



COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATE

PUBLIC EDUCATION'S POINT OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING EDUCATED DECISIONS

BOG Approves 2026-27 System Request



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posted September 25, 2025

At its September 16, 2025, meeting, the California Community Colleges (CCC) Board of Governors (BOG) approved the 2026-27 System Budget and Legislative Request (System Request) presented by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) staff.

The process to develop the 2026-27 System Request began in July and in August the CCCCCO hosted a working session with members of the Consultation Council about concepts for inclusion in the proposal. In light of forecasted economic uncertainty, the System Request focuses on advancing the three Strategic Directions of Vision 2030:

- Equitable Baccalaureate Attainment
- Equitable Workforce and Economic Development
- Generative Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Learning

We highlight the proposals and corresponding financial requests below. (All requests would utilize Proposition 98 funds unless noted otherwise. Details within each area are provided in Appendix B of the System Request link above.)

Equitable Baccalaureate Attainment	
Cross-Sector Partnerships and Coordination	\$40.7 million one-time \$2 million ongoing
Targeted Supports for Focused Learner Populations	\$24.2 million one-time \$105 million ongoing

Robust Financial Aid	\$1.5 million one-time \$10 million ongoing \$70 million ongoing (General Fund)
Faculty and Staff Supports	\$10 million one-time \$85 million ongoing
Equitable Workforce and Economic Development	
California Apprenticeship Initiative and Related and Supplemental Instruction	\$15 million one-time \$69 million ongoing
Campus-Based Microgrids (energy systems that can operate during power outages)	\$45 million one-time (Proposition 4)
Economic and Workforce Development Modernization	\$41.1 million ongoing
Los Angeles Recovery and Rebuild Initiative	\$20 million one-time
The Future of Learning and Generative Artificial Intelligence	
Common Cloud Data Platform	\$9 million ongoing \$36 million one-time
California Virtual Campus	\$3.9 million ongoing
Integrated Technology Cost-of-Living Adjustment	\$10.6 million ongoing

A portion of the “Robust Financial Aid” request noted above is an annual General Fund cost of \$60 to \$70 million to support a \$1.1 billion investment towards the statewide lease-revenue bond approach adopted in the 2024-25 State Budget, which enables colleges to construct affordable student housing projects. The “Faculty and Staff Supports” includes a \$55 million ongoing request to fully fund the 90% reimbursement rate for the Part-Time Faculty Office Hours Program.

The document also includes proposed investments for core resources and the CCCCCO as well as legislative and policy requests.

Core Resources	
Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) and Strong Workforce Program Base Restorations	\$60 million one-time To be determined ongoing
Enrollment Growth	\$112.5 million ongoing
Deferred Maintenance	\$60 million ongoing

Chancellor’s Office Capacity	
Vision 2030 Innovation Catalyst Fund	Budget neutral
Requests for Chancellor’s Office Positions	\$5 million ongoing (General Fund)
Legislative Mandates and Budget Priorities	To be determined

Additionally, the CCCCCO requests two SCFF formula changes: (1) to recognize credit full-time equivalent students (FTES) at the higher of the three-year average or the amount reported in the current year, and (2) to eliminate the 10% cap on funded FTES growth.

2026–27 Legislative and Policy Requests

- **Streamline CalWORKS Program Eligibility**—Maximize direct aid and remove employer match requirement
- **Streamline Legislative Reporting Requirements**—Modernize reporting requirements and alleviate workload burdens
- **Update California College Promise Program**—Clarify eligibility requirements for students and institutions
- **Increase Baccalaureate Degree Attainment Among Underserved Student Populations**—Pursue expanded transfer opportunities and further enable students to pursue baccalaureate degree opportunities, and to attain baccalaureate degrees with a focus on policies supporting rural and underserved populations
- **Strengthen Access to Dual Enrollment**—Streamline participation and expand the reach of dual enrollment programs
- **Supporting Artificial Intelligence Literacy and Workforce Development**—Support AI literacy efforts and AI workforce development opportunities, with an added focus on supporting rural and underserved communities

Now that the System Request has been approved, the CCCCCO will present the document to the Newsom Administration as they begin to build their 2026–27 State Budget proposal, which needs to be released by January 10, 2026. For the legislative and policy requests, the CCCCCO will likely reach out to legislators to author those proposals; however, policy proposals can also be handled via the State Budget process through the budget trailer bills.

The next BOG meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2025, which is the last BOG meeting for the 2025 calendar year.