



2019 - 2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Funding Student Success

- Reforming Financial Aid
- Addressing food and housing insecurity
- Providing more access to low income students
- Funding Mental Health services
- Increasing veteran resources
- Increasing program funding for current and formerly Incarcerated students
- Granting full voting right to student trustees

**The Student Senate for California Community Colleges
(SSCCC)**

1102 Q Street, 6th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95811
studentsenateccc.org

ABOUT SSCCC

MISSION

The Student Senate for California Community Colleges works to promote and safeguard access for current and future students to California public higher education in accordance with the Master Plan for Higher Education through system participatory governance, legislative and policy advocacy, and regional support and development.

STUDENT EMPOWERMENT

The Student Senate for California Community Colleges is recognized by California Community Colleges Board of Governors and Chancellor's Office as the official voice of students in system participatory governance in accordance with Title 5, §50002.

Financial Aid

Reform financial aid to

- fund students' basic needs for all students;
- fund the full cost of college for low-income students;
- enable more individuals to receive state aid; and
- provide more flexibility to students looking to graduate quicker by utilizing summer courses.

Student Trustees

The SSCCC is seeking an amendment to Education Code Section 72023.5 to allow students serving on Board of Trustees to have full voting rights on their local board to ensure students are represented in decisions that affect them.

Health and Wellness

In California, the 2018 National College Health Assessment reported that 63% of college students surveyed felt overwhelming anxiety, 42% felt so depressed that it was difficult to function, 62% felt lonely, and 12% seriously considered suicide. Many California community colleges provide some mental health services but they are not adequately funded to handle the percentage of students in need of such services. The SSCCC will advocate for the legislature to fund more resources for mental health services.

Veterans and Incarcerated Students

Community colleges serve the most vulnerable student populations in California. Two such populations that have special needs are our retired, active duty and military dependents, and the former and current incarcerated students. Both these populations require additional resources to serve their unique needs. The SSCCC will advocate for additional funding and resources to support the success of these two populations in pursuing higher education and career opportunities.

Food and Housing Insecurity

A 2019 Chancellor's Office survey states that 51% of our students are experiencing food insecurity, 60% experience housing insecurity and an additional 20% of students are completely homeless. The SSCCC will advocate for the legislature to address food and housing insecurities in higher education system in general.

<https://hope4college.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/RealCollege-CCCCO-Report.pdf>

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