

The COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATE

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Ask SSC . . . Does the State's Travel Ban Apply to Local Educational Agencies?

Q. There's been a lot of attention lately on the ban of state-funded travel to specific states with discriminatory laws. Does this travel ban apply to employees of school districts, community colleges, and other local educational agencies (LEAs)?

A. The short answer is "no" – the state travel restrictions do not apply to LEAs.

In 2016, Governor Brown signed into law Assembly Bill 1887 (Chapter 687/2016) to prohibit the state funding of out-of-state travel to states that have discriminatory laws relating to gender identity and sexual orientation (with specified exemptions). The law also charges the State Attorney General with maintaining a list of the states where state-funded travel is prohibited.

The law only applies to employees of the state of California, University of California, and the California State University. The California Department of Education as well as the California Community College Chancellor's Office are also covered by this prohibition.

When the state provides funding to an LEA, the state funding is subsumed by the LEA. Since an employee of a local school district, community college, or other LEA is not an employee of the state, the travel restriction would not apply.

—Dave Heckler

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