

2009-2010 Legislative Session

Signed into Law

The Governor signed legislation that would mandate the creation of a transfer degree at every California community college and guaranteed qualified community college students transfer to CSU, probably close to home and maybe in a related major through \$160 million in annual cost savings by creating efficiencies in course taking at community colleges and CSU's.

Accountability for community colleges will be the subject of a study conducted this year to look at how all monies can be better allocated to encourage student success.

Radiologic Technology programs will be able to continue to receive national accreditation rather than being accredited by the California Department of Public Health.

Extend foster care, Fed-GAP, and the Adoptions Assistance Program (AAP) to age 21 for youth who meet specified criteria

Joint Committee for the Master Plan for Higher Education established to guide higher education policy.

Allow unemployed people to receive unemployment insurance (UI) benefits while enrolled in a training program on a full-time basis.

The Legislature resolved that part-time and temporary faculty of the California Community Colleges (CCC's) receive pay and benefits that are equal to those of tenured and tenure-track faculty of comparable qualifications doing comparable work and that the CCC's should increase the percentage of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty. The Resolution further provides that implementation of these requirements should be subject to a collective bargaining process.

Requires all postsecondary institutions to reasonably accommodate and assist the student in meeting all coursework requirements that he or she may have missed due to compulsory military service.

Deletes the provision of law requiring, for all new Cal Grant awards, the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to reduce "calculated financial need" by a veterans' education benefit.

Vetoed

The California Dream Act of 2010 which would have permitted AB 540 students to apply for the Cal Grant student aid program if they meet requirements for nonresident tuition exemption.

Attempt to establish minimum standards and requirements for all public retirement systems in California with respect to final compensation, ongoing audits with penalties for noncompliance, and prohibitions against a retiree from immediately returning to employment with the public employer on a part-time or contract basis.

Establishing a cap for retirement compensation for employees hired after January 1, 2011 under either the State Teachers' Retirement System or Public Employees' Retirement System for any employee at 125% of the compensation of the Governor in 2009 which was \$173,987 (125% equals \$217,483).

Requiring a school or community college district to grant a leave of absence to any permanent classified employee elected to the Legislature.

Requiring a test sponsor to accept the Matricula Consular de Alta Seguridad (MCAS) issued by the government of Mexico through one of its consular offices within the last five years as a valid form of identification for purposes of admitting a test subject to take a standardized test and provides that no other identification shall be required for persons who present a valid Matricula Consular.

Requiring the Board of Governors to establish a pilot project with the goal of creating a set of centralized common assessments in English, Math, and English as a Second Language.

Adding CCC, CSU, and UC foundations to the Public Records Act and adds provisions protecting the confidentiality of fundraising strategies and work-product that could be used by competitors.

Requiring the California Energy Commission to set aside \$8 million annually over five years to fund start-up of an estimated 200 new academies in the growing job sectors of clean technology and renewable energy.