

COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA
2019 BUDGET PRIORITIES

May Revision 2019



OUR PRIORITY REQUESTS

MAINTAIN FUNDING COMMITMENTS & PREVENT DEEP CUTS

- **Fully Fund the SCFF and Backfill Property Tax Shortfalls**

In 2018-19, state leaders adopted a new funding formula predicated on the goal of increasing successful outcomes of low-income and traditionally underserved Californians. Our priority request is a one-time appropriation of \$49 million to fully fund the SCFF as enacted and implemented for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Colleges are weeks away from student graduations - failure to fully fund the SCFF will result in diminished services and a structural deficit. We ask State leaders to treat community colleges equally and automatically increase the general fund allocation to correspond with any shortfalls in the SCFF and property taxes.

FUND ALL APPROVED PROJECTS IN THE 2019-20 CAPITAL OUTLAY PLAN

- **Refuse to Approve the Budget Act Unless it Includes Funding for All Projects**

Across California, community colleges are deeply concerned with the inefficient release of Proposition 51 bond resources. For the 2019-20 budget, the Administration continues prior practice and only funds a fraction of approved capital projects and dismissing voter support for Proposition 51. As a result, projects have been unnecessarily burdened with cost escalation. Failure to fund all capital projects is a missed opportunity to create jobs and to cultivate a skilled and educated workforce throughout the state.

REMOVE BIAS FROM FINANCIAL AID

- **Equitably Fund Financial Aid for Community College Students**

As currently structured, Cal Grants continue to distribute less than 10% of its resources to California community college students despite the fact that our students comprise two-thirds of the higher education population. State leaders continue to perpetuate systems that oppresses low-income students of color when they exclude community college students from basic needs proposals and limit access to financial aid. It's time to reform financial aid to cover community college student's total cost of attendance.

PROTECT COLLEGE INFRASTRUCTURE & LEARNING RESOURCES

- **Fund Deferred Maintenance & Instructional Equipment**

Colleges are grappling with aging infrastructure that will need to be replaced, renovated, or retrofitted, and the resources needed to tackle such projects compete with student supports and services. It is critical to approve a budget that includes funding for instructional equipment and deferred maintenance. Absence of these funds would represent a threat to a college's ability to offer quality learning experiences on a safe, clean, and adequately equipped campus environment.