

Legislative Report
ASCCC Executive Committee Meeting
March 5-6, 2021
Last update: March 4, 2021

The following legislation has implications for academic and professional matters or may impact an area of academic and professional matters peripherally. Suggestions of additional bills for the ASCCC to follow are welcome – please email info@asccc.org with suggestions. Full text of all bills can be found at <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>.

2020-21 Two-Year Cycle

2021 Tentative Legislative Calendar:

https://www.senate.ca.gov/sites/senate.ca.gov/files/revised_agreed_2021_calendar.pdf

- February 19 – Last days for bills to be introduced
- March 25 – Spring recess begins upon adjournment of this day’s session
- April 5 – Legislature reconvenes from spring recess
- April 30 – Last day for policy committees to meet and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house
- June 4 – Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house
- June 15 – Budget Bill must be passed by midnight
- July 14 – Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills
- September 30 – Last day for any bill to be passed

Legislative Process: <https://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/content/process>

The legislature is expected to focus on the following issues:

- Direct response to COVID-19
- Ethnic Studies
- Student trustee rights
- Student Basic Needs
- Transfer Reform
- Legislation held back in 2020 due to COVID-19

REPORT: Governor’s Council for Post-Secondary Education formed a Recovery with Equity Taskforce in August 2020. Here is their report: [Recovery with Equity: A Roadmap for Higher Education after the Pandemic](#).

Recommendations to Note

5. Streamline and Unify the College Admission Process

Recognizing that most learners attend more than one college in order to earn a degree, California public institutions should adopt a streamlined and unified admission process, enabled by an

integrated technology platform, that provides an option for **dual admission** to smooth the pathway for learners who wish to attend a four-year institution but begin at a community college.

6. Develop a Common Course Numbering System

To streamline transfer from two- to four-year institutions and reduce excess credit accumulation, **California's community colleges should adopt a common course numbering system**, starting with general education requirements, and eventually expanding to transfer pathway courses. The aim would be to align all community college courses so that students transferring to four-year institutions know, as they are pursuing their courses, that they are meeting the requirements of the receiving institutions.

Assembly Bills (AB)

[AB 89 \(Jones-Sawyer\)](#) – Peace Officers: minimum qualifications.

This bill would increase the minimum qualifying age from 18 to 25 years of age. This bill would permit an individual under 25 years of age to qualify for employment as a peace officer if the individual has a bachelor's or advanced degree from an accredited college or university. The bill would not apply to peace officers already employed.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Amended and Re-referred to Committee on Public Safety 2/18/21

Notes: This bill could affect Peace Officer Standards and Training programs at community colleges.

[AB 102 \(Holden\)](#) – College and Career Access Pathways partnerships.

This would remove the current sunset date of 2027 of the College and Career Access Pathways program, which greatly expands our college's ability to provide dual enrollment opportunities to high school students.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC has supported CCAP in the past.

Status: Referred to Committees on Higher Education and Education 1/11/21

Notes:

[AB 103 \(Holden\)](#) – College and Career Access Pathways partnerships: county offices of education.

This bill would permit County Offices of Education to enter into College and Career Access Pathways agreements with community colleges.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC has supported CCAP in the past.

Status: Referred to Committees on Higher Education and Education 1/11/21

Notes:

[AB 417 \(McCarty\)](#) – Rising Scholars Network: justice-involved students.

This would authorize the Chancellor’s Office to establish a program, named the Rising Scholars Network, to enter into agreements with up to 50 community colleges to provide additional funds for services in support of justice-involved (current or formerly incarcerated) students.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC supports providing educational opportunities and services to current and formerly incarcerated students. Resolutions: [F19 3.06](#), [S17 5.01](#), [S17 7.02](#), [S17 17.02](#).

Status: Referred to Committee on Higher Education 2/12/21.

Notes: This bill reintroduces [AB 2341 \(McCarty, 2020\)](#).

[AB 421 \(Ward\)](#) – Community colleges: career development and college preparation courses.

This bill would require the Board of Governors to adopt regulations, no later than May 31, 2022, requiring the accounting of students enrolled in career development and college preparation courses to be conducted by positive attendance count or by census basis.

In addition, it would augment the definition of qualifying courses as a “complement of courses” instead of a “sequence of courses”.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: Although the ASCCC did not take an official position on the previous bill, AB 1727 (Weber, 2019), there are positions of support to equalize noncredit funding with that of credit. Resolutions: [F20 13.02](#), [S19 9.02](#), [F18 9.02](#), Rostrum Article: [Changes Ahead for Noncredit?](#); ASCCC Paper: Noncredit Instruction: [Opportunity and Challenge](#)

Status: Referred to Committee on Higher Education 2/12/21.

Notes: This bill reintroduces AB 1727 (Weber, 2019) that was vetoed by the Governor on 10/19/19 due to a likely substantial increase in cost. Consideration of Governor’s veto was stricken from the file on 1/21/20.

[AB 492 \(Patterson\)](#) – Cosmetology students: externships.

This bill would delete the requirement that the cosmetology externship be unpaid and would permit a student to work as an extern upon completion of at least 25%, instead of 60% of the clock hours required for graduation in the course, and would prohibit the extern's clock hour credit for graduation from exceeding 25 hours per week and 25% of the total clock hours required for completion of the course instead of the current 8 hours per week and 10% of the total clock hours.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Referred to Committee on Business and Professions 2/18/21.

Notes: This bill may have an impact on cosmetology programs at California community colleges.

[AB 927 \(Medina\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: community colleges: statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program.

This bill would remove the pilot designation, permit more than 15 colleges to participate, permit districts to offer multiple programs, require documentation regarding unmet workforce, but would still prohibit duplication of a CSU or UC program.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC passed resolutions [F19 6.01](#) to reverse the ASCCC prior position on the baccalaureate program and remove the pilot designation and [F19 6.02](#) to expand the baccalaureate program in disciplines and communities that best serve students and prioritize expansion of baccalaureate programs in allied health fields.

Status: Referred to Committee on Higher Education 2/25/21.

Notes: See [AB 1115 \(Choi\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: community colleges: statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program. *This bill would extend the pilot program by one year.*

[AB 928 \(Berman\)](#) – Postsecondary education: transfer process.
Spot bill

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Introduced 2/17/2021.

Notes: Assembly member Berman's office is in communication with the ASCCC.

[AB 940 \(McCarty\)](#) – College Mental Health Services Program.

The bill would amend Proposition 63 so that those funds could be used for the purpose of increasing campus (all three segments) student mental health services and mental health-related education and training. The bill would require campuses that participate in the program to report annually on the use of those grant funds and to post that information on their internet websites.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC took a [position of support \(as of 4/7/16\)](#) for [AB 2017 \(McCarty, 2016\)](#) an earlier bill that would have reallocated existing funds to support college mental health programs.

Status: Read 2/18/21.

Notes:

[AB 949 \(Mullin\)](#) – Community colleges: life science incubators.
Spot bill to establish life science incubators on community college campuses.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Introduced 2/17/2021.

Notes: *Life science incubators:*

<https://web.archive.org/web/20150924140342/https://www.entrepreneurship.org/eMed/eMed-Blog/2014/August/What-are-some-of-the-leading-life-science-incubators>

[AB 1040 \(Muratsuchi\)](#) – Community colleges: ethnic studies.

This bill would require the CCCs to require an ethnic studies course for those students seeking an ADT.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC has a long history of supporting ethnic studies education in the curriculum. Two ASCCC resolutions passed in fall 2020 support ethnic studies graduation requirements: [F20 9.03](#) and [F20 9.04](#). [Past position](#) of reluctant opposition to a prior bill.

Status: From printer 2/19/21.

Notes:

[AB 1115 \(Choi\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: community colleges: statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program.

This bill would extend the pilot by one year: July 1, 2027

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC passed resolutions [F19 6.01](#) to reverse the ASCCC prior position on the baccalaureate program and remove the pilot designation and [F19 6.02](#) to expand the baccalaureate program in disciplines and communities that best serve students and prioritize expansion of baccalaureate programs in allied health fields.

Status: Introduced 2/18/21. May be heard in committee 3/21/21

Notes: Watch as this bill may be serving as a spot bill. See [AB 927 \(Medina\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: community colleges: statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program. *Eliminates pilot designation, cap on number of colleges participating and number of programs in a district.*

[AB 1187 \(Irwin\)](#) – Community colleges: tutoring.

This bill adds supervised tutoring for basic skills, and for degree-applicable and transfer-level courses as eligible for state apportionment funding.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC remained neutral on [AB 1935 \(Irwin, 2018\)](#), which died in committee.

Status: Introduced 2/18/21. May be heard in committee 3/21/21

Notes: This bill reintroduces [AB 1935 \(Irwin, 2018\)](#).

[AB 1417 \(Frazier\)](#) – Community colleges: providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities: model curriculum for certification program.

The bill would require the chancellor’s office to develop a model curriculum for a certification program for providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities, designed to be offered at community college campuses where there is sufficient student interest and a properly qualified faculty to sustain such a program.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Read first time 2/22/21

Notes: The bill specifies that the Chancellor’s Office is to consult with individuals and organizations with expertise in the provision of care for individuals with developmental disabilities and the training of practitioners for that task. The fall 2020 Resolution [F20 6.01](#) directs the ASCCC to oppose legislation that establishes curriculum but does not include the ASCCC in the development of that curriculum.

[AB 1432 \(Low\)](#) – The California Online Community College.

This bill would make the California Online Community College Act inoperative at the end of 2022–23 academic year.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: Resolution [S18 6.02](#) urged the Chancellor’s Office and the legislature to make more efficient use of the state’s educational resources by utilizing existing community colleges and expertise as opposed to creating a new college.

Status: Read first time 2/22/21

Notes: The bill cites the [ASCCC finding](#) that three programs offered are duplicative of existing programs at accredited CCCs, and the method of delivery is duplicative of existing methods in other CCCs.

[AB 1456 \(Medina\)](#) – Student financial aid: Cal Grant Reform Act.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC has supported the expansion of Cal Grants [January 14, 2019 Letter](#); Through Resolution [S16 6.01](#), the ASCCC actively supports the expansion of financial aid for all students in the state.

Status: Read first time 2/22/21

Notes:

Senate Bills (SB)

[SB 40 \(Hurtado\)](#) – Healthcare workforce development: California Medicine Scholars Program.

This bill would create the California Medicine Scholars Program, a 5-year pilot program commencing January 1, 2023, and would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to establish and facilitate the pilot program to establish a regional pipeline program for community college students to pursue premedical training and enter medical school.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC supports pathways and partnerships to improve the educational opportunities for community colleges students.

Status: Amended and Re-referred to Committee on Health 2/25/21

Notes:

[SB 45 \(Portantino\)](#) – Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022

This bill would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022, for consideration by the voters at the November 8, 2022, statewide general election. If approved, five million dollars (**\$5,000,000**) shall be allocated to the California Community Colleges for workforce development programs for prescribed fire treatments, forest and woodland restoration, fire hardening, defensible space management, and approved community defense techniques.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions: The ASCCC supports the funding of workforce development programs.

Status: Set for hearing on 3/16/21.

Notes: Watch the section on workforce development programs.

[SB 228 \(Leyva\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: support services for foster youth: Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Education Support Program.

This bill would change the eligibility criteria for priority registration to allow a student participant to be a current or former foster youth whose dependency was established on or after the student's 13th birthday (instead of the 16th birthday).

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Set for hearing on 3/10/21.

Notes:

[SB 387 \(Portantino\)](#) – Peace officers: certification, education, and recruitment.

This bill would require the commission to work with stakeholders from law enforcement, the University of California, the California State University, the California Community Colleges, and community organizations to develop a list of courses to include as requirements for obtaining a basic certificate, as specified. The bill would require an applicant for a basic certificate to complete those courses before obtaining the certificate. By imposing additional training costs on local law enforcement agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Referred to Committee on Public Safety 2/25/21.

Notes:

[SB 659 \(Becker\)](#) – Community colleges: California College Promise.

This bill would change “shall” to “may” regarding charging a \$46 per unit fee.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: Joint Rule 55 (30-day waiting period) suspended 2/22/21. Passed out of the Senate.

Notes:

Department of Finance Trailer Bill Language
<https://esd.dof.ca.gov/dofpublic/trailerBill.html>

[Zero-Textbook-Cost Programs](#)

Changes:

- (1) Develop and implement one or more of the following program pathways:
 - (A) An existing associate degree or career technical education certificate program.
 - (B) A new associate degree or career technical education certificate program that meets one of the following conditions:
 - (i) Has a high value in the regional market.
 - (ii) Meets an emerging regional business industry need.

Strive to implement degrees within three academic years after funding is appropriated in the annual Budget Act, or sooner, as determined by the chancellor’s office.

[Dual Admissions](#)

This program is in Recommendation 5 of the [Recovery with Equity: A Roadmap for Higher Education after the Pandemic](#) Report.

Bills of Interest

[AB 101 \(Medina\)](#) – Pupil instruction: high school graduation requirements: ethnic studies.

This bill would require the successful completion of a high school ethnic studies course for graduation. A one-semester course would be required, a full-year course requirement would be authorized.

Status: Referred to Committee on Education 1/11/21

Notes: A similar bill, [AB 331](#) was vetoed by the Governor in September 2020; ethnic studies model curriculum needed further development.

[AB 245 \(Chui\)](#) – Educational equity: student records: name and gender changes.

This bill would require a campus of the University of California, California State University, or California Community Colleges to update a former student’s records to include the student’s updated legal name or gender if the institution receives government-issued documentation, as described, from the student demonstrating that the former student’s legal name or gender has been changed.

Status: Referred to Committee on Higher Education 1/28/21

Notes:

[AB 295 \(Jones-Sawyer\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: pilot program for free tuition and fees: working group.

This bill would establish a working group consisting of representatives from the State Department of Education, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, the Trustees of the California State University, and the Regents of the University of California to consider the creation of a pilot program, as specified, that would provide free postsecondary education in the state by replacing the system of charging students tuition and fees for enrollment at a public postsecondary institution. The bill would require the working group to submit a report to the Legislature on the pilot program.

Status: Referred to Committee on Higher Education 1/28/21

Notes:

[AB 375 \(Medina\)](#) – Community colleges: part-time employees.

This bill would change the maximum time a part-time, temporary employee may teach, without becoming a contract employee, to 85% of the hours per week of a full-time employee having comparable duties.

Status: Referred to committee on Higher Education 2/12/21.

Notes:

[AB 595 \(Medina\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: University of California and California State University: student eligibility policy.

This bill would require the CSU and requests the UC to consider the impact on unrepresented students when considering changes to student eligibility policies. Additionally, the CSU would be required, and the UC is requested to work with its K-12 and community college partners to develop a multi-year plan to phase in any changes needed as a result of the student eligibility policy.

Status: Referred to committee on Higher Education 2/18/21.

Notes:

[AB 775 \(Berman\)](#) – Public postsecondary education: basic needs of students.

This bill would require each community college campus to report specified basic needs information to the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, and would require that office to develop and submit to the Governor and the Legislature every 2 years a report based on the data and information reported by campuses under the bill.

Status: Referred to Committee on Higher Education 2/25/21.

Notes:

[AB 1073 \(Berman\)](#) – Community colleges: students enrolled in early childhood education or child development courses: fee waivers.

Official ASCCC Position/Resolutions:

Status: From printer 2/19/21.

Notes:

[AB 1269 \(Cristina Garcia\)](#) – Community colleges: part-time faculty.

This bill would require the Chancellor's Office to conduct a comprehensive study on part-time faculty pay parity.

Status: Read first time 2/22/21

Notes:

Bills of Interest – Students

[AB 337 \(Medina\)](#) – The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

This bill would eliminate the prohibition against a student member voting during the student member's first year on the board.

Status: Referred to committee on Higher Education 2/12/21.

Notes:

[AB 1377 \(McCarty\)](#) – Student housing: California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2021: community college student housing.

This bill would establish the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2021 to provide loans to qualifying applicants of the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges for the purpose of constructing affordable student housing.

Status: Read first time 2/22/21

Notes:

[SB 20 \(Dodd\)](#) – Student nutrition: Eligibility for CalFresh benefits

This bill would require the board of governors to adopt regulations so that a student who qualifies for this fee waiver, and whose household income is below 200% of the federal poverty level, may also qualify for CalFresh benefits to the maximum extent permitted by federal law.

Status: Referred to Committee on Education 1/28/21

Notes:

Bills of Interest – Local Academic Senates

[AB 361 \(Robert Rivas\)](#) – Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

[AB 703 \(Blanca Rubio\)](#) – Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

[SB 274 \(Wieckowski\)](#) – Local government meetings: agenda and documents.

Legislation Tracking

CCCCO: <https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Chancellors-Office/Divisions/Governmental-Relations-Policy-in-Action/Policy-in-action/State-Relations/Tracked-Legislation>

CCLC: <https://celeague.org/advocacy/bill-tracking>

FACCC: <https://ctweb.capitoltrack.com/public/publish.aspx?session=21&id=88fe9ac9-0a3b-4726-91a3-2a18d3d894f2>