

Nelson, Carol

From: Garcia, Martha
Sent: Saturday, April 4, 2026 2:50 PM
To: Nelson, Carol
Subject: FW: CEO Communication: President's FY2027 Budget Proposal

Hi Carol,

Please add this to Cabinet agenda.

Thanks,



Martha Garcia, Ed.D.

President/CEO | President's Office
(she/her/ella)

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From: Chief Executive Officers <CEO-ALL@LISTSERV.CCCCO.EDU> **On Behalf Of** Christian, Sonya

Sent: Friday, April 3, 2026 11:26 AM

To: CEO-ALL@LISTSERV.CCCCO.EDU

Subject: CEO Communication: President's FY2027 Budget Proposal

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California Community Colleges



**A Message from
Chancellor Sonya Christian**

April 3, 2026

A 4-minut Read

CEO Colleagues:

And we thought this was going to be a quiet Friday....

The Administration released its fiscal year 2027 budget proposal today, including its priorities for federal education funding and policy. [Budget of the US Government FY 2027](#).

While the proposal must ultimately be negotiated and approved by Congress, it serves as a statement of the Administration's spending, revenue and borrowing priorities and provides a clear view into its policy direction, as well as the broader political and ideological lens shaping those decisions.

The proposal is framed as a direct challenge to current higher education practices, particularly programs tied to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The Administration characterizes many of these efforts as "woke" or ideological and signals an intent to scale back or eliminate federal support for programs serving specific student populations.

Notably, the proposal includes targeted investments in Pell Grants and training programs, both of which are core to the California Community Colleges' role in expanding access and preparing students for the workforce, even as it proposes broader reductions across higher education.

Key higher education provisions include:

- \$33 billion for Pell Grants, including a \$10.5 billion increase to address the program's projected funding shortfall (without increasing the maximum award)
- \$2.7 billion in proposed cuts to higher education programs, including:
 - \$354 million reduction for Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI) programs
 - \$136 million reduction to the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), which has historically supported innovation in higher education
 - The budget specifically cites San Diego Community College, pointing to prior federal funding for LGBTQIA+ Pride Center staffing
 - \$81 million cut to International and Foreign Language Education programs
- \$1.5 billion reduction to the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, alongside continued efforts to shift workforce and career education functions to the Department of Labor
 - Elimination of Adult Education funding, which supports English literacy and basic skills programs

Taken together, the proposal signals a continued shift toward reduced federal investment in targeted student support programs, particularly those serving historically underrepresented populations, greater state and local control over funding decisions with less federal direction, and increased scrutiny of institutional programs and services associated with diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The explicit reference to one of our colleges illustrates that this approach is not only policy-driven but intended to publicly challenge specific programs. Our system remains committed to Vision 2030 in advancing equity in access, equity in support, and equity in success, for all students.

As with any presidential budget, this proposal is ultimately symbolic in nature, and Congress will determine final funding levels. Many of the programs targeted for reductions or elimination have historically received bipartisan support.

We will continue to monitor the appropriations process, advocate on behalf of our students and colleges, and assess potential implications for the California Community Colleges system, keeping you updated as more information becomes available.

thnx
sonya

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