
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2768 (Ahrens) - Student financial aid: waiver or deferment of fees and costs: foster youth

Version: June 15, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Policy Vote: ED. 7 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill requires the California State University (CSU), community college districts, and private and independent institutions of higher education that receive state financial assistance, and requests the University of California (UC), to waive or defer the unpaid portion of enrollment fees and other costs for current or former foster youth upon initial enrollment until the student has received an initial disbursement of their financial aid award.

***** **ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE** *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026

Fiscal Impact: The Chancellor's Office estimates General Fund costs of up to \$15,000 per district, or \$1.1 million statewide, to update policies deferring fees for foster youth students. These costs could be reduced to the extent that existing policies meet requirements of the bill. For example, some community college districts have policies that defer fees under "anticipated aid."

The UC and CSU indicate that the bill's costs would be minor and absorbable.

Author Amendments: Make clarifying changes to require CSU, community colleges, and private and independent institutions of higher education to either waive the unpaid portion of enrollment fees and costs or defer the unpaid portion of enrollment fees and costs, as specified.

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