



June 24, 2026

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Laird, Chair  
Senate Budget Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 502  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Sasha Renée Pérez, Chair  
Senate Budget Sub. 1 Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 502  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel, Chair  
Assembly Budget Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable David A. Alvarez, Chair  
Assembly Budget Sub. 3 Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: 2026-27 State Budget Negotiations: California Community College Proposals**

On behalf of the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), the foremost member-supported professional organization for administrators and managers at the California Community Colleges (CCC), I am writing to share our perspective on key CCC proposals currently under consideration as part of the 2026-27 State Budget negotiations.

**Honor the Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee**

ACCCA appreciates that the Governor’s May Revision reduced the proposed Proposition 98 settle-up obligation from \$5.6 billion to \$3.9 billion for 2025-26. However, ACCCA remains opposed to funding Proposition 98 below the constitutionally required minimum guarantee, which was established to provide stability and predictability for public education funding.

ACCCA also has concerns with the Legislature’s proposal to shift non-local educational agency California State Preschool Program costs into Proposition 98. While we support investments in early childhood education, policymakers should ensure that any such shift does not dilute funding available for existing Proposition 98 programs. If adopted, the minimum guarantee should be adjusted annually to reflect the full ongoing cost of these programs. Without such protections, additional obligations could reduce flexibility for future investments in enrollment growth, the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF), and student support programs.

### **Paid Pregnancy Disability Leave**

ACCCA supports providing paid pregnancy disability leave for community college employees and appreciates the Legislature's commitment to funding this benefit. However, distributing funding through a 1.44% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) augmentation to the SCFF may not equitably reflect costs across all community college districts.

ACCCA encourages the Administration and Legislature to consider a dedicated funding mechanism based on documented expenditures to ensure districts are adequately reimbursed. Such an approach would promote equitable implementation, improve transparency, and preserve funding intended for instruction and student services.

### **SCFF and Categorical Program COLA**

ACCCA supports the Governor's and Legislature's proposal to apply the 2.87% statutory COLA to the SCFF and key categorical programs. These investments help colleges keep pace with rising labor, healthcare, utility, and operational costs.

ACCCA also strongly supports the Legislature's proposal to provide a 5.74% COLA for the Student Equity and Achievement Program (SEAP). As one of the system's primary investments in closing equity gaps and improving student outcomes, maintaining SEAP's purchasing power is critical. We encourage its inclusion in the final budget package.

### **Enrollment Growth**

ACCCA supports the Legislature's proposal to provide additional enrollment growth funding and to allow districts to utilize a three-year average for funded enrollment calculations. These proposals recognize the strong recovery underway across the CCCs, where enrollment has increased by approximately 15% since 2022.

Together, these investments and policy changes will provide districts with greater stability and flexibility as they respond to growing student demand, expand workforce training opportunities, and improve access for underserved communities.

### **Deferred Maintenance and Facilities**

ACCCA supports the Legislature's proposal to provide \$120.7 million in one-time deferred maintenance funding and appreciates continued investments in community college facilities through Proposition 2 bond funding. While these resources will help address critical repairs and infrastructure needs, significant deferred maintenance challenges remain. ACCCA encourages continued facility investments in future budgets to address the system's substantial maintenance backlog.

## **Student Support Block Grant**

ACCCA strongly supports the Legislature's proposal to increase one-time Student Support Block Grant funding to \$274.9 million. Flexible funding allows districts to address local priorities such as housing, food insecurity, childcare, transportation, mental health services, and academic advising. ACCCA encourages inclusion of this proposal in the final budget package.

## **Looking Forward**

We thank you for your consideration of ACCCA's recommendations regarding the 2026-27 State Budget. We recognize the difficult choices required to balance the state's budget amid ongoing fiscal uncertainty and appreciate the commitment of the Governor and Legislature to supporting California's students and public institutions.

We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Administration and Legislature as budget negotiations continue and to advancing policies that strengthen student success, workforce development, and the long-term fiscal health of CCCs.

Sincerely,



Dr. Claudia Lourido-Habib  
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Subcommittee No. 1 on Education  
Members, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance  
Andrew Medina, Consultant, Senate Pro Tempore Limón  
Misty Feusahrens, Consultant, Assembly Speaker Rivas  
Jessica Holmes, Education Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance  
Anita Lee, Assistant Program Manager, Department of Finance  
Christian Griffith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee  
Diego Lopez, Committee Consultant, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee