

California Community College Task Force on Student Success

Here is a very quick summary of the recommendations of the Task Force on Student Success. This is just a snapshot. It does not include all the gory details. It is really a must read. If these recommendations are implemented—as they are on track to be—they will drastically change the way some of our courses are presented and funded.

Chapter 1

Increase Student Readiness for College

Recommendation 1.1

Community Colleges will collaborate with K-12 education to jointly develop common standards for college and career readiness that are aligned with high school exit standards.

Chapter 2

Strengthen Support for Entering Students

Recommendation 2.1

Community colleges will develop and implement a common centralized assessment for English reading and writing, mathematics, and English as a Second Language (ESL) that can provide diagnostic information to inform curriculum development and student placement and that, over time, will be aligned with the K-12 Common Core State Standards and assessments.

Recommendation 2.2

Require all incoming community college students to: (1) participate in (a) diagnostic assessment and (b) orientation, and (2) develop an education plan.

Recommendation 2.3

Community colleges will develop and use centralized and integrated technology, which can be accessed through campus or district web portals, to better guide students in their educational process.

Recommendation 2.4

Require students whose diagnostic assessments show a lack of readiness for college to participate in a support resource, such as a student success course, provided by the college for new students.

Recommendation 2.5

Encourage students to declare a program of study upon admission and require declaration by the end their second term.

Chapter 3

Incentivize Successful Student Behaviors

Recommendation 3.1

The Community Colleges will adopt system-wide enrollment priorities that: (1) reflect the core mission of transfer, career technical education and basic skills development; (2) encourage students to identify their educational objective and follow a prescribed path most likely to lead to success; (3) ensure access and the opportunity for success for new students; and (4) incentivize students to make progress toward their educational goal.

Recommendation 3.2

Require students receiving Board of Governors (BOG) fee waivers to meet various conditions and requirements, as specified below. (A) Require students receiving a BOG fee waiver to identify a degree, certificate, transfer or career

advancement goal. (B) Require students to meet institutional satisfactory progress standards to be eligible for the fee waiver renewal. (C) Limit the number of units covered under a BOG fee waiver to 110 units.

Recommendation 3.3

Community Colleges will provide students the opportunity to consider the benefits of full-time enrollment.

Recommendation 3.4

Community Colleges will require students to begin addressing basic skills deficiencies in their first year and continue remediation as part of their education plan.

Chapter 4

Align Course Offerings to meet Student Needs

Recommendation 4.1

Community Colleges will use the requirements for a student to complete a program of study, along with state and local data, including enrollment trends and labor market demand to develop course schedules and determine course offerings.

Chapter 5

Improve the Education of Basic Skills Students

Recommendation 5.1

Community Colleges will support the development of alternatives to traditional basic skills curriculum and incentivize colleges to take to scale model programs for delivering basic skills instruction.

Recommendation 5.2

The state should develop a comprehensive strategy for addressing basic skills education in California that results in a system that provides all adults with the access to education in mathematics, English, and English as a Second Language (ESL.)

Chapter 6

Revitalize and Re-envision Professional Development

Recommendation 6.1

Community colleges will create a continuum of strategic professional development opportunities, for all faculty, staff and administrators to be better prepared to respond to the evolving student needs and measures of student success.

RECOMMENDATION 6.2

Community Colleges will direct professional development resources targeted at both faculty and staff toward improving basic skills instruction and support services.

Chapter 7

Enable Efficient Statewide Leadership and Increase Coordination Among Colleges

Recommendation 7.1

The state should develop and support a strong community college system office with commensurate authority, appropriate staffing, and adequate resources to provide leadership, oversight, technical assistance and dissemination of best practices. Further, the state should grant the Community College Chancellor's Office the authority to implement policy, consistent with state law.

Recommendation 7.2

In collaboration with the CCC Chancellor's Office, districts and colleges will identify specific goals for student success and report their progress towards meeting these goals in a public and transparent manner (consistent with Recommendation 7.3).

Recommendation 7.3

Implement a student success score card.

Recommendation 7.4

The state of California should develop and support a longitudinal student record system to monitor student progress from elementary through postsecondary education and into the workplace.

Chapter 8

Align Resources with Student Success Recommendations

Recommendation 8.1

Consolidate select categorical programs.

Recommendation 8.2

Invest in the Student Support Initiative

Recommendation 8.3

Establish an alternative funding model to encourage innovation and flexibility in the delivery of basic skills instruction.

Recommendation 8.4

Do not implement outcomes-based funding at this time.