

**Resolution of the Board of Governors
California Community Colleges
No. 2017-01**

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges system is committed to serving all students who can benefit from a post-secondary education, without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, immigration status, age, gender, language, socio-economic status, gender identity or expression, medical condition or disability; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors has adopted a strategic plan which states, in part: “All people have the opportunity to reach their full educational potential... The Colleges embrace diversity in all its forms ... All people have the right to access quality higher education;” and

WHEREAS, California’s diversity is a great source of innovation and industry, making California one of the largest economies in the world and an economic engine for the United States; and

WHEREAS, approximately one tenth of California’s workforce is undocumented and contributes \$130 billion annually to its gross domestic product, according to the California Assembly; and

WHEREAS, great uncertainty exists about what specific immigration and education policies will be pursued by the incoming administration, and immigrants and other populations within the community college system are fearful of policies that may result in deportation or forced registration based on their religion; and

WHEREAS, over the past several weeks, the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office has reassured students and colleges that our campuses will remain safe, welcoming places for students of all backgrounds to learn; informed them that no changes have been made with regard to admissions or financial aid; informed students that financial aid for certain undocumented students is protected by state law; called on President-elect Donald J. Trump to preserve Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals; and joined with the University of California, the California State University and the California Community Colleges to defend the right of all students to obtain a higher education in California; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the California Community Colleges Board of Governors declare that all 113 community colleges remain open, safe and welcoming to all students who meet the minimum requirements for admission, regardless of immigration status, and that financial aid remains available to certain undocumented students; and be it further

RESOLVED that the California Community Colleges Board of Governors urges the incoming administration to continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which grants “Dreamers” – people who were brought to this country as children by their parents – reprieve from deportation because California and the United States are stronger due to their contributions to our economy, to our communities and to our Armed Forces; and be it further

RESOLVED that the state Chancellor's Office will not release any personally identifiable student information related to immigration status without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law; and be it further

RESOLVED that the state Chancellor's Office will not cooperate with any efforts to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race, or sexual orientation; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Governors and the Chancellor's Office encourage our local community college districts to ensure that all students have an opportunity to receive an education in the community college system, regardless of immigration status and any other protected status; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Governors and the Chancellor's Office encourage our local community college districts to consider our system's values when responding to any request to participate in joint efforts with other government agencies to enforce federal immigration law and when responding to requests for personally identifiable student information; and be it further

RESOLVED that the California Community Colleges Board of Governors and the state Chancellor's Office will vigorously advocate at every level of government to protect our students and our system's values.