

For Immediate Release

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**GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S HISTORIC BUDGET INVESTS IN THE FUTURE:
PROPOSING \$39.6 BILLION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Along with innovative new agreements with the UC, CSU, and California Community College System, Governor Newsom reaffirms his commitment to increase college access, expand transfer, improve graduation rates, and close equity gaps for more Californians.

Los Angeles, CA - Governor Gavin Newsom proposed a \$39.6 billion investment for higher education in his 2022 budget proposal anchored by new multi-year funding agreements with the University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), and California Community Colleges. This ambitious framework reflects The Campaign for College Opportunity's long-standing priorities of increasing in-state student enrollment in our universities, improving time to completion and graduation rates, strengthening the transfer pathway, closing equity gaps, reducing total cost of attendance, and encouraging intersegmental coordination. The Governor's budget proposal also reflects a bold, newly established goal of achieving 70 percent postsecondary degree and certificate attainment by 2030 for California adults. Progress toward this goal is supported by a multi-year plan to grow enrollment, with over 21,000 new seats for California students at the UC and CSU proposed to be open by 2026.

Building on prior commitments to address the urgent needs of students during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor's proposed budget provides a path to long-term recovery; allocating \$150 million in funding for California's community colleges to bolster student enrollment and retention, and \$750 million in funding for grants to develop student housing at the UC, CSU and community colleges.

The budget proposes \$304.1 million for the California State University and \$307.3 million for the University of California, with a 5 percent annual increase for five straight years to allow each system to grow the number of California resident undergraduates by 1 percent each year and increase graduation rates – an essential enrollment strategy that would ease the burden on the increasing number of qualified students which [our most recent report](#) shows are shut out from the UC and CSU.

Governor Newsom also proposed critical investments to support more seamless transfer within the California Community College system, with \$65 million in funding to support implementation of AB 928 - the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021, \$105 million one-time funding to implement a common course numbering system (AB 1111), and \$25 million in additional funding to make improvements to technology infrastructure to map pathways to transfer and timely completion.

“Governor Newsom is ensuring that a budget surplus provides a long-standing impact that expands college access and success for Californians. We applaud the Governor for setting a 70

percent degree attainment goal and proposing critical investments that will allow the UC and CSU to enroll and graduate more students. The budget prioritizes greater access to college while recognizing that we must do more to make college more affordable, improve graduation rates and commit to closing ethnic and racial equity gaps in higher education,” said Michele Siqueiros, President of the Campaign for College Opportunity.

“We commend the Governor’s leadership by simultaneously investing in our state’s future well-being through multi-year agreements with the UC, CSU, and our community colleges while also setting forth clear expectations that they will serve more students, improve the transfer pathway, increase graduation rates and close gaps among underserved students. The addition of over 21,000 new college seats across both the UC and CSU combined by 2026 will help ensure more Californians regardless of race/ethnicity, zip code, or income-level are given an equitable opportunity to achieve their college dreams,” added Siqueiros.

Key Higher Education Highlights

Increasing Access to College Degrees

- \$304.1 million General Fund increase in CSU funding to expand enrollment of California resident undergraduates by 14,000 full-time students between 2023-24 and 2026-27 and eliminate equity gaps in graduation rates by 2025.
- \$307.3 million General Fund increase in UC funding to expand enrollment of California resident undergraduates by 7,000 full-time students between 2023-24 and 2026-27 with a significant portion of the new enrollment growth occurring at the following campuses—UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, and UC San Diego.

Strengthening Transfer from community colleges to UC and CSU

- \$65 million one-time funding to implement transfer reform (AB 928)
- Establishing coordinated educational pathways from high school through four-year institutions in the high-need fields of education, healthcare, technology, and climate action, including collaborating with UC and CSU to develop Associate Degree for Transfer pathways for transfer students interested in entering these fields.

Higher Education Coordination

- Establishes an integrated admissions platform between the UC, CSU and CCC.

Keeping the College Dream Affordable

- 170,000 additional Cal Grants for California Community Colleges.
- \$100 million to support the community college Student Success Completion Grant Program
- Modification of the Cal Grant B Dreamer Service Incentive Grant program to increase participant stipends to an equivalent of a \$15 hourly wage, and to authorize any

unexpended funds to be provided to UC and CSU to support their California Dream Loan programs.

- \$20 million one-time investment to support emergency student financial assistance grants to eligible AB 540 students.

Closing Racial Equity Gaps

- Eliminating gaps in CSU graduation rates between Pell Grant and non-Pell Grant students, as well as minoritized and non-minoritized students, by 2025.
- Eliminating gaps at the UC between overall four-year freshman graduation rates and those of minoritized students by 2030, with a goal of reducing the gap by half by the end of the 2025-26 academic year.
- \$10 million ongoing funding to diversify CCC faculty, staff, and administrators.
- \$1.1 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund investment to support the expansion of African American Male Education Network and Development (A2MEND) to an increased number of community college districts.

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 / Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign or follow @CollegeOpp.