



**STATEMENT BY AUDREY DOW, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CAMPAIGN FOR COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY  
TO THE CSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2017**

Good morning Trustees, Presidents and Chancellor White,

On behalf of the Campaign for College Opportunity, we stand with you in calling on the Governor and legislature to provide sufficient funding for the CSU to support all eligible students and to meet the goals of the graduation initiative. We also applaud your vision to eliminate remedial education in the CSU.

But, I'm here today to express our strong opposition, along with that of 22 civil rights, business, and community leaders, including MALDEF, the LA Urban League, and the CA Business Roundtable, to the decision to require intermediate algebra for nine transfer degrees. And if you have not received a copy of [our coalition letter](#), I have copies with me.

The decision is a major step backwards. There is no evidence that students pursuing non-math or STEM majors must demonstrate proficiency in intermediate algebra. This decision tracks students out of their opportunity to transfer and earn a degree and goes against the Governor and Legislature's continued efforts to streamline the transfer pathway.

The UC does not even require intermediate algebra when a student takes statistics for their degree.

This policy reinforces the broken remedial education system that's responsible for generating much of the racial equity gap we see in college completion. Trustees and Chancellor White, we ask for your leadership in putting a hold on this decision and getting us back on track.

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