

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA**

2017 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95811

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Website: [www.ccleague.org](http://www.ccleague.org)

April 20, 2018

Senator Holly Mitchell, Chair  
Senate Budget Committee  
State Capitol Room 5019  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Assembly Member Phil Ting, Chair  
Assembly Budget Committee  
State Capitol, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Senator Anthony Portantino, Chair  
Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 3086  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Assembly Member Kevin McCarty, Chair  
Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education  
State Capitol, Room 3136  
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: Enhancing Access, Equity and Success for All Through Eight Community College Funding Formula Principles**

**Item: California Community College Budget (6870-101-0001)**

Dear Senators and Assembly Members:

On behalf of the Community College League of California (League), representing the state's 72 community college districts, we thank you and your colleagues for investing in community colleges as the engine of social and economic mobility for California.

As we consider the Governor's 2018-19 proposal to restructure the funding formula for community colleges, we strongly support its intent to: "Encourage access for underrepresented students, provide additional funding for low-income students, reward colleges' progress on improving student success metrics, and improve equity and predictability so that districts may more readily plan and implement instructional programs."

The state's current enrollment-driven formula fails to capture the comprehensive mission of California community colleges and it has the unintended consequence of running counter-cyclical to the economy.

To create a new funding formula that promotes instructional quality, budget stability, access, affordability and success for all students, we respectfully urge you to support the recommendations of the CEO Funding Formula Workgroup as outlined below:

- Recognize the necessity of building institutional capacity to improve student outcomes by increasing community college base funding appreciably prior to implementation of a new funding formula;
- Provide two years of program transition funding at a new, higher base level with COLA while the formula metrics are analyzed and refined to ensure their efficacy in advancing student access, equity, and success;
- Enhance funding predictability with a three-year average for enrollment, uncap growth to further student access, and assign Summer FTE to the fiscal year in which instruction was held;



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- Focus on equitable completion by supporting not only the enrollment of economically disadvantaged students but also their success;
- Adequately define equity metrics to most accurately represent all economically disadvantaged students (e.g. low-income, CalWORKs, students with disabilities, foster youth, AB 540) and to identify their respective needs for Guided Pathways;
- Progressively phase out transition funding once metrics are thoughtfully simulated and reviewed during the two-year program transition, and
- Recognizing that the diversity of our geographic regions, economies and demographics across the state presents unique challenges and opportunities to community colleges, establish a funding formula oversight council to conduct an annual analysis and review of the funding formula and make recommendations to the Board of Governors by March of each year for adjustments that advance equity-minded student success through improved fiscal stewardship.

Specifically, an essential component of a new funding formula is a commitment to build the institutional capacity of the 72 districts as a necessary condition of student success. This necessitates a meaningful infusion of community college base funding in the first two years of implementation.

We believe that the aforementioned recommendations protect postsecondary education access for socio-economically disadvantaged students, reward districts' intentional efforts to advance student success outcomes, and supports the comprehensive mission of California's public community colleges. The League is very grateful for the amount of time that both you and your staff dedicate to listening to the local perspectives we present, and we look forward to further collaboration as the budget discussions unfold. Thank you for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

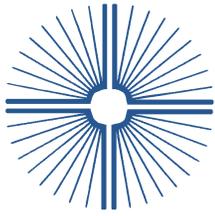
Brian King, Chancellor  
Los Rios CCD  
President, CEOCCC

Ann Ransford, Trustee  
Glendale College  
President, CCCT

Marvin Martinez, President  
East Los Angeles College  
Vice President, CEOCCC

Larry Galizio President/CEO  
President/CEO  
Community College League of California

cc: Members, Senate Budget Subcommittee #1  
Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2  
Members, Assembly Higher Education Committee  
Assemblymember Jose Medina, Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee  
Kimberly Rodriguez, Education Policy Director, Office of the Senate President pro Tem  
Monica Henestroza, Principal Consultant, Office of the Assembly Speaker



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