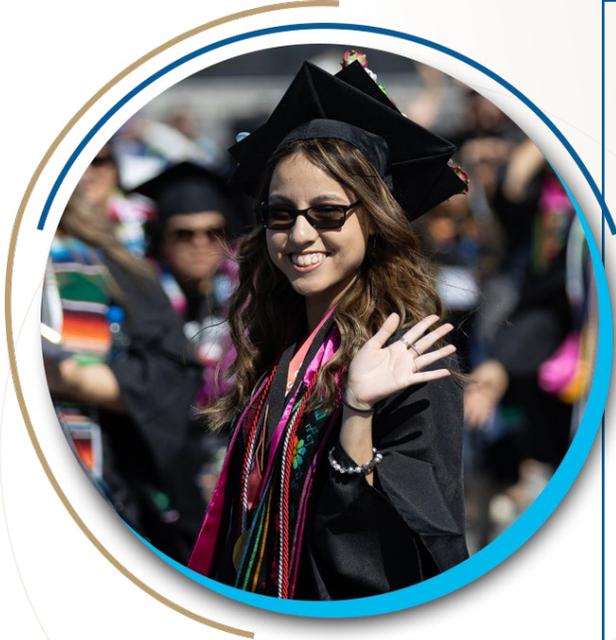




2023 State Legislative and State Budget Priorities



State Policy Proposals

AB 1096 (Fong) Native Language Education:

At Los Angeles Community College District campuses, a 2022 survey showed that roughly three in four students speak a language other than English at home. In addition, the US Census indicates more than one in four California residents are born in other countries, and Los Angeles alone is home to a population where more than half speak a language other than English at home. This bill would clarify that community colleges may offer credit and/or noncredit courses taught in languages other than English. The availability of these classes would provide additional opportunities for community college students who speak native languages, as well as for English-speaking students who wish to take courses in a second language.

AB 506 (Fong) Ethnic Studies Area F:

California community college students transfer to California State University (CSU) campuses more than any other four-year institution. Beginning in 2024-25, the CSU will require all students to take at least one ethnic studies course to qualify for graduation. However, there is a disconnect between the two systems on which community college ethnic studies courses would fulfill this graduation requirement. This bill would require the CSU to collaborate and coordinate with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the California Community Colleges Council on Ethnic Studies, and the California State University Council on Ethnic Studies to develop a process for approving community college courses to meet this requirement. In addition, this bill would request the California State University (Council on Ethnic Studies) to create a more streamlined and transparent process for approving community college courses. It would ensure the CSU course reviewers are subject matter experts in ethnic studies, and that the review process cannot be altered without approval from both the CSU and CCC system leadership.

AB 1151 (McKinnor) Community College Facilities:

LACCD campuses have experienced a consistent increase in requests from the public for the usage of campus athletic and recreational facilities. The high costs of routine and scheduled maintenance, utilities, and staffing for community college facilities often make it cost-prohibitive to lease its facilities to local youth athletic, non-profit and community organizations. LACCD is seeking a technical revision to update the Education Code section that defines the costs for rental agreements that can be imposed on outside entities that guarantee that a "fair, regional market rental value" is assessed. By re-establishing the fair rental value definitions, the community college governing boards will be able to ensure goodwill organizations have access to and use of the campus facilities at a breakeven point or at a cost that does not pose significant financial burdens to the prospective renter or the college. It would also provide the governing boards with the autonomy and the discretion of entering into rental agreements that provide benefits and add value to the college and the community at large.

SB 715 (Rubio) LACCD Small Business and Entrepreneurship Center:

The bill establishes the Los Angeles Community College District Small Business and Entrepreneurship Center (Center) at East Los Angeles College. The purpose of the Center is to promote and support entrepreneurship education and micro-business development at the Los Angeles Community College District and to support the growth and job-creation potential of regional small businesses. The Center will serve as a resource for the community through events and workshops on entrepreneurship education and access to small business development resources. The Center will build a clear management and entrepreneurship pathway that leads to high-demand certificates, degrees, careers, and business development opportunities. Further, it will enhance partnerships with business and nonprofit organizations that encourage the development of an entrepreneurship ecosystem where students can connect, both within and outside the college environment. In addition to the bill, LACCD will be seeking a concurrent State Budget allocation of \$2.5 million to establish the Center.

AB 1062 (Santiago) CSU - Community College Transfer Promise Program:

This bill would provide up to two academic years of free tuition and mandatory systemwide fees for low-to-moderate-income students enrolled at a California State University if they meet specified requirements. Students must first complete an Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) from a California Community College. Funding provided in the annual Budget Act would first be allocated to California State University campuses with qualifying students whose expected family contribution is zero percent. Any remaining funds would be allocated to California State University campuses with qualifying students whose expected family contribution is less than fifty percent. As a condition of receiving tuition and mandatory systemwide fee waivers, qualifying students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or the California Dream Act application.

State Budget Proposals

LGBTQ+ Support Ongoing Funding:

Two years ago, LACCD sponsored a budget request for \$10 million in one-time funding for LGBTQ+ support at community colleges throughout the state. The one-time funding has largely been expended and was very successful in supporting LGBTQ+ students on California community college campuses. This proposal would make the \$10 million for LGBTQ+ students a permanent, on-going allocation in the state budget. On-going funding could be used to fund "Pride Centers" and other safe spaces for students that need ongoing resources to be successful. Funds could also be used for learning centers, lavender graduations, and other proven efforts to support LGBTQ+ student success.

Basic Needs Funding:

Over 50% of Community College students report living at or near the poverty line with a majority reporting that they have struggled with food and housing insecurity. The barrier of access to basic needs like food and shelter can often be the difference between a student pursuing the life-changing benefits of a college education or dropping out in order to support themselves and their families. LACCD supports additional one-time funding going to help provide student housing, food, financial assistance, mental health, childcare, and services for veterans.

Address Student-Centered Funding Formula and the Hold Harmless:

The Student-Centered Funding Formula was established a number of years ago which immediately impacted the funding of community college districts, including the Los Angeles Community College District. Recent declines in enrollment have also impacted funding under the Student-Centered Funding Formula to the point that the majority of districts are either being funded through a "hold harmless provision" or the Emergency Conditions Allowance (ECA). Hold harmless provisions are anticipated to end with the 2024-25 budget and ECA is expected to end next fiscal year. This presents a funding cliff for many community college districts, including LACCD. We support alterations to the formula that would provide greater stability for districts as we seek to increase access to higher education and prepare California's workforce.

Board of Trustees

David Vela, President | Nichelle Henderson, Vice President | Kelsey K. Iino, Ed.D., Second Vice President | Andra Hoffman | Sara Hernandez, J.D. | Steven F. Veres | Gabriel Buelna, Ph.D. | Kenneth-Alan Callahan, Student Trustee

District Administration

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., Chancellor | Melinda A. Nish, Ed.D., Deputy Chancellor | Nicole Albo-Lopez, Ed.D., Interim Vice Chancellor, Educational Programs and Institutional Effectiveness | Carmen V. Lidz, MS, Vice Chancellor & Chief Information Officer | Maribel S. Medina, J.D., General Counsel | Jeanette L. Gordon, Vice Chancellor & Chief Financial Officer | Teyanna Williams, J.D., Vice Chancellor, Human Resources | Rueben C. Smith, D.C.Sc., Vice Chancellor & Chief Facilities Executive | Katrina VanderWoude, Ed.D., Interim Vice Chancellor, Workforce Development and Adult Education