high-demand job programs that align with local labor needs
- Our designation as an HSI still positions us to bring in federal resources

SBCCD Advocacy in Action



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May 12, 2025

The Honorable Jay Obernolte U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

RE: Concerns About Pell Grant Changes and Risk-Sharing in Budget Reconciliation Legislation

Dear Representatives Obernolte:

On behalf of the San Bernardino Community College District (SBCCD), I want to thank you for your leadership in relaunching the California Public Higher Education Caucus and for your ongoing commitment to expanding access to high-quality, affordable education. As you've rightly stated, "California's higher education system is a critical driver of economic growth, workforce development, and innovation."

As you know, your district is home to Crafton Hills College in the City of Yucaipa, which—together with San Bernardino Valley College—serves approximately 30,000 Inland Empire students each year. Many of your constituents in Yucaipa and the surrounding communities rely on Crafton Hills College to earn degrees and credentials that lead to in-demand careers.

That's why we want to share our concern about proposed changes to the Pell Grant program and new "risk-sharing" penalties for colleges included in recent federal budget reconciliation discussions.

In 2023-24, SBCCD awarded \$20.7 million in Pell Grants to 5,231 students—aid that helps cover futition, books, transportation, and childcare. These funds are not supplemental; they are often the determining factor that allows students—many of them part-time, working adults, and veterans—to remain enrolled and complete their education.

These proposals would:

- Reduce or eliminate Pell eligibility for students taking fewer than 15 units, including those currently considered full-time at 12 units
- Deny Pell Grants entirely to students in short-term workforce training programs if they fall below 7.5 units
- Impose financial penalties on colleges like ours if students are unable to repay federal loans, even though we are not loan-heavy institutions









What's Next in the Federal Legislative Calendar

June-July	August	September	October
☐ House & Senate hold hearings and negotiate budget bills	□ August 9: Congress takes summer break (district meetings continue)	□ September 9: Return from break. Final negotiations window. □ September 30: Last day of current federal fiscal year (FY2025). Deadline to pass a budget or short-term extension.	□ October 1: Federal Fiscal Year 2026 begins



What's Happening in Sacramento?







Proposed State Budget for Community Colleges

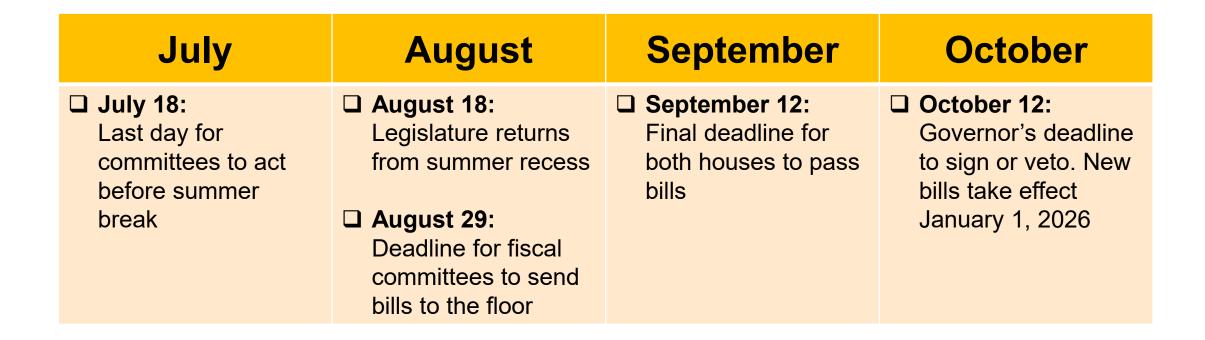
What's Funded	What It Does	Why It Matters for SBCCD
✓ 2.3% COLA	Covers inflationary costs	Supports operational stability
✓ 2.35% Growth Allocation	Funds enrollment increases	Helps us keep up with student demand
✓ \$100M for Unfunded FTES	Funds 22,000 students not currently funded statewide	Ensures SBCCD can maintain expanded course offerings
√ \$80M Student Support Block Grant	Wraparound services: mental health, basic needs, etc.	Helps serve our most vulnerable students
✓ Credit for Prior Learning + Statewide Tech Platform	Streamlines tech systems so students can access services and credits more easily	Could accelerate graduation for working learners

▲ Concern: Tech projects tied to Career Passport (Coud Tech Platform) may reduce block grant funding; weaken support services students rely on.

Proposed State Budget for Community Colleges

Assembly + Senate Proposal	One-Time	Why It Matters for SBCCD
✓ Emergency Financial Aid	\$20 million	To backfill for any potential federal cuts.
✓ Financial Aid Outreach & Support	\$5.1 million	To help students apply for FAFSA & California Dream Act Application.
✓ Dreamer Resource Liaisons	\$15 million	To support undocumented students with legal aid, aid applications, and career planning.
✓ Part-Time Faculty Office Hours	\$44 million	Compensates adjunct instructors for time spent supporting students outside of class tutoring, mentoring, and advising.
✓ EMT/Paramedic Pre- Apprenticeship Academies	\$10 million	Could benefit CHC's health and public safety students
✓ Firefighter Apprenticeship Reimbursements	\$6.33 million	Could benefit CHC's Fire Academy' students

What's Next in the State Legislative Calendar





Workforce & Career Education

Bill (Author)	SBCCD Position	Summary	Status
AB 1400 (Soria)	Support	Establishes a pilot for BSN degrees at community colleges.	✓ Alive
AB 323 (Fong)	Support	Allows Strong Workforce funds to support paid work-based learning.	✓ Alive
SB 391 (Laird)	Support	Lets CCC Chancellor's Office charge fees for data requests.	✓ Alive



Financial Aid & Affordability

Bill (Author)	SBCCD Position	Summary	Status
AB 313 (Ortega)	Support	Gives students extra time to submit state aid if FAFSA is delayed.	✓ Alive
SB 305 (Reyes)	Support	Requires support for FAFSA/Dream Act completion at colleges.	X Suspense File
AB 1035 (Gonzales)	Support	Extends College Promise to cover years 3 and 4 for bachelor's students.	X Suspense File
AB 537 (Ahrens)	Support	Expands College Promise waivers to part-time students.	Alive
AB 850 (Jones-Sawyer)	Support	Prohibits registration holds over student debt and ensures due process.	X Suspense File



Basic Needs & Student Support

Bill (Author)	SBCCD Position	Summary	Status
AB 90 (Jackson)	Oppose	Requires community colleges (not CSU/UC) to provide overnight parking for homeless students.	Alive
SB 271 (Reyes)	Support	Requires campuses to share childcare and basic-needs resources with student parents.	Alive
SB 761 (Ashby)	Support	Pushes colleges to identify students eligible for CalFresh and help them apply.	Alive
AB 593 (Wicks)	Support	Supports CalFresh by improving student data-sharing access.	Alive
AB 363 (Bryan)	Support	Expands CalWORKs Ed Program support for student parents.	X Suspense File



Dual Enrollment & Pathways

Bill (Author)	SBCCD Position	Summary	Status
AB 988 (Sánchez)	Support	Creates statewide dual enrollment advisory board.	Alive
AB 731 (Fong)	Support	Removes principal recommendation requirement for dual enrollment.	✓ Alive



Student Equity & Access

Bill (Author)	SBCCD Position	Summary	Status
AB 695 (Fong)	Support	Lets deported students continue online learning with in-state tuition.	Alive
SB 98 (Perez)	Support	Requires notification of immigration enforcement on school campuses.	Alive
AB 335 (Bryan)	Support	Creates grant funding for colleges serving Black students.	X Suspense File



Facilities, Housing & Infrastructure

Bill (Author)	SBCCD Position	Summary	Status
AB 48 (Alvarez)	Support	Places K–14 facilities bond on ballot (includes CCC modernization funds).	✓ Alive
AB 648 (Zbur)	Support	Exempts CCC housing projects from local zoning rules.	✓ Alive
SB 416 (Ashby)	Support	Requires LEED certification for major state-funded construction.	X Suspense File

Upcoming Advocacy Engagements

July	August	Fall
✓ Big Bear Lake City Council presentation (7/9)	✓ Rialto City Council update (8/26)	✓ San Bernardino City Council update (TBD)
 ✓ Campus tours with state legislators (Wallis, Garcia, Ramos, Ochoa Bogh) 	✓ Sacramento advocacy meetings (TBD)	√ K–12 School Board presentations across seven districts and County Schools
✓ EDCT tour with Supervisors Baca Jr. & Rowe		