

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING  
AB 1728 (Alanis)  
As Amended March 19, 2026  
Majority vote

## SUMMARY

Includes firefighting and law enforcement education courses in the California Community College (CCC) Common Course Numbering (CCN) system.

### Major Provisions

- 1) Requires on or before July 1, 2030, in order to streamline training for public safety employees, streamline transfer from two- to four-year postsecondary educational institutions, and reduce excess credit accumulation, the common course numbering system to include include all of the following courses:
  - a) Firefighting courses that align with the curriculum, standards, and certification requirements established by the Office of the State Fire Marshal's State Fire Training;
  - b) Law enforcement education courses that align with the curriculum, standards, and certification requirements established by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST); and,
  - c) Courses that fulfill the course requirements established for the modern policing degree program, as specified.

## COMMENTS

*Course Identification Numbering System (C-ID) Initiative.* AB 1415 (Brulte), Chapter 737, Statutes of 2004, established the existing requirement for the CCC and CSU to establish and utilize a common course numbering system.

According to SB 1415 Senate Floor analysis in 2004, SB 1415 sought "... to facilitate the seamless integration of California's postsecondary education institutions by requiring the adoption and incorporation of a common course numbering system among community college and California State University (CSU) campuses, and requesting adoption and incorporation among the University of California (UC) and independent colleges and universities. This promotes the effective and efficient progression of students within and among the higher education segments and will minimize duplication of coursework. Reducing the duplication of coursework will save students unnecessary expenses and encourage more efficient use of resources within higher education institutions."

The requirements of SB 1415 are carried out within the C-ID initiative, which is a collaborative faculty effort involving the CCC and the CSU intended to improve seamless articulation for students both intersegmentally (CCC to CSU) and intrasegmentally (among CCCs). Articulation is the process of developing a formal, written agreement that identifies courses (or sequences of courses) on a 'sending' campus that are comparable to, or acceptable in lieu of, specific course requirements at a 'receiving' campus. Developed by intersegmental faculty, the C-ID improves course portability, articulation, and plays a key role in developing Transfer Model Curricula.

Colleges participate in the C-ID system by submitting their courses for review to determine alignment with established C-ID descriptors. Once approved, these courses receive a C-ID designation, signaling their comparability to similarly designated courses at other institutions. This process supports the development of Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT), which guarantee admission to a CSU campus for community college students who meet specified criteria. There are currently 496 active C-ID descriptors, with nearly 30,000 CCC courses with approved alignment.

*Common Course Numbering (CCN).* AB 1111 (Berman), Chapter 568, Statutes of 2021, required the CCCs to adopt, at all community colleges and for each community college campus catalog, a CCN system. A key element differentiating the CCN system from the C-ID Initiative is that this numbering system is required to be student-facing, and is intended to ensure that comparable courses across all community colleges have the same course number.

The CCN system was approved to be rolled in phases, which include:

- 1) Phase I, which included six templates, was released and became student-facing in the Fall of 2025
- 2) Phase II, which includes 24 templates, has eight templates that were became student-facing for Fall 2026, and 16 templates that will become student-facing in Fall 2027
- 3) Phase III includes 55 templates. These templates underwent informal CSU and UC system office review for content and transferability alignment. Phase III templates will be student-facing for Fall 2027.

*Public safety courses.* California State Fire Training (SFT) establishes curriculum, certification standards, and training requirements for fire service personnel. The Commission on POST sets minimum selection and training standards for law enforcement officers in accordance with state law. These programs are often delivered through CCC campuses, but are not included in the current CCN structure.

As noted in the author's background document, many fire and law enforcement personnel pursue associate degrees, advanced certification, and leadership coursework while actively serving their communities.

### **According to the Author**

According to the author, "by including fire and law enforcement courses in the Common Course Numbering system, students will [have and easier time locating] these courses across California Community Colleges. Many of the students enrolled in these programs are first responders furthering their education, so establishing consistency in required coursework will prevent them from taking redundant classes and allow for a smoother transfer process."

### **Arguments in Support**

Yosemite Community College District, the sponsor of AB 1728, wrote in support of AB 1728 (Alanis), noting that "AB 1728 builds logically and effectively on the successful implementation of AB 1111 (Berman) and AB 928 (Berman) by addressing a long-standing gap in workforce and public safety training. While the existing common course numbering system has significantly reduced confusion and excess unit accumulation for transfer students, it does not currently apply to career technical education pathways, particularly those aligned with [SFT] and [POST]. As a

result, firefighters and law enforcement personnel encounter a fragmented and duplicative system in which identical or substantially similar courses carry dozens of different titles and numbers across colleges, despite being built on the same statewide standards."

"By directing the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to work with colleges and system partners to establish a standardized numbering approach for fire and law enforcement courses, AB 1728 would streamline training, support career advancement, and improve clarity for active-duty public safety employees and the agencies that rely on them. AB 1728 also presents an opportunity to reinforce the integrity and credibility of community college instruction. Fire and law enforcement courses offered by community colleges are rigorous, standardized, and aligned with statewide training expectations. Establishing a common course numbering framework for these programs will reduce unnecessary duplication, improve efficiency, and help ensure that California's public safety workforce can access high-quality, clearly articulated training regardless of where it is delivered."

### Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

## FISCAL COMMENTS

- 1) Significant one-time General Fund costs of approximately \$3 million for the CCC Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) to oversee implementation of the new CCN system across all participating colleges.
- 2) Significant one-time Proposition 98 General Fund costs in the millions of dollars to expand the CCN system as required by this bill. According to the CCCCCO, costs to comply with this new requirement would range from \$81,000 and \$185,000 for each of the 57 colleges offering applicable programs, creating a total one-time cost between \$4.6 million and \$10.5 million.
- 3) One-time General Fund costs of an unknown but likely significant amount, possibly in the hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars, for the CSU to adopt a new CCN system across CSU campuses.

## VOTES

### ASM HIGHER EDUCATION: 10-0-0

**YES:** Fong, DeMaio, Boerner, Jeff Gonzalez, Jackson, Kalra, Muratsuchi, Patel, Sharp-Collins, Tangipa

### ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

**YES:** Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

## UPDATED

VERSION: March 19, 2026

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