

Governor Newsom Proposes Changes to Expand Dual Enrollment

Last week the Department of Finance released the trailer bill language for Governor Gavin Newsom's 2022-23 State Budget proposal. The trailer bill language is the implementing language of the State Budget, which stipulates the implementation details, parameters, and accountability measures for the proposed investments in the State Budget Act. Below we detail Governor Newsom's proposed investment to expand dual enrollment and proposed changes to existing statute. \$500 Million Grant Program As part of his initiative to increase access to college level courses and expand dual enrollment opportunities, Governor Newsom is proposing to establish a \$500 million (one-time, Proposition 98) competitive grant program that would be administered by the California Department of

Education (CDE) in consultation with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. The goal of the investment would be to enable more local educational agencies (LEAs) to establish dual enrollment partnerships with community colleges and provide high school students with access to college credit. LEAs would be eligible to apply for any or all of the following one-time grants that would make up the allocation: \$500,000 grant to support an LEA's costs to couple student advising and success supports with available dual enrollment and accelerated college credit opportunities 60% of the of the allocation is to be used for this grant type \$250,000 grant to support the costs to plan for a middle and early college high school that is located on the campus of an LEA and that is consistent with the specifications of Chapter 14 of Part 7, of Division (1) , of Title 1 of the Education Code

27.5% of the allocation is to be used for this grant type \$100,000 grant to establish a dual enrollment College and Career Access Pathways partnership agreement that is consistent with the requirements of Education Code Section 76004 and to enable students at the participating high school to access dual enrollment opportunities 12.5% of the allocation is to be used for this grant type.

The trailer bill language states that the funding would be for encumbrance through June 30, 2027. The CDE

would be required to give application priority to LEAs with at least 50% unduplicated pupils, higher dropout

rates than the statewide average, higher suspension/expulsion rates than the statewide average, higher

homeless/foster youth/justice involved youth than the statewide average, or lower A-G completion rates than the statewide average.

Finally, there is intent language included (meaning it doesn't have the force of law) that courses offered to

high school students pursuant to a dual enrollment partnership agreement established under this funding

predominantly consist of courses that offer students credit that is transferable to a public institution of higher education.

Dual Enrollment Statute Changes

Separate from the \$500 million investment, the Newsom Administration is also proposing to make a handful of significant changes to the current statute governing dual enrollment.

Current law states that dual enrollment students may not exceed 10% of all full-time equivalent students statewide at the California Community Colleges. The trailer bill language would eliminate that cap completely, essentially putting no cap on the number of students that can enroll in a dual enrollment program. The proposal to remove this cap is likely due to the steady increase in dual enrollment participation over the last several years and also complements the Governor's investments to expand dual enrollment statewide. The proposed trailer bill language would also repeal the January 1, 2027, sunset date for dual enrollment programs to operate. Repealing this date would effectively make dual enrollment programs permanent and pave the way for future programs.

Next Steps

These dual enrollment proposals, as well as the others included in the Governor's State Budget for 2022-23, will be considered by the Legislature in budget subcommittee hearings over the next several months. More information will be provided in future Community College Update articles if these dual enrollment changes are included in the final adopted Budget