The Student Success Act of 2012 (Senate Bill 1456, Lowenthal), signed by Governor Brown on September 27, 2012, provides a foundation to implement several recommendations from the Student Success Task Force (SSTF). The SSTF recommendations addressed in Senate Bill (SB) 1456 are recommendations 2.2 on mandating core matriculation services, 2.5 on requiring students to declare a course of study early, and 8.2, the repurposing of the Matriculation Program by targeting funds for provision of orientation, assessment, counseling, advising and other student education planning services. In addressing these areas, SB 1456 renamed the former Matriculation Program as the Student Success and Support Program. (SB 1456 also addressed recommendation 3.2 on establishing academic conditions for the Board of Governors Fee Waiver program. Those provisions will be implemented in a separate title 5 regulatory proposal that will be brought for Consultation Council review in May 2013.)

Background

In November 2012, the Chancellor’s Office convened implementation workgroups, comprised of key system stakeholders, to develop proposals and implement the provisions of SB 1456 related to the Student Success and Support Program. The SB 1456 Title 5 Workgroup was charged with reviewing existing title 5 matriculation related regulations to develop a title 5 regulatory proposal to implement the provisions of SB 1456. This workgroup was comprised of 18 members, including representatives from the Chief Executive Officers, Chief Student Services Officers, Chief Instructional Officers, Academic Senate for California Community Colleges, Student Senate for California Community Colleges, research, assessment, matriculation, career technical education, and admissions and records. A second workgroup was tasked with reviewing the existing matriculation data elements reported by colleges to determine what, if any, changes would be required, and to develop a new funding proposal that accounted for student population and services provided to allocate Student Success and Support Program funds to the colleges. This 19 member workgroup included most of the aforementioned stakeholder groups and also included representatives from MIS (Banner, Datatel, and Peoplesoft) and the Chief Business Officers. Both workgroups met over the course of 5-6 months to develop proposals to implement the new Student Success and Support Program.
Analysis

The key changes made to the existing title 5 Matriculation regulations include:

- Renaming the “Matriculation Program” as the “Student Success and Support Program.”
- Updating the 20+ year old regulations with the goal of reducing duplication, updating terminology, and improving the clarity and organization of the regulations; and,
- Aligning with the requirements and language in SB 1456 to:
  - Target funding to the core services of orientation, assessment, counseling, advising, and other education planning services;
  - Address new elements, such as “course of study” and “career goals;” and,
  - Establish policies for requiring students to complete orientation, assessment, and identifying a course of study and developing an education plan.

As required by SB 1456, the proposed credit funding formula includes the following elements:

- Establishes a 40/60 split for the allocation of funds based on headcount enrollment and services provided;
- Provides base funding to ensure a level of funding protection for smaller colleges while at the same time providing a proportionate share of funds for colleges with larger student populations;
  - Maintains the existing 3:1 match, while allowing districts to include expenditures for admissions and records, research, and related-technology services as part of the institutional match requirement. This will help districts transition to utilizing general funds to pay for functions formerly but no longer allowable from the categorical allocation.
- Phases in the funding formula changes over a four-year period; the new formula would not be effective for 2013-14 and 2014-15 to allow colleges to make MIS programming changes and ensure accurate and consistent reporting of student data. The new funding formula would be run to generate allocations for 2015-16 (based on 2014-15 data) but districts would have their allocations protected at 80 percent in the first year and 50 percent in 2016-17, delaying full implementation until 2017-18.

Additional information is provided in the attachments.

The regulation is scheduled for a first reading by the Board of Governors on May 6, 2013. If the Board completes its second reading in July, it is expected that the requirements for the mandated service provisions of the regulations would go into effect in fall 2015.