



Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

Statement of Legislative Principles

The Statement of Legislative Principles is adopted by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to provide policy guidelines for the Chancellor when addressing matters pending before the California Legislature. The following constitute the core principles of engagement guiding the development of the System Office's positions on legislation on behalf of the Board of Governors. These principles are designed to:

1. Strengthen the California Community Colleges' ability to accomplish their statutory mission to provide the full range of community college programs and services; and
2. Increase community college student access and success and guarantee affordable, quality education.

Because the Board of Governors supports local governance, an overall guiding principle is that the Board will remain neutral on matters affecting local collective bargaining. Also, the Board of Governors will remain neutral on matters affecting only a particular community college district, except where a policy precedent, or resource allocations, have the potential of affecting other districts or the system and where the legislation would adversely impact the mission of the community colleges.

These legislative principles align Community College legislative priorities with the goals and priorities identified in the System Strategic Plan as follows:

A. Promote college awareness and access: *Increase awareness of colleges as a viable option and enhance access to higher education for growing populations in areas, such as:*

Enhancing student financial aid to reduce the overall cost of attending college.
Assisting students with the application process for attending a community college.

B. Support student success and readiness: *Promote college readiness and provide the programs and services that help all students achieve their educational and career goals in areas, such as:*

Increasing effective delivery of English, ESL, and mathematics basic skills education.

Strengthening the academic preparation of K-12 students and increasing success at a community college.

Supporting efforts with four-year institutions designed to provide additional transfers to a four-year institution.

- C. **Strengthen partnerships for workforce and economic development:** *Enhance the colleges' capacity to respond to current and emerging labor market needs and to prepare students to compete in a global economy in areas, such as:*

Supporting coordinated state workforce programs and policies.

Increasing efforts that align career technical education curriculum and program development between community colleges, K-12 and industry.

- D. **Improve system effectiveness:** *Strengthen system effectiveness through communication and coordination, regulatory reform and performance measurement in areas, such as:*

Enhancing and strengthening the bilateral governance model of the Board of Governors and local district governing boards.

- i. Maintaining local authority and control in the administration of the colleges.
- ii. Enhancing the flexibility of the Board of Governors and the chancellor regarding internal management and operation.

Strengthening college districts' ability to use their capital outlay, infrastructure bonds, and property management funds more efficiently.

Assuring adequate representation by the California Community Colleges on appropriate boards, commissions, task forces, study groups, and other bodies that may have an impact on the system.

Developing positions through the Consultation Council as provided by *Board of Governors Standing Order 317*.

- E. **Enhance resource development:** *Provide enhanced resources and allocation methods to ensure high-quality education for all in areas, such as:*

Protecting the fiscal integrity of the system.

Seeking legislative support for the principles and policies established through the system's budget process in accordance with the priorities established by the Board of Governors.

Aligning the System Strategic Plan with legislative and fiscal priorities wherever appropriate.

Ensuring that new reporting requirements are adequately funded and serving the interests of students, the colleges and the system.