June 2016 Newsletter

Key Legislative Deadline Passed

May 27th marked a key legislative milestone—the deadline for all legislation with a budgetary impact to pass out of their fiscal committee, typically the Assembly or Senate Appropriations committees. Over 40 bills impacting community colleges were passed, amended or held in committee. See below for a list of what occurred to League priority bills (for a complete list click here).

League Sponsored Legislation:

**AB 1721 (Medina)** – Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program – Originally would have made targeted investments in the Cal Grant B program that would have benefited community college students. To pass out of committee it took significant amendments to narrow the scope of the bill. It now increases the number of competitive Cal Grants to 34,000. – **Passed**

**AB 1892 (Medina)** – Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant C – Would have increased the Cal Grant C award to $3,000 and create a Cal Grant C entitlement program for community college students in a CTE program. – **Held**

**SB 1357 (Block)** – Community College Students: Cal Grant B – Would have created a supplemental grant of $1,500 for community college students receiving a Cal Grant B. - **Held**

League Support if Amended Legislation:

**AB 1583 (Santiago)** – Community Colleges: Enrollment Fee Waiver – Will permit anyone who can demonstrate financial need to qualify for a Board of Governor’s Fee Waiver. Additionally, it would have appropriated up to $1 Billion in Proposition 98 dollars for cash grants to students, a proposal the League opposed. To pass out of committee, the bill was amended to drop this provision. – **Passed**
AB 1726 (Bonta) – Data Collection – Will mandate that community colleges further aggregate their API data into 11 additional ethnicities or nationalities. In order to pass out of the committee the author amended the bill to allow for a feasible implementation timeline. – Passed

AB 1837 (Low) – Postsecondary Education: Office of Higher Education Performance and Accountability – Would establish a statewide coordinating entity, similar to the California Postsecondary Education Commission but does not specify that this body shall include segmental representation. – Passed

League Opposed Legislation:

AB 1690 (Medina) – Community Colleges: Part-Time, Temporary Employees – Will mandate that all colleges give seniority re-hire rights to their part-time faculty pool. – Passed

League Oppose Unless Amended Legislation:

AB 2434 (Bonta) – Postsecondary Education: Higher Education Policy – Would have created commission to study and develop a plan to grow funding and enrollment at public universities but banned anyone with a background in higher education from serving on the commission. - Held

Final Week of Budget Negotiation

Soon after the release of the Governor’s May Revision, League Board Members went into action advocating for community colleges in the Capitol. On May 18, League Board Members met with six legislators, including Senator Mark Leno, Chair of the Senate Budget Committee, and four key Legislative and Administration staff to promote the importance of a base augmentation for colleges.

The Senate and Assembly subcommittees on education finance completed their hearings on May 24 and have taken action reflecting their priorities and response to the Governor’s May Revision. Both houses share many of the values supported by Governor Brown that strengthen community colleges so they can continue to serve as California’s workforce engine. Actions taken by the Senate and Assembly addressed many of the remaining concerns on an otherwise positive budget for community colleges. Both houses agreed to amendments that address colleges’ key issues around the basic skills budget proposal. These amendments reject the performance-based funding model and adoption of proven practices.
The Budget Conference Committee, comprised of members of both houses, includes the following 10 members:

**Senate –**
Mark Leno, Senate District 11
Ricardo Lara, Senate District 33
Loni Hancock, Senate District 9
Patricia Bates, Senate District 36
Jim Nielsen, Senate District 4

**Assembly –**
Phil Ting, Assembly District 19
Lorena Gonzalez, Assembly District 80
Richard Bloom, Assembly District 50
Kristin Olsen, Assembly District 12
Jay Obernolte, Assembly District 3

The Budget Conference Committee members have begun negotiations to form an agreement and pass a budget that can be sent to Governor Brown by June 15. For community colleges, only a few budget items were discussed by the Budget Conference Committee. These included Strong Workforce, Promise Programs, Awards for Innovation, Part-Time faculty Office Hours and others. The Budget Conference Committee came to a final agreement on June 9. The chart with the full budget agreement is available [here](#).

The League appreciates the support it has received from colleges in support of its advocacy to ensure a final budget agreement includes a base augmentation that begins to address the substantial fiscal challenges that districts face due to escalating operational costs and to maintain educational quality.

### Advancing CEO Leadership in CTE

The League, in partnership with the Chancellor’s Office and in support of the *Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy* framework, present the CTE Leadership Summit, which will provide attendees with current industry information and tools to lead campus and community dialogue focused on CTE efforts and opportunities. CTE administrators are highly encouraged to attend but all who are interested are invited to register and attend.

The infusion of workforce development funding into our system has created an opportunity to advance the CTE mission of California’s community colleges. Our charge to close the skills gap and build a more robust workforce is reinforced by a proposed $200 million investment – an investment that’s nearly as powerful as the Student Success investment. Strong leadership is needed to further this initiative. To register, [click here](#).

Discussion will include:

- Community College CTE Mission
- A New Era of CTE Investment: Funding Requirements for the $200 million Strong Workforce Program
- Regulatory Changes
- Strong Workforce Program Trailer Bill Language
- WIOA Performance Accountability Measures and Model
- CTE CEO Strong Workforce Certificate Program
**Schedule-At-A-Glance**

**Friday, August 5 • 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
- Welcome
- State of the State on CTE
- Overview of Current Work of Doing What Matters
- Progress on Implementation of the 25 Recommendations
- Impact of CTE on Student Services and Academic Affairs
- Update on CTE Partnerships and Initiatives
- Effective Use of Data Tools

**Friday, August 5 • 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm**
- Chancellor’s Reception
- Dinner on your own

**Saturday, August 6 • 8:30 am – 12:30 pm**
- Funding Requirements of the $200 million
- Roundtable Discussion

**Must Read**

*“Why Performance-Based Funding Doesn’t Work”*
Hillman, Nicolas. College Completion Series: Part Four. (May 2016)

The Century Foundation has issued a paper that finds that performance-based funding models for higher education only serve to exacerbate disparities within public higher education. The report also found that completion rates do not increase under performance-based funding models. The authors conclude that states should instead emphasize capacity building and equity-based funding as alternative policy tools.

Specifically, the report found that:
- Pay-for-performance rarely results in positive outcomes.
- It is difficult to define education success aside from graduation rates.
- State should provide more resources to low performing colleges that serve underrepresented students.

The full paper can be found [here](#).

---

*For more information, contact the League’s Government Relations and Communications staff:*

Lizette Navarette, Vice President for Strategy and Policy Development | lizette@ccleague.org
Samantha Demelo, Director, Communications and Marketing | sdemelo@ccleague.org
Ryan McElhinney, Legislative Advocate | ryan@ccleague.org