



ACCCA 2019 Legislative Platform

ACCCA takes an active role in the development and advocacy of public policy and legislation for the benefit of the California community college system and its administrative leadership.

CORE VALUES OF THE ASSOCIATION

- Honesty, integrity and professionalism in leadership
- Ethical and effective advocacy
- Dedication to service and commitment to quality in support of educational access and excellence
- Building synergy and camaraderie through trust, teamwork and commitment
- The uniqueness, diversity and creativity of all ACCCA members within the college community
- Leadership excellence and promoting continuous professional development for all members

Legislative Priorities

Local Autonomy

ACCCA holds steadfast to the principle that local control is fundamental to establishing and operating sound programs for students. Because districts are accountable to their local community, they must have the agility to meet local needs. ACCCA opposes legislation that would impair or infringe upon the authority of community college districts (CCDs) or interfere with the ability of a CCD's staff to carry out the objectives established by their local Board. Additionally, ACCCA opposes expansions of the scope of collective bargaining, except where it would facilitate effective management, support local efforts to reduce the adversarial nature of employee relations, and promote collegiality and partnerships between management and other employees.

Finance

ACCCA calls on the state government to provide funds in a manner that builds excellence in public postsecondary education. Proposition 98 was established in the State Constitution by voters to set a minimum funding level for California's public schools. ACCCA supports full funding obligated under Proposition 98 and opposes legislation that would limit local control in making spending

decisions that are best for the unique circumstances of local communities. ACCCA's highest priority for allocation of Proposition 98 funds is full funding of the community college portion; ensuring the Student Centered Funding Formula is fully funded; providing adjustments for inflation, enrollment access growth, and increasing base costs; and guaranteed revenue backfills to provide certainty in budgeting.

Current Expense of Education

The "current expense of education" provision in the Education Code, commonly referred to as the 50% law, has been in existence since the 1920s. While the delivery of education has changed remarkably over this near century, the 50% law has not. ACCCA supports modernization of the 50% law that acknowledges the critical support services provided outside of the classroom that are essential to today's students, such as counselors, librarians, academic advisors, financial aid advisors, information technology professionals, health care staff, and orientation leaders. This modernization is more important than ever to align current law with the SCFF and the Vision for Success.

Leadership

The future of California's community college system depends upon the quality of its leadership. That's why ACCCA's core mission is building and sustaining a robust pool of leaders for the community college system. Community college administration is a public service that provides quality support to ensure student success. Recruitment, retention and professional learning opportunities require long-term commitments from the state Legislature to develop and support strategic initiatives to address the changing nature of education leadership.

Retirement Security

Retirement issues are of fundamental importance to both active and retired ACCCA members. ACCCA supports the preservation of pension benefits of employees in the CalSTRS and CalPERS systems and opposes any efforts to convert them into a defined contribution structure. ACCCA also supports parity in postretirement earnings opportunities between CalSTRS and CalPERS members. At the federal level, ACCCA supports the elimination of the windfall elimination provision and the government pension offset that impose penalties on Social Security earnings for educators in the CalSTRS system.

Campus Health, Wellness, and Safety

ACCCA believes that students and employees should have the opportunity to work and learn in an educational environment that is conducive to human growth and development. To that end, ACCCA supports adequate resources to assure a safe environment and support the social and emotional needs of students.

Fees and Education Costs

California's community colleges fees are the least expensive in the nation; however, the full cost can add up. ACCCA supports legislative proposals that help both full-time and part-time students to better afford college and successfully achieve their educational goals in a cost- and time-efficient manner.

21st Century Learning Environment

ACCCA calls on the state to continue its commitment to provide financial support for California's community colleges facilities. Additionally, to increase the ability for local fundraising, ACCCA supports legislation for a majority vote approval of local bonds and encourages a discussion to identify alternative funding sources for community college facilities. ACCCA also supports investment in, and maintenance of, technology in recognition of the ongoing costs to keep both technology equipment and knowledge current and the value added in the classroom through the integration of technology.