

	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17

FIRST MONDAY

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHANCELLOR BRICE W. HARRIS

Memorandum

DATE: April 1, 2016
TO: California Community College CEOs
FROM: Brice W. Harris, State Chancellor
SUBJECT: First Monday – April 2016

Colleagues,

The following are items of interest and importance for our system, and are provided for your information. If you have comments or concerns on any of these items, feel free to call the Chancellor's Office at (916) 322-4005.

1. **Accreditation:** I want to thank all of you for your tremendous efforts over the past month related to the conversation on accreditation that has taken place throughout our system. Special thanks goes to our CEO colleagues Cindy Miles, Brian King, Helen Benjamin, Joe Wyse, Sandra Serrano, Frank Gornick, and Constance Carroll who led the conversation at the recent CEO meeting and who have all worked behind the scenes to craft the final understandings among the CEOs that resulted in the enclosed resolution being passed by the Board of Governors at its March meeting. I am confident that in the coming weeks and months the changes that you have called for with our current accreditor will be accomplished, and that ultimately, the western region will have alignment in accreditation among all of higher education. The Board of Governors was extremely appreciative of the final solution and they have told me they intend to be vigilant in assuring that both the short-term and long-term changes that have been called for are ultimately made. During the board meeting conversation they reaffirmed their strong support for regional accreditation, as well as their commitment to assuring our colleges are adequately supported during the future transitions. I strongly encourage you to read the enclosed resolution carefully since the board made some additional changes the day of the meeting.
2. **New Scorecard Results Show Continuing Improvements:** I have enclosed summary information of the most recent scorecard results that were released yesterday. As you will see, your colleges have continued to make improvements in persistence, remedial math and English, ESL, CTE completion, and the accumulation of 30 units. The only indicator that continued to decline is our overall completions, which as you know, has been tremendously impacted by our rationing of education and the inability of our university partners to accept our transfers during the great recession. We expect this indicator to also begin to improve in the next cycle as you add back classes and transfer begins to recover. I encourage each of you to look carefully at the numbers for your college and discuss those results with your college community and boards. I believe we are the most accountable system of higher education in the country, and it is because all of you are taking the success of our students and improving access so seriously that we are making progress. Thank you for all you do on behalf of our students.
3. **Tremendous News on Faculty Hiring:** Late last month we received updated faculty hiring data from your colleges related to the diversity of their full-time faculty as you utilize the \$62 million allocated in the current budget for faculty hiring. The hiring of under-represented minority (URM) full-time faculty increased from 21 percent last year to 26 percent this year and the total faculty URM increased from 22 percent to 24 percent. I have enclosed updated charts that show progress in all but our adjunct faculty. Although these trends may seem modest, they represent encouraging trends over the past several years and suggest our joint faculty diversity efforts with the Statewide Academic Senate are beginning to pay off. Also for your information, I have enclosed a summary of a new AA to MA Faculty Diversity Pathway Initiative led by Vice Chancellor and General Counsel



Thuy Nguyen and supported by all the organizations shown on the cover. This is yet another example of our efforts to ultimately have the profile of our faculty and staff reflect the trends in the diversity of our students. I want to especially thank the colleges that hosted the seven regional training and summits, and the members of our EEO and Diversity Advisory Committee that have anchored the work along with our Institutional Effectiveness and Legal Divisions.

4. **Acting Chancellor:** It is a pleasure to congratulate Deputy Chancellor Erik Skinner, who the Board of Governors recently appointed as Acting Chancellor. I can assure you that he will do a fabulous job continuing to lead the Chancellor's Office in the coming months. Since I announced my retirement late last year, Erik and I have been working closely together on everything associated with our office. He has always been the chief operating officer of the organization and I have full and complete confidence in his ability, and the same level of confidence in our excellent Vice Chancellors and staff to lead the organization and work with the field. I have enclosed the press release announcing Erik's appointment. Rest assured you are in good hands with Erik and the Chancellor's Office team!
5. **What Does College Really Cost:** By now many of you may have seen the enclosed chart developed by the Institute for College Access and Success that was distributed recently regarding the cost of attending California public colleges and universities. However, I wanted to be sure you had all seen it because I was so surprised by the findings that I asked our research team to verify the numbers, and in fact they are quite accurate. What the chart shows, is that when all aid available for students and the full cost of attendance is taken into consideration, California community colleges are actually more expensive to attend in most regions of the state than both the University of California (UC) and California State University. In fact, the UC ends up being the least expensive system to attend in all but three regions and community colleges the most expensive in all but three. This is frankly shocking news considering that our colleges enroll vastly more low-income Californians than both the other systems combined and that we are the gateway to higher education for the vast number of citizens. Although we will need to be careful in how this information is used, considering our attempt to present a united front with all of California higher education, we will be able to use this third-party research in our advocacy for improvements in the Cal Grant legislation during this legislative cycle.
6. **Online Education Update:** As you know, our Online Education Initiative is an unprecedented effort that is blazing new trails for California and the nation. As of today, we have 64 colleges formally committed to transitioning to Canvas as their course management system (CMS), and with more colleges coming on monthly, we are well on the way to making the dream of a common CMS a reality. I want to specifically thank Pat James, Executive Director of the initiative, and the Foothill-DeAnza district for their dedication and leadership. Thanks to all of you who have migrated your colleges to the new system, and encouragement to those of you who have not made the decision to realize the benefits this single point of entry will mean to our students.
7. **Professional Learning Network Registration:** During a recent presentation by Success Center Director Paul Steenhausen to the Board of Governors, he provided the board with information on registering for the Professional Learning Network. This is an excellent new system that allows all of us, including faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees, to access a tremendous amount of content related to professional development and student success. The link, located at <http://prolearningnetwork.cccco.edu/>, will allow you to go to the upper-right corner of the navigation menu and click on "Login/Register." The site is currently in a "soft launch" mode and will be officially unveiled later this month, but I encourage you to explore this powerful new tool. Rather than go into details here I will just encourage all of you to register and see the wonderful tools that are available. If you have specific questions, feel free to call Paul directly at (916) 491-4468.
8. **Personal Note:** As you may know, today marks my final day in the office and the end of my tenure as your Chancellor. I have tried to tell you at every opportunity how much I have appreciated your support and what an honor it has been to serve this system, but let me say one last time that there has never been even one day that I have not appreciated the opportunity to represent you and your colleges. When I took the post nearly three and a half years ago, I did not know what was ahead, but as I said in my retirement message, I knew for sure that you would support me every step of the way. I have had the pleasure of seeing our system from a vantage point that few get the opportunity to enjoy. I can attest to the lives you are changing and the impact you are having, and I can say with pride that you lead not only the largest, but the greatest system of higher education in America. So long!



**FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
ON ACCREDITATION
No. 2016-03**

Whereas, California Education Code, Section 70901(b)(6)(A) - (B) requires the Board of Governors to define minimum conditions for colleges to receive state funding and review colleges' accreditation status as part of satisfying those minimum conditions:

(A) Establish minimum conditions entitling districts to receive state aid for support of community colleges. In so doing, the board of governors shall establish and carry out a periodic review of each community college district to determine whether it has met the minimum conditions prescribed by the board of governors.

(B) In determining whether a community college district satisfies the minimum conditions established pursuant to this section, the board of governors shall review the regional accreditation status of the community colleges within that district.

Whereas, California Education Code, Section 70901(c) states that the Board of Governors "shall have full authority to adopt rules and regulations necessary and proper to execute the functions specified in this section [including Section 70901(b) (6) (A) - (B)] ...".

Whereas, California Code of Regulations, Title 5 Section 51016 sets forth the Board of Governors' role in choosing the accreditor that would satisfy the minimum conditions of accreditation for colleges to receive state funding:

Each community college within a district shall be an accredited institution. Accreditation shall be determined only by an accrediting agency recommended by the Chancellor and approved by the Board of Governors. The Board shall approve only an accreditor recognized and approved by the U.S. Secretary of Education under the Higher Education Act of 1965 acting within the agency's scope of recognition by the Secretary.

Whereas, the Board of Governors finds that with the establishment of community college baccalaureate degree programs, the development of associate degrees for transfer with the California State University, and the development of transfer pathways with the University of California, California Community Colleges would be better served by an accrediting body that includes Bachelor degree granting colleges and universities, as is the case in other regions of the country. This will allow California Community Colleges to benefit from the peer review of 4-year colleges and universities in order to ensure the highest quality of educational services for students.

Whereas, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) is the current accrediting agency for the California Community Colleges; and the Board of Governors at its November 16, 2015 board meeting voted unanimously (with one abstention) to accept the 2015 Accreditation Task Force's findings and recommendations, and declared that:



FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
ON ACCREDITATION
No. 2016-03

“[T]he Board of Governors hereby directs the Chancellor, working through the system’s established consultation processes, to bring to the Board of Governors at its March 2016 meeting:

1. A recommendation for action to establish a new model for an accrediting agency; and
2. An implementation plan, along with timeline.”

Whereas, ACCJC is at risk of losing recognition by the U.S. Department of Education. As outlined in a January 4, 2016 letter, the Secretary of Education, United States Department of Education (Docket No. 14-10-O) found that ACCJC must submit a compliance report on sections 602.13 and 602.15 (a)(3) by January 4, 2017 to maintain its recognition by the U.S. Department of Education. Specifically, the ACCJC was found not to be in compliance with:

- i) 34 C.F.R § 602.13(a) which states that an accrediting agency “must demonstrate that its standards, policies, procedures and decisions to grant or deny accreditation are widely accepted in the United states by,” among others “educators and educational institutions”;
- ii) 34 C.F.R. § 602.15(a)(3) which states that accrediting agency must demonstrate that it has “academic and administrative personnel on its evaluation, policy and decision-making bodies, if the agency accredits institutions.”

Whereas, the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges have primary responsibility for representing their institutions in matters pertaining to accreditation, and are the member institutional representatives to the ACCJC.

Whereas, the Chief Executive Officers are committed to peer review as the most important aspect of the regional accreditation process.

Whereas, the Chief Executive Officers overwhelmingly resolved on March 14, 2016 that they lead the process to make fundamental changes to accreditation process and structures, including structuring regional accreditation that more closely aligns all segments of higher education.

Whereas, the Chief Executive Officers overwhelmingly agreed to pursue changes by immediately forming two representative planning groups to (a) “develop and recommend improvements regarding the ACCJC,” and (b) “facilitate communication leading to the long-range goal of California’s community colleges participating in a structure for regional accreditation that aligns all segments of higher education.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, at its March 21-22 board meeting that the Board of Governors accepts the report from the Chancellor based in part on the work of the 2016 Task Force on Accreditation Implementation.



**FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
ON ACCREDITATION
No. 2016-03**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Governors directs the Chancellor to:

1. Notify ACCJC that the Board of Governors supports the direction set by the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges to pursue a new direction in accreditation process and structure;
2. Participate with the Chief Executive Officers and their colleges in coordination of planning groups to:
 - a. Recommend immediate changes to improve the existing processes and culture of ACCJC including, but not limited to, enhanced financial transparency, reformed governance and leadership, better communication with member institutions, and more effective training during the next two years to ensure continuity of accreditation for the system's colleges, and
 - b. Lead a change in accreditation structure that aligns all segments of higher education in California, including coordinating planning discussions with the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) as well as the other community colleges in California that are not in our system and the community colleges of Hawaii and the Pacific islands currently accredited by ACCJC;
3. Provide Chancellor's Office support to the CEOs as they engage key constituent groups and help coordinate activities during this process;
4. Identify and advocate for resources to ensure an efficient transition;
5. Provide periodic updates to the Board of Governors on progress toward implementation of changes including a progress report at the July 2016 meeting; and
6. Present to the Board of Governors final recommendations on a new structure or agency for accreditation of the California Community Colleges based on the work of the planning groups coordinated by the CEO's, review the formal plan for college transition and bring to the Board of Governors the necessary information for the Board to recommend a new accreditor for the California Community Colleges to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education for approval.

California Community Colleges
Scorecard Rates
March 29, 2016

Scorecard Metric	Cohort Ending Year		Difference
	2013-14	2014-2015	
Completion Overall	47.3	47.1	-0.2
Completion Prepared	70.2	70.0	-0.2
Completion Unprepared	39.8	39.6	-0.2
Persistence Overall	71.7	73.4	1.7
Persistence Prepared	72.8	75.1	2.3
Persistence Unprepared	71.3	72.9	1.6
Units30 Overall	66.6	67.6	1.0
Units30 Prepared	71.2	73.2	2.0
Units30 Unprepared	65.0	65.8	0.8
Remedial Math	31.0	32.7	1.7
Remedial English	43.4	45.4	2.0
Remedial ESL	28.5	28.6	0.1
CTE	50.0	51.4	1.4

Under-Represented Minority* Percentages by Student and Employee Types

First-Time Hires and First-Time Students

Fall Terms 2006 - 2015

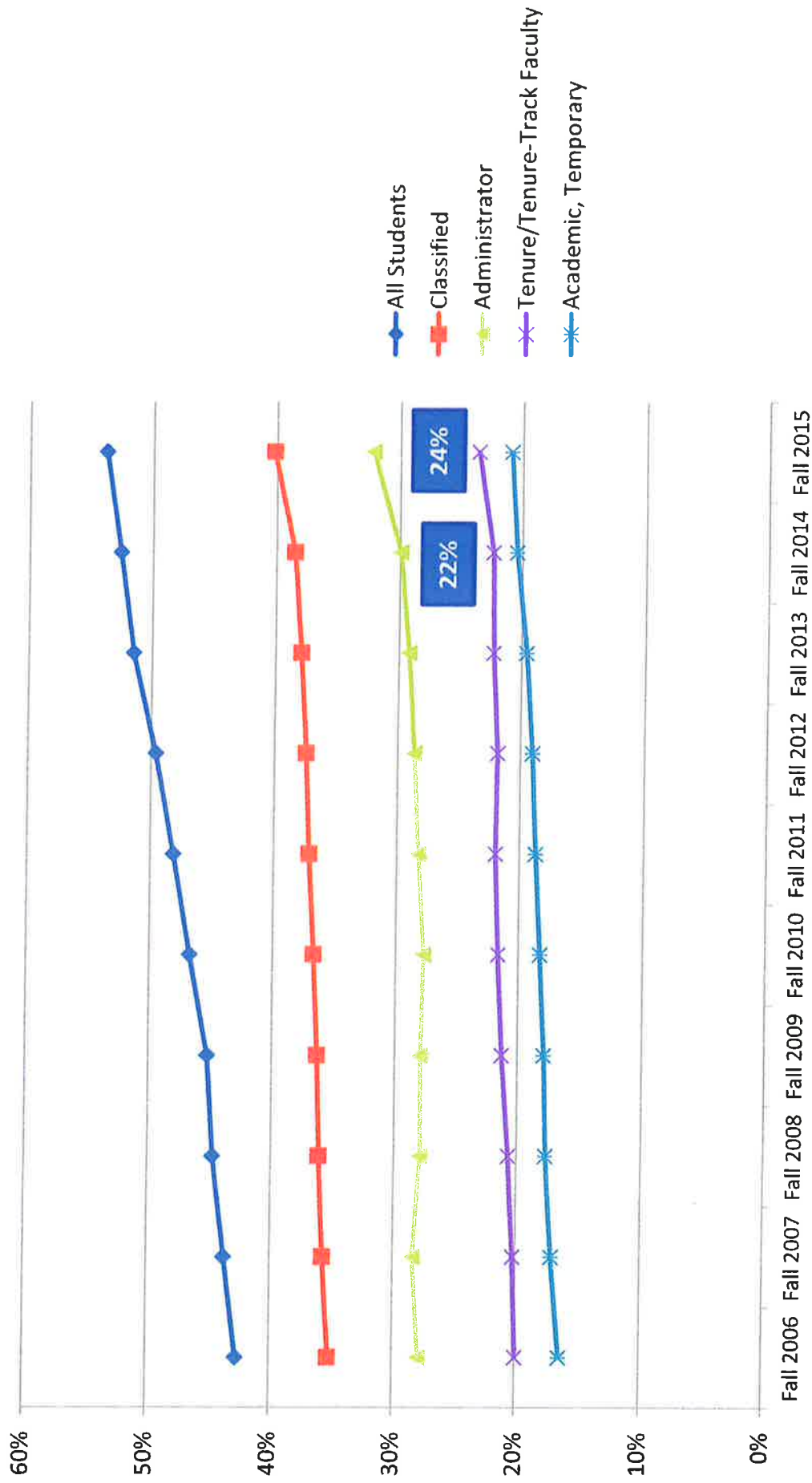


* Under-Represented Minority: Black, Hispanic, Native American, and Pacific Islander.

Under-Represented Minority* Percentages by Student and Employee Types

Fall Terms 2006 – 2015

TOTAL



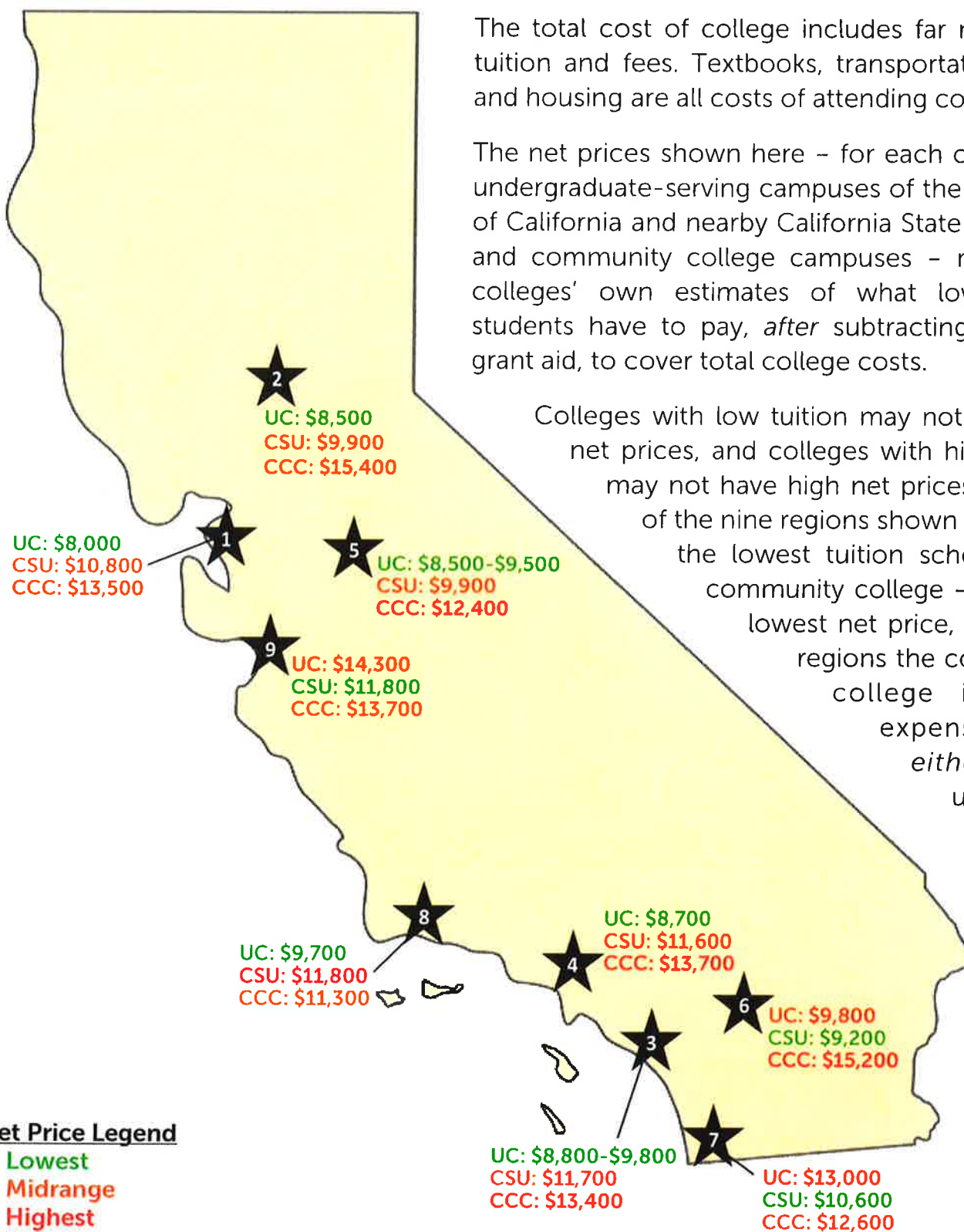
* Under-Represented Minority: Black, Hispanic, Native American, and Pacific Islander
 Non-Under-Represented Minority: Asian, Multirace, and White

What Does College Really Cost for Low-Income Students across California?

The total cost of college includes far more than tuition and fees. Textbooks, transportation, food, and housing are all costs of attending college.

The net prices shown here – for each of the nine undergraduate-serving campuses of the University of California and nearby California State University and community college campuses – reflect the colleges' own estimates of what low-income students have to pay, *after* subtracting available grant aid, to cover total college costs.

Colleges with low tuition may not have low net prices, and colleges with high tuition may not have high net prices. In none of the nine regions shown here does the lowest tuition school – the community college – have the lowest net price, and in six regions the community college is more expensive than *either* public university option.



Notes:

Figures are from each school's Net Price Calculator (NPC) for a dependent student from a family of four (with one child in college) with an income of \$18,000 (or under \$30,000 at the community colleges), living independently off-campus. Among dependent students attending California public colleges with family incomes between \$0 and \$30,000, \$18,000 is the median family income (from the U.S. Department of Education, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, 2008). NPCs were accessed in January 2016; figures are rounded to the nearest \$100.

Each of the nine undergraduate-serving University of California (UC) campuses is paired with a local California State University (CSU) and the nearest California Community College (CCC) campus. The colleges in the nine regions numbered on the map are as follows:

- 1: UC Berkeley, CSU – East Bay, Berkeley City College
- 2: UC Davis, CSU – Sacramento, Woodland College
- 3: UC Irvine, CSU – Fullerton, Irvine Valley College
- 4: UC Los Angeles, CSU – Los Angeles, Santa Monica College
- 5: UC Merced, CSU – Stanislaus, Merced College
- 6: UC Riverside, CSU – San Bernardino, Riverside City College
- 7: UC San Diego, CSU – San Diego, San Diego Miramar College
- 8: UC Santa Barbara, CSU – Channel Islands, Santa Barbara City College
- 9: UC Santa Cruz, CSU – Monterey Bay, Cabrillo College