
THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 135
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25 - See last page for vote

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Higher education budget trailer bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes necessary changes to implement higher education provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes various statutory changes to implement the higher education provisions of the Budget Act of 2026. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires the California State University Chancellor's Office to develop annual enrollment targets and report them to the Legislature and Department of Finance, among other conforming changes.
- 2) Includes statutory changes related to the implementation of the federal Workforce Pell program, including alignment of the Cal Grant C program and other conforming changes.
- 3) Reduces the appropriation made for apportionments to the California Community Colleges for apportionments in 2025-26 by \$455.4 million.
- 4) Applies \$405.4 million in deferred apportionment payments to the 2024-25 fiscal year.

- 5) Appropriates \$141 million Proposition 98 General Fund for apportionment costs in 2025-26.
- 6) Appropriates \$55.3 million Proposition 98 General Fund to support 1 percent enrollment growth in 2025-26.
- 7) Appropriates \$3.3 million Proposition 98 General Fund to support deferred maintenance needs.
- 8) Appropriates \$147.2 million Proposition 98 General Fund for the Student Support Block Grant.
- 9) Changes the reporting cadence of various California Community College (CCC) reports to be on a triennial basis.
- 10) Appropriates \$16 million Proposition 98 General Fund to support increased related and supplemental instruction hour costs to apprenticeship programs for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years.
- 11) Requires the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) to establish the Credit for Prior Learning Initiative as a systemwide initiative to award credit for prior learning opportunities at community colleges, among other conforming changes.
- 12) Requires the CCCCCO to establish the Common Cloud Data Platform to create a unified, modern data infrastructure to enhance statewide reporting, data sharing, and available analytical tools across participating community college districts and the Chancellor's Office, among other conforming changes.
- 13) Requires community colleges districts to provide employees with up to 14 weeks of paid pregnancy disability leave benefits, among other conforming changes.
- 14) Includes \$159.7 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund representing a discretionary 1.44% cost-of-living adjustment to apportionments, from which costs related to providing employees with up to 14 weeks of paid pregnancy disability leave shall be reimbursable. This amount is inclusive of an additional \$13.3 million ongoing to provide districts on the Hold

Harmless funding level with resources to cover costs associated with the aforementioned paid pregnancy disability leave benefit.

- 15) Appropriates \$15 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support LGBTQ+ Resource Centers at the California Community Colleges (CCC).
- 16) For purposes of calculating the base calculation a CCC district's funded credit shall be the greater of the three-year rolling average or its current year credit Full-Time Equivalent students (FTES).
- 17) Appropriates \$5 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support Pierce College Family Resource Centers.
- 18) Appropriates \$1.2 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support Cal-Bridge First Academic Scholar Training.
- 19) Requires the governing boards of community colleges that provides tuition exemptions for students related to nonresident students living along the California-Mexico border to jointly plan how to distribute the authorized 1,350 FTES for these purposes, among other conforming changes.
- 20) Requires the CCCCO to develop recommendations related to enrollment in competency-based education programs and alternate funding models, in relation to Calbright College, among other changes.
- 21) Authorizes the reimbursement of dental and vision benefits under the Part-Time Faculty Health Insurance Program at the CCC.
- 22) Increases the age for Cal Grant eligibility to 30 years, beginning in 2026-27 through 2030-31.
- 23) Codifies in statute reporting requirements related to basic need, mental health and rapid rehousing programs at the University of California and California State University.
- 24) Technical and conforming changes to align the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (CalNAGPRA) with federal requirements.

- 25) Clarifies that representatives of UC, CSU, and CCCCCO leadership are authorized to report on Title IX activities during legislative budget committee hearings.
- 26) Codifies in statute reporting requirements for the Student Housing Grant programs at UC, CSU, and CCC as well as for student housing data collection, and allows both reports to be consolidated into one annual report.
- 27) Requests that the UC to enter into a memorandum of understanding for data sharing purposes related to the Cradle-to-Career Data System.
- 28) Establishes the California Early College Demonstration Initiative related to dual enrollment.

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill is a budget trailer bill within the overall 2026-27 Budget Act to implement actions related to higher education and makes various appropriations.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/6)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Essayli, Hoover, Irwin, Krell, Papan, Wallis

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