
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1728 (Alanis) - Community colleges: common course numbering system: career technical education public safety courses

Version: June 30, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Policy Vote: ED. 7 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill requires, by December 31, 2027, the California Community Colleges (CCCs) to develop and submit to the Legislature an implementation and funding plan to establish a common course numbering (CCN) and alignment system for career technical education public safety courses.

Fiscal Impact:

- The Chancellor's Office estimates one-time General Fund costs of \$33,000 to \$53,000 to develop an implementation and funding plan to establish a CCN and alignment system for career technical education public safety courses.
- While the bill provides that implementation of the plan would be contingent upon the availability of funding, it could lead to General Fund and Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures, potentially in the low millions of dollars, for community college districts to develop and implement the new CCN system.

Background: Existing law requires the CCCs, by July 1, 2027, to adopt a CCN system for all general education requirement courses and transfer pathway courses, and requires each CCC campus, by July 1, 2027, to incorporate CCNs from the adopted system into its course catalog.

Proposed Law: This bill requires the CCCs to develop and report to the Legislature an implementation and funding plan to establish a CCN and alignment system for career technical education public safety courses focused on regional, agency-compliant, and professional standards.

This bill requires that there is a phased implementation for the courses, and that the new system is complementary to the current CCN system.

This bill provides that implementation of the plan is contingent upon the availability of funding.

Related Legislation: AB 3290 (Committee on Higher Education, Chapter 440, Statutes of 2024) extends the implementation deadline by which the CCCs are required to adopt a CCN system and incorporate common course numbers from the adopted CCN system into its course catalog by three years to July 1, 2027.

AB 1111 (Berman, Chapter 568, Statutes of 2021) requires the CCCs adopt a CCN system and requires the CCN system to be student-facing and ensure that comparable courses across all CCCs have the same course number.

AB 128 (Ting, Chapter 21, Statutes of 2021) appropriated \$10 million on a one-time basis to establish a workgroup that supports the development and implementation of a CCN system for the community college system, and required the workgroup to align the proposed common course numbering system with course numbering systems at the CSU and UC.

Staff Comments: This bill requires the CCCs to develop and report to the Legislature an implementation and funding plan to establish a CCN and alignment system for career technical education public safety courses focused on regional, agency-compliant, and professional standards. This new system would be complementary to the current CCN system with an infrastructure specific to certain public safety courses. According to the author, “By including fire and law enforcement courses in the Common Course Numbering system, students will more easily be able to locate 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.”

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