



San Bernardino Community College District
Board Legislative Committee Meeting
June 10, 2021
11:00 am-12:15 pm Pacific Time

Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20 on March 12, 2020, and Executive Order N-29-20 on March 17, 2020. Portions of these orders relax parts of the Brown Act. In part, the orders allow elected officials to “attend” a meeting via teleconference WITHOUT having to admit members of the public into the location from which they are participating (N-25-20) and orders that "such a body need not make available any physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment" (N-29-20).

Anyone wishing to participate may do so via the Zoom link which is listed on the agenda. The meetings are also recorded. Public comments must be submitted electronically by emailing hford@sbccd.edu Submissions must be received 24 hours in advance of the meeting. From the comments received, staff will call each speaker to make their public comment.

Submissions will be considered a public record under the Public Records Act, and are therefore subject to public disclosure.

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Anyone who requires a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting should contact the Chancellor’s Office at (909) 388-6903 as far in advance of the meeting as possible.

AGENDA

Board Legislative Committee Meeting

June 10, 2021

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

LOCATION: Zoom Conference:

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96195940761>

Dial: (669) 900-6833 or (346) 248-7799 - Meeting ID: 961 9594 0761

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Public comments must be submitted electronically by emailing hford@sbccd.edu. Submissions must be received 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 2021-04-08 BLC Meeting Minutes

IV. CURRENT UPDATE

A. State Budget Update Presentation by Mark MacDonald of MGI Advocacy, Inc.

B. Update on Legislation of Interest
(Angel Rodriguez)

V. ACTION AGENDA

none

FUTURE TOPICS

A. Trustee Suggestions

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT

A. The next meeting of the Board Legislative Committee: Zoom Conference <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96195940761>
July 8, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

B. Adjournment

The SBCCD BLC exists as a standing, advisory committee comprised of less than a quorum of Board members and is subject to the California Public Meetings Brown Act. The committee is charged with: • Increasing the efficiency of the Board of Trustees by performing time-sensitive legislative research on its behalf. • Improving clarity by providing a platform for detailed questions not conducive to the flow of monthly business meetings. • Promoting transparency of SBCCD's legislative advocacy priorities through discussions in an open forum. • Fostering an environment of understanding by communicating findings and formulating recommendations to the full Board of Trustees.



Board of Trustees Legislative Committee

Via Zoom: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96195940761>

Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2021

Members Present:

Trustee Frank Reyes (chair)
Trustee John Longville
Trustee Anne Viricel

Guests Present:

SBCCD Trustee Stephanie Houston
SBCCD Trustee Gloria Harrison
HACU Dr. Lena Rodriguez
HACU Erica Romero

Staff Present:

Jose Torres, Interim Chancellor
Kevin Horan, President Crafton Hills College
Diana Rodriguez, President San Bernardino Valley College
Kristina Hannon, Vice Chancellor Human Resources & Police Services
Angel Rodriguez, Sr. District Director Marketing, Public Affairs, & Government Relations
Heather Ford, Executive Assistant, Office of the Chancellor

The following text was read and all votes were taken by roll call.

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I. CALL TO ORDER & SELF INTRODUCTION

Trustee Frank Reyes called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. **2021-02-11 BLC minutes**

Trustee John Longville moved to approve the 2021-02-11 BLC minutes. Trustee Frank Reyes seconded the motion.

AYES: Reyes, Viricel, Longville

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

IV. **CURRENT ISSUES UPDATE**

A. **Public Policy Presentation By HACU** - Dr. Lena Rodriguez and Erica Romero

B. **State and Federal Advocacy Update**

A. Rodriguez reviewed SBCCD and RCCD joint advocacy efforts. This included six meetings with our local legislative delegation advocating for the Board approved legislative priorities. Some of those items were financially aid, Pell Grant reform, and making sure that the Cal Grant dollars are equally distributed.

Proposition 63 - we want to make sure that funding from that proposition is coming to our colleges. Addressing the mental health services and needs of our students, especially as they recover from the pandemic. Food and housing is a top priority.

Emergency Financial Relief to support community College students - \$100 million for emergency relief grants dedicated specifically for community college students. Part of that money will also go to bolstering our outreach and enrollment.

CalFresh Student Outreach and Application Assistance – connecting students to county services, that they know how to apply, and avoid any stigma.

SBCCD is tracking about 25 bills - 14 of which we fully support based on legislative principles. Examples:

- AB75 – Facility upgrades. Removed CalState and UC from this bond proposition.
- AB102 – Dual Enrollment. Remove sunset on CCAP partnerships making the program permanent.
- AB417 – Funding for Rising Scholars Network. Justice-Involved Students.
- AB469 – HS Graduation Requirement. Financial Aid Application. 12th grade students required to submit FAFSA and CADAA.
- AB927 – Community College Baccalaureate Degree
- AB1106- Employment Training Panel Pilot. EPT to establish a pilot program to service the employment training needs of small businesses.

- AB1456 – Reform Cal Grant. Giving more students more money at the community college level. Addresses all cost associated with going to college.
- SB1377 – Student Tracking
- SB228 – Foster Youth
- SB45 – Funding for Fire Training Programs. \$4 billion bond for wildfire prevention on 2022 ballot. \$5 million of those funds would go to community colleges for related workforce development.

There was discussion regarding the San Bernardino Regional Emergency Training Center (JPA) and the vital role it holds regionally and internationally. It is important it has SBCCD's support.

Community Project Funding (CPF) A. Rodriguez reported federally speaking, earmarks are back. Local congress members are asking the community for projects that they can ask the federal government for. They are going to submit only 10 projects per congressional district. SBCCD is submitting funding request for the CHC fire training tower (federal matching funds) and the applied tech building.

V. ACTION AGENDA

none

IV. FUTURE TOPICS

none

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board Legislative Committee:

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/96195940761>

May 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Heather Ford, Recorder, Office of the Chancellor



San Bernardino Community College District

June 10, 2021 - Legislative Update



Legislative Timeline

- ◇ May Revise introduced around May 15th
- ◇ House of Origin Deadline June 4th
- ◇ Final Budget Floor Vote June 15th
- ◇ Policy Committee Deadline June 14th
- ◇ Summer Recess July 16th through August 16th
- ◇ Fiscal Deadline August 27th



May Revise Overview

- ❖ Administration pegs budget surplus at over \$70 billion. LAO estimates at \$38 billion – LAO does not count mandatory spending.
- ❖ Additional Proposition 98 spending of approximately \$17.7 billion.
- ❖ \$3.6 billion for community colleges.
- ❖ \$24.4 billion in reserves, including \$4.6 billion in School Stabilization Fund.



SBCCCD Budget Priorities

| SBCCD Priority | Item | Amount | Location |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Student Basic Needs | Emergency Financial Aid | \$100 million | Early Adoption Package |
| Student Basic Needs | Emergency Financial Aid | \$150 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Student Basic Needs | Student Basic Needs (Food & Housing Insecurity) | \$100 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Student Basic Needs | Mental Health Services | \$30 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Student Basic Needs | Integrated Basic Needs Centers | \$30 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |



SBCCCD Budget Priorities (Cont.)

| SBCCD Priority | Item | Amount | Location |
|------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Cal Grant Reform | Eliminate Age and Time Out of High School Requirements for CCC | \$155.4 million | Leg. Agreement |
| Cal Grant Reform | Increase Cal Grant B Access Award for CCC | \$44.6 million | Leg. Agreement |
| Cal Grant Reform | Foster Youth Access Award | \$20 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Cal Grant Reform | Mandatory FASFA/Dream Application | N/A | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Cal Grant Reform | AB 1456 (Medina) | N/A | Sen. Education |



SBCCCD Budget Priorities (Cont.)

| SBCCD Priority | Item | Amount | Location |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| General Funding | COLA | 5.07% | Leg. Agreement |
| General Funding | Fund Deferrals Completely | \$326.5 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| General Funding | Automatic Property Tax Backfill | N/A | Not Included |
| General Funding | Enrollment Growth | 0.5% | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |



SBCCD Budget Priorities (Cont.)

| SBCCD Priority | Item | Amount | Location |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| CalSTRS & CalPERS Funding | “Buy Down” Employer Contribution | \$3 billion over 4 yrs. | Leg. Agreement |
| Safe Return to On-Campus Learning | Scheduled Maintenance | \$486.2 million + \$250 million (Federal) | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |



Early Adoption Items

| Amount | Item |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| \$20 million | Retention and Enrollment Strategies |
| \$100 million | Emergency Financial Aid |
| \$3.1 million | Increase Enrollment in CalFresh |



Other Budget Highlights

| Funding Area | Item | Amount | Location |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Workforce Development | Strong Workforce Program | \$40 million (75% local) | Leg. Agreement |
| Student Services | Zero-Textbook-Cost Degrees/OER | \$115 million/ \$15 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Enrollment | Retention and Enrollment Strategies | \$100 million | May Revision/Leg. Agreement |
| Student Housing | Student Housing Grants | \$4 billion | May Revision |



Bills of Interest – Still Moving

AB 927 (Medina) – CCC BA Degree





Bills of Interest – Still Moving

AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry) Broadband Expansion





Bills of Interest – Still Moving
AB 1040 (Muratsuchi) Ethnic Studies





Bills of Interest – Still Moving

AB 75 (O'Donnell) & SB 22 (Glazer) – Facilities Bonds





Budget & Legislative Update



Questions/Discussion

**San Bernardino Community College District
Board Legislative Committee
June 10, 2021**

Cal Grant Equity Framework

In recent weeks, the San Bernardino Community College District has continued advocating for the Cal Grant Equity Framework as outlined in AB 1456 (Medina, McCarty, Leyva). On June 3, AB 1456 cleared the Assembly on a bipartisan 69-1, and it now moves to the Senate. If approved and funded, AB 1456 will expand financial aid to 280,000 more Californians. Specifically, it would benefit community college adult learners, by removing barriers like age, high school GPA, and time out of high school requirements.

How SBCCD is helping build public support:

- Briefed Growing Inland Achievement President & CEO Dr. Carlos Ayala of the goals of the Cal Grant Equity Framework and secured GIA's endorsement of AB 1456.
- Invited California Student Aid Commission Executive Director Marlene Garcia for a radio interview on KVCR's "Inland Edition" to discuss financial aid opportunities and AB 1456. [Listen here.](#)
- Earned 8,383 views with SBCCD's Tweet "Let's build a better financial aid system for CA families and students! #CalGrantEquity #AB1456." [See Tweet.](#)
- Joined the CCC Chancellor's Office in the June 4 coalition letter to urge the Governor, Senate and Assembly leaders to fund and adopt AB 1456. (Copy enclosed).

Key State Legislative Dates

- Feb. 19 – Last day for bills to be introduced
- June 4 – Last day for Senate and Assembly to pass bills introduced in that house
- June 15 – Budget bill must be passed by midnight
- September 10 – Last day for any bill to be passed

SBCCD-Supported Legislation

AB 75 (O'Donnell): K-12 & Community College Facilities Bond Act of 2022

Board Legislative Principle: Increased Public Investment in Student Success

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. The bill would place a \$12 billion K-12 and community college education facilities bond on the 2022 ballot.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB75

AB 102 (Holden): Dual Enrollment

Board Legislative Principle: State and Federal Partnerships

Staff Recommendation: Support

Inactive bill. Would remove sunset on College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnerships, making the program permanent. Would allow county offices of education to participate in CCAP partnerships.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB102

AB 417 (McCarty): Funding for Rising Scholars Network: Justice-Involved Students

Board Legislative Principle: Increased Public Investment in Student Success

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Would authorize the Chancellor's Office to establish a program, named the Rising Scholars Network, to enter into agreements with up to 50 community colleges to provide additional funds for services in support of justice-involved students.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB417

AB 469 (Reyes): High School Graduation Requirements: Financial Aid Applications

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. This bill would require a school district, county office of education, or charter school to ensure that a 12th grade student completes and submits a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a California Dream Act Application (CADAA). The bill would authorize, under certain conditions, the school district, county office of education, or charter school to exempt a pupil who fails to comply with the requirement due to extenuating circumstances.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB469

AB 927 (Medina): Community College Baccalaureate Degree

Board Legislative Principle: Equity

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. This bill would extend the operation of the statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program indefinitely. The bill would remove the requirements that the program consist of a maximum of 15 community college district programs and for a student to commence a program by the end of the 2022–23 academic year. The bill would require a community college district seeking approval to offer a baccalaureate degree program to provide evidence of unmet workforce needs to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, as provided.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB927

AB 775 (Berman): Basic needs of students.

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support if Amended to make the bill's provisions contingent upon a budget appropriation.

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. The bill would require each campus of the California Community Colleges to establish the position of Basic Needs Coordinator and designate a staff person as the Basic Needs Coordinator. The bill would require a basic needs coordinator to act as a broker in identifying, supporting, and linking students to on- and off-campus housing, food, mental health, and other basic needs services and resources, among other responsibilities. The bill would also require each campus to establish a Basic Needs Center, which would be a central location on campus where basic needs services, resources, and staff would be made available to students.

Source: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Governmental-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation>

AB 1106 (Cervantes/Reyes): Employment Training Panel Pilot

Board Legislative Principle: Increased Public Investment in Student Success

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Would require the Employment Training Panel to establish a pilot program to serve the employment training needs of small businesses and strengthen the linkages between higher education institutions and employers.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1106

AB 1185 (Cervantes) Student financial aid: Cal Grant program.

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. The bill would, in a state of emergency due to COVID-19, waive certain Cal Grant program eligibility requirements, thus allowing more students to access a Cal Grant entitlement award.

Source: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Governmental-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation>

AB 1326 (Arambula): Public social services: county liaison for higher education.

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Would require a county human services agency to designate a staff liaison as a point of contact for academic counselors and other professional staff at community colleges located within the county.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1326

AB 1456 (Medina): Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Reform

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Under the current system, low- and middle-income students enrolled at CSU and UC can receive Cal Grants to cover tuition and fees. Many low-income community college students and some students at four-year universities are also eligible to receive additional Cal Grants worth \$1,656 to cover non-tuition expenses. This bill would target aid by making financial need the main consideration in determining eligibility. Currently, financial need is taken into consideration but students must also be of a certain age and maintain a certain grade point average to be eligible for a Cal Grant. Those requirements would be eliminated or eased under the new proposal.

Source: <https://bit.ly/31dJi6r>

AB 940 (McCarty): Mental Health Services

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support

This bill would amend Proposition 63 by appropriating an unspecified amount annually from the administrative account of the Mental Health Services Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of California, the Board of Trustees of the California State University, and the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as specified, to implement the College Mental Health Services Program. The bill would require those funds to be used for the purpose of increasing campus student mental health services and mental health-related education and training. The bill would require campuses that participate in the program to report annually on the use of those grant funds and to post that information on their internet websites.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB940

AB 1377 (McCarty): Student Housing

Board Legislative Principle: College Affordability & Student Basic Needs

Staff Recommendation: Support

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. The bill would establish the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2021 to provide loans to qualifying applicants of the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges for constructing affordable student housing. The bill would establish the California Student Housing Revolving Fund in the State Treasury, and would continuously appropriate moneys in the fund without regard to fiscal years, thereby making an appropriation, to the California School Finance Authority to provide loans to qualifying applicants of the California Community Colleges and to the California Educational Facilities Authority, to provide loans to qualifying applicants of the University of California or the California State University. This bill would also require the California School Finance Authority to administer a competitive grant program to provide planning grants to California community colleges that are exploring or determining if they can offer affordable student rental housing.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1377

SB 22 (Glazer): K-12, Community College, CSU and UC Facilities Bond 2022

Board Legislative Principle: Increased Public Investment in Student Success

Staff Recommendation: Support if Amended to include provisions that would ensure California Community Colleges receive an equitable share of bond funds.

Passed out of the Senate and will go to the Assembly. This bill authorizes \$15 billion for the construction and modernization of public preschool, K-12, community college, University of California (UC), and California State University (CSU) facilities to be placed on the ballot for statewide elections in 2022. If passed by voters, the facilities bond would allocate \$9 billion for Pre-K-12 schools, \$2 billion for community colleges, \$2 billion for Cal State system, \$2 billion for UC system.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB22

SB 45 (Portantino): Funding for Fire Training Programs

Board Legislative Principle: Increased Public Investment in Student Success

Staff Recommendation: Support

Moved to the Senate inactive file and will no longer be moving through the process. This bill would place a \$4 billion bond for wildfire prevention on 2022 ballot. \$5 million of those funds would go to community colleges for related workforce development.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB45

SB 228 (Leyva): Foster Youth

Board Legislative Principle: Equity

Staff Recommendation: Support

Moved to the Senate inactive file and will no longer be moving through the process. This bill would change the eligibility criteria for the NextUp program to allow students in foster care after the age of 13 to participate and be eligible for priority registration. This bill also allows colleges to use funds on enrolled NextUp students before their first day of class and allows colleges to prioritize students with lower incomes.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB228

SB 737 (Limon): California Student Opportunity and Access Program*Board Legislative Principle: Equity**Staff Recommendation: Support*

Passed out of the Senate and will move to the Assembly. This bill would update the California Student Opportunity and Access Program's (Cal-SOAP) statutory functions to serve as the state's primary financial aid outreach and assistance program. SB 737 would supplement high school and college counseling by making college success coaches available to students to ensure they complete the FAFSA and California Dream Act Application at all Cal-SOAP sites, including the Inland Empire.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB737

Legislation of Interest (Position Under Review)**AB 89 (Jones-Sawyer) Peace officers: minimum qualifications.***Staff recommendation: Monitor*

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Would raise the qualifying age to become a peace officer from 18 to 25, unless the individual has a bachelor's degree.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB89

AB 99 (Irwin): Statewide Cradle to Career Data*Staff recommendation: Monitor*

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Would codify recommendations in the [Cradle to Career Data System](#) Legislative Report.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB99

AB 275 (Medina): Classified Employees*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. This bill would shorten the maximum length of a prescribed period of probation to 6 months or 130 days of paid service for classified community college employees, whichever is longer.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB275

AB 288 (Bonta): Student Financial Aid*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

This bill is inactive given that Assemblymember Bonta was appointed Attorney General. This bill would ensure that private scholarships supplement, and do not supplant, gift aid, grants, scholarships, tuition waivers, and fellowship stipends provided by institutions of higher education to California students who have financial need.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB288

AB 289 (Calderon): Classified School Employee Elections*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. This bill would mandate additional ballot secrecy in the voting process for the adoption or termination of a merit system for classified employees of a community college district; and would further prohibit a representative of the district from marking the ballot or envelope of any employee.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB289

AB 295 (Jones-Sawyer): Work Group to Examine Tuition and Fees*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

This bill is inactive. This bill would establish a working group consisting of representatives from the State Department of Education, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Trustees of the California State University, and the Regents of the University of California to consider the creation of a pilot program that would provide free postsecondary education in the state by replacing the system of charging students tuition and fees for enrollment at a public postsecondary institution. The bill would also require the working group to submit a report to the Legislature on the pilot program.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB295

AB 438 (Reyes): Classified Employees: Layoff Notice and Hearing*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. Under existing law, classified employees of school districts and community college districts subject to layoff as a result of the expiration of a specially funded program at the end of a school year are required to be given written notice on or before April 29 informing them of certain rights. Existing law also requires that notice be given not less than 60 days before the effective layoff date if the termination date of a specially funded program is other than June 30, or if classified employees are subject to layoff as a result of a bona fide reduction or elimination of a service performed by a department. This bill instead would revise and recast provisions relating to the layoff of classified employees of school districts and community college districts to require certain notices and opportunities for a hearing when a classified employee's services will not be required for the ensuing year due to lack of work or lack of funds. The bill would express the intent of the Legislature in enacting the bill to provide classified school employees with the same rights to notice and hearing with respect to layoffs as is provided to certificated employees of school districts, including teachers and administrators, and academic employees of community college districts.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB438

AB 928 (Berman) Postsecondary education: transfer process.*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

Passed out of the Assembly and will go to the Senate. The bill would establish the transfer reform act which would create a transfer implementation committee, require a single transfer pathway, and require automatic enrollment into the ADT program.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB928

SB 20 (Dodd) – Student nutrition: eligibility for CalFresh benefits*Staff Recommendation: Monitor*

Ordered to inactive file on request of Senator Dodd. This bill expands criteria for which a student receives written notice from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) that they may be eligible for CalFresh benefits based on certain exemptions permitted by federal regulations and to the extent that the commission possesses pertinent information. It further requires the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to adopt regulations so that a student who qualifies for a fee waiver (BOG wavier), and whose household income is below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, may also qualify for CalFresh benefits to the extent permitted by federal law.

Source: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB20

SB 40 (Hurtado): Health Care Pipeline

Staff Recommendation: Monitor

Passed out of the Senate and will go to the Assembly. Would create the California Medicine Scholars Program, a 5-year pilot program commencing January 1, 2023, and would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to establish and facilitate the pilot program. The bill would require the pilot program to establish a regional pipeline program for community college students to pursue premedical training and enter medical school.

Source: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB40

Federal Advocacy Update

Source: [https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/cccchan/Board.nsf/files/C2VLZL58F3B7/\\$file/federal-policy-and-advocacy-update-a11y.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/cccchan/Board.nsf/files/C2VLZL58F3B7/$file/federal-policy-and-advocacy-update-a11y.pdf)

Student Food Security Act of 2021

On May 11, Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA) introduced the Student Food Security Act of 2021, which would permanently expand Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) eligibility to students who qualify for federal work-study or have zero Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The bill would also create a \$1 billion per year grant program for research, planning, and implementation of a strategy to conduct outreach to students and coordinate basic needs resources on campus. At least 33% of grants must go to community colleges or institutions with high percentages of Pell recipients. The bill will also give priority to HBCUs and MSIs to receive grants. The CCC Chancellor's Office is in support of the bill.

America's College Promise Act (Biden-Endorsed Free College Plan)

On April 27, Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Rep. Andy Levin (D-MI) reintroduced the America's College Promise Act, which seeks to create a partnership between the federal government and states to waive resident tuition and fees at community colleges and technical college programs. Specifically, the bill would establish a federal match of \$3 for every \$1 invested by states for students' community college tuition and fees, even before other financial aid is applied. In practice, the federal government would give states 75 percent based on the average community college tuition nationwide in exchange for a 25 percent state match. The bill's formula would treat high-tuition and low-tuition states equally. Therefore, the bill would appear to benefit California, as the state already offers one of the lowest community college tuition rates in the nation. President Biden is expected to endorse the America's College Promise Act as his preferred pathway to achieving his free community college goals as outlined in the American Families Plan.

Summary of the American Families Plan

On April 29th, the White House unveiled the details of the American Families Plan, a \$1.8 trillion framework that represents the second component of President Biden's larger infrastructure package, the American Jobs Plan announced in March. Provisions of the American Families Plan relevant to higher education include:

- \$109 billion over 10 years to offer two years of free community college to all Americans, including students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status. Students are allowed to use the benefit over a span of three years and if circumstances are met, up to four years, recognizing that many students' lives and other responsibilities can make full-time enrollment difficult.

- \$85 billion to increase the maximum Pell Grant award by approximately \$1,400 per academic year. This proposed Pell increase will be on top of a \$400 increase in the administration's proposed 2022 budget. The Plan allows Dreamers to access Pell.
- \$62 billion in a grant program for higher education institutions that serve high numbers of low-income students to help increase retention and completion strategies. Specifically, the adoption of wraparound services such as childcare, mental health services, faculty and peer mentoring, emergency basic needs grants, practices that recruit and retain diverse faculty, transfer agreements between colleges, and evidence-based remediation programs.

Summary of the American Jobs Plan

On March 31, President Biden unveiled the details of the American Jobs Plan, an infrastructure package that would invest \$2 trillion in new federal funding over the course of a decade for the modernization and construction of school and childcare facilities, expansion of high-speed broadband networks, and development of workforce programs. Similar to the American Rescue Plan, Democrats are planning to use the budget reconciliation process to bypass Republican opposition and aim to have it ready for the President's signature by early July. Provisions relevant to higher education include:

- \$12 billion to invest in community college infrastructure to address existing facility and technological needs and to improve access to community college in "education deserts."
- \$48 billion in American workforce development infrastructure, including growth of registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities. The President's plan estimates that the funding could create 1-2 million new registered apprenticeship slots. The plan would support community college partnerships that build capacity to deliver job-training programs based on in-demand skills, and would support improved services focused on workers' job seeking and career development needs through investments within Expanded Career Services and the Title II adult literacy program.
- \$100 billion to provide affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband to every American. The president's plan would provide funding to support the construction of high-speed broadband infrastructure to reach "100 percent coverage" and would also help reduce the cost of broadband internet service.



June 4, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California

The Honorable Toni Atkins
President Pro Tempore, California State Senate

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Speaker, California State Assembly

Dear Governor Newsom, Senate President Pro Tem Atkins, and Speaker Rendon:

On behalf of the California Community Colleges (CCC) and our 2.1 million students, we urge the Governor and the Legislature to include **modernization of the Cal Grant program in the 2021 Budget Act, specifically by removing exclusionary provisions which leave out students of color and post-traditional learners, and to expand it to address the total cost of attendance for all students.**

We appreciate that the Legislature's joint 2021-22 budget proposal would repeal outdated "rationing" mechanisms in the Cal Grant program for CCC students, such as limits on a student's age or time since high school graduation. These provisions, which we strongly support, would finally begin to make a college education affordable for the more than 40 percent of our students who are at least 25 years of age. As the students we used to call "nontraditional" increasingly become the norm in higher education, it is essential that our financial aid system keep up with the times, and provide them the support they need to succeed in college and obtain the education and training they need to compete in an ever-changing modern economy.

As part of this modernization of Cal Grant eligibility requirements, we would further urge the Legislature and the Governor to **repeal the arbitrary requirement that all students verify their high school Grade Point Average (GPA)** to qualify for a Cal Grant. By requiring students who may be a decade or more removed from their high school graduation to obtain and verify this paperwork, this requirement is another way of rationing the program to keep out the students who would benefit from it the most.

Additionally, **the proposal to increase the maximum size of the Cal Grant "access award" for CCC students is long overdue**, and appreciated. With this award having lost an estimated 75% of its value since it was instituted in the late 1960s, more and more of our students have had to rely on excessive loan debt, or working an unsustainable number of hours (while attending full-time, and often taking care of family members or children of their own), in lieu of the financial aid they need.

Finally, as the Legislature and the Governor consider options for expanding State aid to further address the total cost of attendance (COA), it is essential that community college students be considered and prioritized in these efforts. A 2020 analysis from the Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS) indicated that, **in most regions of the state, the net total cost of attending a CCC is actually higher than at a nearby UC or CSU.**¹ This is due to a combination of high living costs, the demographic of students attending community colleges, and built-in inequities in our financial aid system.

As you finalize negotiations on the 2021-22 State Budget, we urge you to **fully fund the Cal Grant Modernization Framework envisioned by the Cal Grant Reform Act, AB 1456 by Assemblymember Medina, Assemblymember McCarty, and Senator Leyva**, and to take steps in current and all future budget and legislative conversations to **address the total COA for community college students**. Our students have waited too long, and the COVID-19 pandemic and inequitable economic recession only reinforced the urgency of addressing this need. We thank you for your consideration, and if you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact CCC Vice Chancellor for Government Relations, David O’Brien at dobrien@cccco.edu.

Sincerely,



Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor
California Community Colleges

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| San Bernardino Community College District | Sierra Joint Community College District |
| John Burton Advocates for Youth | Umoja Community Education Foundation |
| Greater Sacramento Urban League | Community College League of California |
| Mt. San Antonio College | Kern Community College District |
| San Diego Community College District | City College of San Francisco |
| Los Rios Community College District | Los Angeles Urban League |

¹ The Institute for College Access and Success. [What College Costs for Low-Income Californians: 2020](#) (July 2020).

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| Silicon Valley Leadership Group | Los Angeles Community College District |
| Santa Barbara City College Foundation | Cerritos College |
| The Education Trust–West | Long Beach Community College District |
| The Village Demands | Glendale Community College |
| Contra Costa Community College District | Riverside Community College District |
| Pasadena City College | Ventura County Community College District |
| Foothill-DeAnza Community College District | Yuba Community College District |
| Palo Verde Community College | Coast Community College District |
| El Camino Community College | Mira Costa College |
| California Community College Administrators of Occupational Education | Association of Community and Continuing Education |
| San Joaquin Delta College | North Orange Community College District |
| California Community Colleges Student Financial Aid Administrators Association | California African American Chamber of Commerce |
| Mt. San Antonio College Academic Senate | Madera Community College |
| Santa Monica College | College of the Canyons |
| South Orange Community College District | Southwestern College |
| Regional California Black Chamber of Commerce of San Fernando Valley | Faculty Association of California Community Colleges |
| Mt. San Jacinto College | Student Senate for California Community Colleges |