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January 10, 2018

**STATEMENT ON GOVERNOR BROWN'S 2018-19 BUDGET PROPOSAL**  
**Governor Brown's final budget maintains focus on student success,**  
**improved pathways and accountability**

Governor Jerry Brown proposes \$33.7 billion for California higher education in his 2018-19 budget proposal. The investment solidifies his signature fiscal prudence while continuing to enact investments and innovations to improve college performance that will live beyond his tenure.

"California's greatest strength has historically been in its educated citizenry. The only way to maintain that stature is with continued higher education investment. Today's budget proposal preserves the Governor's commitment to improved student completion with innovative ideas for funding our colleges and universities and the delivery of education," said Michele Siqueiros, president of the Campaign for College Opportunity. "The budget proposal, however, falls short of providing the additional funding necessary to expand seats at our public universities to meet increasing student and workforce demand," concluded Siqueiros.

The Governor proposes an ambitious new funding formula for California Community Colleges that rewards better student outcomes by investing additional revenue in colleges for the number of students they graduate, the number who graduate within three years, and the number of students who earn an Associate Degree for Transfer. The proposal also suggests additional revenue for the number of low-income students a college enrolls. "Strategic funding by the state of California to increase college success by providing fiscal incentives to improve time to degree, transfer, and graduation is long overdue," said Siqueiros.

We are encouraged that the budget maintains the Cal Grant award for students attending nonprofit institutions at \$9,084 provided that by 2019-20, the nonprofit sector admits at least 2,500 Associate Degree for Transfer students and up to 3,000 students the following year.

The budget proposal also includes \$120 million for a fully online community college that will better serve working adults and \$46 million to implement the California College Promise to waive some or all community college fees for first-time, full-time resident students or for other innovative ways to improve student success goals.

The Governor's budget proposal increases base resources to the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) by \$92.1 million each. Unfortunately, that amount is far short of the \$283 million increase the CSU was seeking and reflects no new allocations for UC to increase spots for California freshmen or transfer students.

"As Governor Brown comes to the end of his administration, we applaud him for his demonstrated commitment to greater accountability, transparency and improved completion. His focus on student success at the community colleges continues to drive up the number of students seeking a bachelor's degree at our UC and CSU campuses and therefore we look forward to working with the Governor and Legislature to ensure the systems can enroll and graduate all eligible students," said Siqueiros.

To read the official budget documents produced by the Department of Finance, click [here](#).

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***About Campaign for College Opportunity:***

*The Campaign for College Opportunity is a California non-profit bipartisan policy and research organization focused on a single mission: to ensure all Californians have an equal opportunity to attend and succeed in college in order to build a vibrant workforce, economy and democracy. For more information, visit [www.CollegeCampaign.org](http://www.CollegeCampaign.org) / [Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeCampaign) or follow [@CollegeOpp](https://twitter.com/CollegeOpp).*