

Student Success and Support Program: Student Equity

SEC. 6.

Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 78220) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 1.5. Student Equity Plans

78220.

(a) As a condition for receiving Student Success and Support Program funding, and in order to ensure equal educational opportunities and to promote student success for all students, regardless of race, gender, age, disability, or economic circumstances, the governing board of each community college district shall maintain a student equity plan that includes all of the following for each community college in the community college district:

(1) Campus-based research as to the extent of student equity by gender and for each of the following categories of students:

(A) Current or former foster youth.

(B) Students with disabilities.

(C) Low-income students.

(D) Veterans.

(E) Students in the following ethnic and racial categories, as they are defined by the United States Census Bureau for the 2010 Census for reporting purposes:

(i) American Indian or Alaska Native.

(ii) Asian.

(iii) Black or African American.

(iv) Hispanic or Latino.

(v) Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.

(vi) White.

(vii) Some other race.

(viii) More than one race.

(2) Goals for access to, and completion of, basic skills, career technical education and workforce training, and transfer courses for the overall student population and for each population group of high-need or disadvantaged students, and a determination of what activities are most likely to effectively meet those goals.

(3) Whether significant underrepresentation is found to exist pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2), measures for addressing the disparities in those areas, implementation activities designed to attain the goals specified in paragraph (2), including, but not limited to, the adoption of evidence-based models of remediation, implementation of placement tests and policies that more accurately predict student success and identify students' remedial needs, and a means of coordinating with, at a minimum, the following student equity-related categorical programs or campus-based programs:

(A) Students with disabilities.

(B) Extended Opportunity Programs and Services and Special Services.

(C) Fund for Student Success.

(D) Student Success and Support Program.

(E) Programs for foster youth.

(F) Programs for veterans.

(G) Special Services for CalWORKs Recipients.

(H) Student Financial Aid Administration.

(I) Student Success for Basic Skills Students.

(4) Sources of funds for the activities in the plan.

(5) A schedule and process for evaluation.

(6) An executive summary that includes, at a minimum, the students groups for whom goals have been set, the goals, the initiatives that the community college or community college district will undertake to achieve these goals, the resources that have been budgeted for that purpose, and the community college district official to contact for further information. Commencing with 2016–17 academic year, the executive summary shall also include a detailed accounting of how funding was expended and an assessment of the progress made in achieving the identified goals.

(b) Student equity plans shall be developed with the active involvement of all groups on campus as required by law, including, but not limited to, the academic senate, academic faculty and staff, student services, and students, and with the involvement of appropriate people from the community.

(c) The plan shall be adopted by the governing board of the community college district and submitted to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges on or before January 1, 2015, who shall publish all executive summaries, sending copies to the appropriate policy and budget committees of the Legislature, the Department of Finance, every community college and community college district, each consultation group identified in subdivision (b) that so requests, and additional individuals and organizations as deemed appropriate.

(d) The plan shall be updated every three academic years and plan updates shall be submitted to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges for publication and distribution as provided for in subdivision (c).

78221.

The Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall allocate funds provided for purposes of successfully implementing the activities and goals specified in the student equity plans adopted pursuant to Section 78220, consistent with all of the following:

(a) The chancellor shall ensure a community college district has submitted a student equity plan that is consistent with Section 78220. For purposes of allocating funding appropriated in the 2014–15 Budget Act, a community college district that has not submitted a student equity plan shall provide the chancellor with an outline for the community college district's completion of the student equity plan on or before January 1, 2015.

(b) The chancellor shall ensure that community college districts that serve greater populations of students who are high-need students or disadvantaged students receive greater resources to provide services to students, consistent with the goals and activities specified in their student equity plans.

(c) The chancellor shall establish criteria for calculating the number of high-need and disadvantaged students in a community college district. For purposes of this article, "high-need students" mean students who have an expected family contribution, as defined in subdivision (g) of Section 69432.7, at any time during those students' matriculation at the institution, that would qualify those students to receive federal Pell Grants and students from ZIP codes in the bottom two quintiles of college attainment. The calculation of a student's expected family contribution shall be based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application or an application determined by the California Student Aid Commission to be equivalent to the FAFSA application submitted by that student. For purposes of this article, the determination of who are "disadvantaged" students shall take into account the college participation rate of the college-aged population of, and the socioeconomic status of, a community college district population.

(d) (1) The chancellor shall establish a list of eligible and ineligible expenditures and activities to ensure that funding is used to support the implementation of student equity plan goals and the coordination of services for the targeted student populations.

(2) Notwithstanding Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, by March 15, 2016, and by March 15 annually thereafter, the chancellor shall report to the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst, and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature, on the expenditure of funds for purposes of this article during the previous fiscal year.