
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 90 (Jackson) - Public postsecondary education: overnight student parking

Version: July 8, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 18, 2025

Policy Vote: ED. 4 - 2, JUD. 10 - 2

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Lenin Del Castillo

Bill Summary: This bill requires community college districts to adopt a plan for offering an overnight parking program for students to stay in their car overnight until an alternative is provided. The bill also requires each campus that offers an overnight parking program to provide participants with information on housing services and resources.

Fiscal Impact:

- The Chancellor's Office estimates one-time Proposition 98 General Fund costs of between \$1.2 million and \$1.8 million for all 72 community college districts to develop a plan to offer an overnight parking program for consideration by their governing boards. This estimate assumes that the costs for the plans would range from \$15,983 to \$24,377 per district. However, the Chancellor's office indicates that actual costs could be closer to the planning grants that the community colleges received to determine the feasibility of offering affordable student housing which ranged from \$50,000 to \$845,000. Ultimately, the costs would depend on factors such as the size of the college, size and location of the parking lot, and the location of services and facilities needed for overnight parking.
- To the extent the governing board of a district approves a plan for overnight parking, the Chancellor's Office estimates ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund costs that range from \$552,777 to \$694,444 per district to maintain an overnight parking program, or \$39.8 million to \$50 million statewide assuming that all 72 districts adopt and implement a program. The exact costs will depend on the number of colleges and students that participate and the services that are made available.
- While the bill includes protections against civil liability, the Chancellor's Office indicates that community college districts may incur additional, unknown cost pressures to respond to potential litigation.
- This bill could result in ongoing General Fund costs of \$60,000 each year for the Chancellor's Office to update its data system to allow for district reporting and issue an overnight parking program report.

Background: Existing law requires that CSU and the University of California (UC), and requests that the California Community Colleges (CCCs), in order to ensure current and

former homeless youth and current and former foster youth have stable housing, give priority for housing to these students.

Existing law requires campuses of the CSU and UC, and requests campuses of the CCCs, that maintain student housing facilities open for occupation during school breaks, or on a year-round basis, to give first priority to current and former foster and homeless youth for residence in the housing facilities that are open for uninterrupted year-round occupation.

Existing law extends priority for housing at the UC, the CSU, and the CCCs to homeless youth, and requests campuses to develop plans to ensure that homeless and foster youth have housing during breaks.

Existing law defines “homeless youth” as a student under 25 years of age, who has been verified as a homeless child or youth (as defined by Federal law). It also provides that a student who is verified as a former homeless youth retains that status for a period of six years from the date of admission.

Proposed Law: This bill requires, by September 1, 2026, the governing board of each community college district to adopt, as part of the annual campus safety plan, a plan to offer an overnight parking program to students enrolled at each campus within the district. The bill states that it is the Legislature’s intent that the plan provide overnight parking to students who are experiencing housing insecurity and allow students to stay in their cars overnight at designated parking lots and parking spots on campus as specified.

This bill requires the plan to be developed in consultation with the campus’ basic needs coordinator and with the campus’ security, and that it include all of the following:

1. A written agreement with campus’ security for monitoring overnight parking lots and spots. The agreement is to include a procedure for reporting and responding to any threats to the safety of a participating student.
2. An overnight parking program application developed by the campus’ basic needs coordinator. Eligible students are to acknowledge and agree to the rules for the overnight parking program in the application, and that any violation of these rules will result in the student’s immediate removal from the parking program.
3. Designation of bathroom and shower facilities that will be made available to participating students and an agreement with custodial staff for the maintenance of those designated facilities.
4. A determination as to whether the CCD’s governing board will prohibit use of recreational vehicles for parking under the program.
5. The designation of, but not limited to, at least one parking lot on campus for use by participating students under the program.
6. Overnight parking program rules that a participating student must follow when using overnight parking facilities include the campus student code of conduct and

a zero tolerance policy for intimidation, harassment, and the use of drugs or alcohol. A violation of the overnight parking program rules is to be reported and investigated in the same manner as a student code of conduct violation. A finding that the student violated rules is to be grounds for immediate removal from the parking program.

7. A procedure for registering and verifying the identity of an eligible student and the student's vehicle through the issuance of an overnight parking permit at no cost to the student. This information is to be used solely for the purpose of implementing the overnight parking program and not to be disclosed for any other purpose, except pursuant to the specified court-issued warrant.
8. Daily time of use or hours of operation requirements for overnight parking under the program that ensure that the daily time of use or hours of operation for overnight under the program align with campus operation hours. The bill requires that these requirements provide for parking to occur overnight and include a plan to maintain the overnight parking program during holidays and academic breaks.
9. A procedure for issuing an overnight parking permit to students, including a specified timeframe in which the parking permit is valid. This timeframe is to be at least four weeks but not more than one semester or the quarterly equivalent.
10. A requirement for the campus' basic needs coordinator to prioritize securing sustainable housing alternatives for participating students.
11. A procedure for issuing an overnight parking permit to students, including: a specified timeframe in which the parking permit is valid and a process for informing students about the bathroom and shower facilities designated and providing students with a copy of the overnight parking program required rules.
12. A requirement for a campus' basic needs coordinator to prioritize securing sustainable housing alternatives for participating students.
13. A procedure for students to apply for and obtain approval to participate in the overnight parking program. The procedure is to include a process for informing students about the designated bathroom and shower facilities and providing students with a copy of the overnight parking program rules.
14. An estimation of the cost of implementing the overnight parking program.

This bill requires the district's governing board, by December 31, 2026, to vote to determine if the community colleges within the district will establish an overnight parking program that aligns with the plan adopted. It also requires, if the majority of the governing board votes in favor of establishing an overnight parking program, a basic needs coordinator for each campus to implement the plan immediately and commence accepting applications for the overnight parking program within three months of the vote. The bill provides that nothing prohibits a governing board of a community college district from revisiting the establishment of the overnight parking program to determine its feasibility if it is not approved.

This bill requires each campus that offers an overnight parking program to do all of the following:

1. Send a stand-alone email to each of its students as specified describing available student housing services, and provide a description of these services at each campus student orientation.
2. Provide a description of available student housing services at each student orientation at the campus.
3. Provide a housing assistance tab that is clearly visible and easily accessible on the campus' internet website, as specified.

This bill requires a participating student to be granted access to overnight parking until the student is provided access to a sustainable housing alternative offered by a campus' basic needs coordinator.

The bill provides that a campus that complies with the requirements of the bill is not civilly liable for a campus employee's good faith act or omission that fails to prevent an injury to a participating student that occurs in, or in close proximity to, and during the hours of operation of, overnight parking. The immunity provision does not apply to gross negligence, intentional misconduct, or violations of other laws.

This bill requires each campus to report annually to the Chancellor's Office on specified outcomes, and the Chancellor's Office to report on the overnight parking programs based on the information provided in the campus report.

Related Legislation: AB 1818 (Jackson, 2024) would have required the CCC Chancellor's Office and the CSU Chancellor's Office to each establish a pilot program to allow overnight parking on select campuses by students. AB 1818 was held on the Suspense File in this Committee.

AB 302 (Berman, 2019) would have required a community college campus that has parking facilities on campus to grant overnight access to those facilities to any homeless student who is enrolled in coursework, has paid any enrollment fees that have not been waived, and is in good standing with the community college for the purpose of sleeping in the student's vehicle overnight. This bill was moved to the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

Staff Comments: The California Community College system consists of 72 community college districts and 114 campuses statewide, serving about 1.8 million students each year. About 64 percent of these students are considered low-income based on federal standards. Current law requires a CCC campus that has shower facilities for student use to grant access to those facilities to any homeless student who is enrolled in coursework, has paid enrollment fees and is in good standing with the community college district.

This bill requires the development of a plan that permits students to stay in their car overnight. It outlines several requirements that the plan must fulfill, including an

agreement with campus security for monitoring overnight parking areas and addressing any threats to student safety. The plan must also allocate bathroom and shower facilities for participants and establish rules of conduct. Additionally, the bill provides that at least one parking lot on campus must have a minimum of 50 designated parking spots for overnight parking. According to the author, "AB 90 seeks to provide a backstop and an alternative for emergency shelter, by allowing California community college students to stay overnight in their personal vehicles while parked on the campus of their college where they are a registered student. While emergency shelter in a vehicle is not ideal, just knowing a student may have a place to shelter, will go a long way to stabilizing their health and providing additional time to find a long term housing solution."

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