PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
DATE: May 19-20, 2014

SUBJECT: Student Success and Support Program Funding (PUBLIC HEARING)  
Item Number: 3.1
Attachment: Yes

CATEGORY: Student Services and Special Programs
Recommended By: Linda Michalowski, Vice Chancellor
TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:
Consent/Routine
First Reading X

Approved for Consideration: Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
Action
Information

ISSUE: A change is proposed to California Code of Regulations, title 5, section 55518, to authorize the chancellor to lower the requirement for district matching funds for the Student Success and Support Program.

BACKGROUND: Current regulations require districts to spend three dollars of district funds to match each one dollar received in credit Student Success and Support Program categorical funds. This is consistent with past practice for the credit Matriculation program and reflects the state’s intent that these categorical funds supplement what colleges are already spending to provide counseling and other core student support services in order to expand those services rather than supplant current expenditures with categorical funds.

RECOMMENDATION: The proposed regulation is presented to the Board of Governors for a first reading. The Board of Governors must hold a public hearing for receipt of comments, both written and oral, which are offered concerning the proposed action. It is anticipated that the regulation will be presented to the Board for adoption at its July 7-8, 2014, meeting.
ANALYSIS: Funding for the Student Success and Support Program was increased by $50 million for 2013-14 and is expected to increase by double that amount or more for 2014-15. Because these significant increases are following a period of deep cuts, districts have many needs to address to restore classes, services and infrastructure support with limited general purpose funding. The imbalance is exacerbated by a significant deficit in cost of living adjustments to cover substantial increases in ongoing costs such as employee benefits and utilities. As a result, many districts will be unable to devote sufficient general funds to match the increased categorical funding for the Student Success and Support Program at the 3:1 rate. The proposed revision to this regulation would enable staff to make adjustments to lower the match requirement to a more appropriate level. Discussions are currently in progress to establish the threshold for 2014-15.

The proposed regulatory changes are included as Attachment 1.
1. Section 55518 of article 2 of subchapter 6 of chapter 6 of division 6 of title 5 of the California Code of Regulations is amended to read:

§ 55518. Funding.
(a) The Chancellor shall adopt a funding formula, consistent with the requirements of this section, for allocating Student Success and Support Program funds to community college districts complying with the requirements of this subchapter. Student Success and Support Program funds shall be allocated according to the number of students to receive services at each college and the number of students who received services funded through this subchapter.
(b) Each dollar of state credit Student Success and Support Program funding shall be matched by three dollars, or a lesser amount as determined by the Chancellor, of other district resources devoted to the Student Success and Support Program.
(c) Community college districts that receive Student Success and Support Program funding shall agree to implement the Board of Governors' system of common assessment, if using a standardized assessment test for placement, and implement the Board of Governors' Accountability Scorecard, pursuant to Education Code section 84754.5.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 66700, 70901, 78216 and 84754.5, Education Code.
Reference: Section 78216, Education Code.