



McCallum Group Budget Update

Last Thursday, both houses voted on the budget meeting the constitutional deadline of June 15th to pass a budget. The bill language was in print on Monday in time for the new rule that bills must be in print for at least 72 hours prior to having their final vote. The final budget language included specifics on the Innovation Awards, the hunger-free campus grants, the Community College Completion Grant program, the Guided Pathways Grant Program, and the Veterans' Resource Center program.

The final budget deal did not include the "Free College" proposal or Promise Program as was passed in the Assembly's budget package. There was significant opposition to the proposal from the administration as well as Senate leadership during budget negotiations. Thank you to Assemblymembers Miguel Santiago, Kevin McCarty and Phil Ting for fighting hard for the bill.

The bill that would implement the proposal, AB 19 (Santiago) continues to move through the legislative process and is scheduled to be heard in Senate Education on July 5th. The author of the bill, Assemblyman Santiago wants to continue to move the bill even without the funding for it in the budget.

Guided Pathways

The budget bill establishes the California Community College Guided Pathways program proscribing the requirements for allocation of the \$150 million in one-time funding that was included in the budget. The language indicates that grants allocated pursuant to the program are intended to do:

1. Integration of existing student success programs and services
2. Building capacity at community colleges for data analysis, leadership, planning, and implementation related to institutional change
3. Development of clearly structured guided pathways programs for all entering students for purposes of improving student outcomes, reducing time to degree, and increasing the ability of students to obtain high-paying jobs

The Chancellor's Office will distribute the grants to those community college districts that satisfy the below requirements as well as any additional requirements developed by the Chancellor's Office:

1. Simplifying student choices with default program maps for all educational and vocational programs
2. Provide student advising and support services
3. Establish transfer pathways through alignment of pathway courses
4. Bridging K-12 and higher education by ensuring remediation in the final year of high school

5. Redesigning traditional remediation
6. Implementing procedures and systems to monitor students' progress toward completing their academic plan
7. Establishing program level learning outcomes
8. Embedding academic and nonacademic supports
9. Integrating group projects, internships and other applied learning experiences

The allocation of the funding will go out to districts based on the following formula:

- ✓ Up to 10% to the Chancellor's Office for statewide assistance
- ✓ 20% equally among all districts
- ✓ 35% based on FTES at each participating college
- ✓ 45% based on the percentage of students that satisfy the requirements to receive a federal Pell Grant and AB 540 students

Prior to receiving any funds, the community college district must do the following:

1. Submit a letter to the Chancellor's Office signed by the president of the governing board of the community college district, the CEO of the college and the president of the college's academic senate indicating a commitment to adopt the guided pathways model.
2. Notify the chancellor's office that the college has attended an Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative workshop for guided pathways.
3. Establish and submit to the Chancellor's office a work plan to implement guided pathways for all entering students and integrate student success programs operating at the college.

Colleges may use the funding for one-time purposes, including:

1. Faculty and staff release time
2. Professional development
3. Administrative time
4. Upgrades to computers and student information systems
5. Districts may not use funds to provide support services, instruction or other ongoing operating costs.

Chancellor's Higher Education Innovation Awards

The final budget includes \$20 million in one-time funding that would go to community colleges as grants through the state chancellor's office for innovative practices that are able to be scaled across the state. The awards will focus particularly on:

- ✓ Programs and frameworks that support students from groups that are underrepresented in higher education
- ✓ Targeted services and programs for students who are current or former members of the Armed Forces.
- ✓ Programs and frameworks that support adults who have been displaced from the workforce and adults who are underemployed.
- ✓ Programs that incorporate technology to improve instruction and support services with a plan to ensure student success.

Hunger-Free Campus

The budget included \$2.5 million to promote hunger-free campuses. In order to participate, a district that chooses to participate shall have the following at each “hunger free campus.”

1. A campus employee designated to help ensure that students have the information that they need to enroll in CalFresh.
2. An on-campus food pantry or regular food distributions on campus.

Districts that receive “hunger free campus” designation shall receive a funding incentive upon appropriation by the legislature.

Community College Completion Grant Program

The final budget agreement includes \$25 million for a Community College Completion Grant program intended to incentivize students to take at least 30 semester units per year so that they can earn a credential or transfer within two years.

Under the program, students would receive up to an additional \$2,000 in access award assistance, depending upon their qualifying income level if they meet all of the following criteria:

1. Received an award under the full-time student success grant
2. Student has completed an education plan
3. Student is not incarcerated
4. Student is not in default on any study loan
5. Student is a California resident or an AB 540 student
6. Student earns a sufficient number of credits per award year to be considered on track to complete within 2 academic years or 3 academic years if the student is required to take basic skills courses
7. Maintains at least a 2.0 and complies with one of the following:
 - a. Enrolls in 15 or more credit units per semester or the equivalent units per quarter
 - b. Enrolls in a sufficient number of units per semester, quarter or summer term as determined by the community college, to be considered on track to receive a certificate for CTE or other community college certificate
 - c. Enrolls in summer coursework after enrolling in 12 or more credits per the primary semester or applicable number of quarter units

Mental Health

The final budget agreement contains \$4.5 million in one-time funding for mental health services. The funding will go out to districts on a grant basis. The language allocating the mental health funding is very open, giving the state chancellor’s office the ability to develop the requirements for allocating the funding.

Veteran’s Resource Centers

The budget includes \$5 million from student equity funds for Veterans' Resource Centers. This will provide grants to colleges to enhance or establish on-campus veteran centers. The state chancellor's office will administer the grants and develop the criteria for the distribution of the grants.

In determining the grant, the chancellor's office is to take into account:

1. The number of student veterans that are or to be served
2. The veteran student support service needs
3. Priority shall be given to campuses that
 - a. Have demonstrated the greatest need for a center
 - b. Will provide services to a greater proportion of veterans
 - c. Meet best practice standards

Activities that the grants can support include:

- ✓ Academic counseling and tutoring
- ✓ Peer-to-peer support and mentoring services
- ✓ Financial aid information and application assistance
- ✓ Referral to on- and off-campus resources
- ✓ Computer access
- ✓ Career counseling and placement assistance