

California College Promise Grant Fee Waiver. Enrollment fees at CCCs are the lowest in the country (\$46 per unit), and almost half of all CCC students (over one million) receive a fee waiver. Until recently, the CCCs referred to a fee waiver as a Board of Governor's (BOG) fee waiver. The BOG fee waiver has existed since the establishment of enrollment fees at the CCC in 1984 and waives the per-unit enrollment fee for any CCC student (part-time or full-time) who demonstrates financial need, without limit on the number of years a student may be eligible. The California College Promise Grant replaced the BOG fee waiver. Additionally, current law requires CCCs to provide fee waivers for surviving dependents of certain military service members and first responders.

Many career pathways offered at the CCCs include the awarding of stackable credentials, often in the form of short-term certificates requiring as few as six units. These credentials allow students to enter the workforce and return to the CCC system as needed for additional training as they continue along their career education pathway. Because current law limits eligibility for the fee waiver to students who have not earned a degree or certificate from a postsecondary educational institution, students who may have earned a certificate as part of their associate degree pathway but have not yet received their degree become ineligible for the fee waiver. This bill provides eligibility for such students.

- 3) **Related Legislation.** AB 537 (Ahrens), of the current legislative session, would have reduced the minimum unit requirement for CCC students to qualify for a California College Promise fee waiver from full-time (12 or more units) to 9 units. AB 537 was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1035 (Mark González), of the current legislative session, would have authorized the expansion of the community college enrollment fee waiver that students are eligible for under the California College Promise by an additional two years of full-time attendance for a student enrolled in a community college baccalaureate degree program for a total of four years of eligibility. AB 1035 was held in this committee.

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