

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 15, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1741**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Rodriguez**  
*(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Medina and Santiago)*  
*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chiu and Low)*

February 1, 2016

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*An act to add Part 54.1 (commencing with Section 88900) to Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges, colleges, and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1741, as amended, Rodriguez. California Community Colleges College Promise Innovation Grant Program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law requires students enrolled at campuses of the California Community Colleges to be charged prescribed enrollment fees and various other fees. The board appoints a chief executive officer known as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. Under existing law, community college districts are authorized, among other things, to maintain and operate campuses, employ faculty and other employees, and provide instruction to students.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish a California Community Colleges Promise Program for eligible community college students.

*This bill would establish the California College Promise Innovation Grant Program, under the administration of the chancellor, which*

would require the chancellor to distribute multiyear grants, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the governing boards of community college districts, who meet certain requirements, to support the establishment of regional programs with the goals of increasing college preparation, college access, and college success. The bill would require the chancellor to annually submit to the Legislature a specified report on the status of the program.

This bill would appropriate \$25,000,000 from the General Fund to the chancellor for allocation to community college districts in order to establish the regional programs.

Funds appropriated by this bill would be applied toward the minimum funding requirements for school districts and community college districts imposed by Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: ~~no~~yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Part 54.1 (commencing with Section 88900) is  
2 added to Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

3  
4 PART 54.1. CALIFORNIA COLLEGE PROMISE INNOVATION  
5 GRANT PROGRAM  
6

7 88900. This part shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
8 California College Promise Innovation Grant Program.

9 88901. The California College Promise Innovation Grant  
10 Program is hereby established, to be administered by the  
11 Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. The chancellor  
12 shall distribute multiyear grants, upon appropriation by the  
13 Legislature, to the governing boards of community college districts  
14 pursuant to applications that satisfy the requirements of this part.

15 88902. The goals of California College Promise Innovation  
16 Grant Program awards are to support community college districts  
17 in establishing regional California College Promise programs in  
18 partnership with K-12 school districts, California State University  
19 campuses, and University of California campuses to accomplish  
20 all of the following:

1     (a) Increase the number and percentage of high school students  
2 within the region who are prepared for and attend college directly  
3 from high school.

4     (b) Increase the percentage of high school graduates within the  
5 region who are placed in college level math and English at a  
6 community college, California State University, or University of  
7 California campus.

8     (c) Increase the percentage of students from the region who  
9 earn degrees or career technical education certificates.

10    (d) Increase the percentage of students who successfully transfer  
11 from a community college to the California State University, the  
12 University of California, or an independent institution of higher  
13 education as defined in Section 66010.

14    (e) Increase the percentage of students who graduate with a  
15 bachelor's degree.

16    (f) Reduce and eliminate achievement gaps.

17     88903. In order to receive a grant, the governing board of a  
18 community college district shall demonstrate in its application for  
19 funding that the community college will partner with one or more  
20 school districts and one or more California State University or  
21 University of California campuses to establish a California College  
22 Promise program that includes all of the following practices and  
23 principles:

24     (a) Partnering with one or more school districts to establish an  
25 Early Commitment to College Program pursuant to Article 6.3 of  
26 Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 to provide students  
27 and families assistance that includes, but is not limited to, learning  
28 about college opportunities, visiting campuses, taking and  
29 completing college preparatory courses, and applying for college  
30 and financial aid.

31     (b) Partnering with one or more school districts to support and  
32 improve high school student preparation for college through  
33 practices that may include, but are not limited to, small learning  
34 communities, concurrent enrollment, and other evidence-based  
35 practices.

36     (c) Utilizing placement and student assessment indicators that  
37 include multiple measures of student performance, including grades  
38 in high school courses, overall grade point averages, results from  
39 common assessments, and input from counselors.

1 (d) Providing each student, who participates in an Early  
 2 Commitment to College Program pledge, the first semester at the  
 3 community college tuition free.

4 (e) Providing students with access to full-time course schedules  
 5 that include math, reading, and English courses.

6 (f) Providing outreach to students regarding the Associate  
 7 Degrees for Transfer and the California Community College  
 8 Transfer Entitlement Cal Grant program.

9 (g) Partnering with regional California State University  
 10 campuses to ensure guaranteed admission and seamless transfer  
 11 for students who have successfully completed transfer  
 12 requirements.

13 88904. The Legislature encourages school districts, the  
 14 University of California, the California State University, the  
 15 Student Aid Commission, independent colleges and universities,  
 16 local and regional government agencies, and nonprofit, business,  
 17 or other community organizations to provide support services as  
 18 needed in coordination with community college districts for  
 19 purposes of this part.

20 88905. (a) The Chancellor of the California Community  
 21 Colleges shall annually submit to the Legislature a report on the  
 22 status of the program, including, but not limited to, the number of  
 23 community college districts participating in the program and  
 24 relevant outcome data reported by community college districts to  
 25 the chancellor.

26 (b) A report pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be submitted to  
 27 the Legislature in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government  
 28 Code.

29 SEC. 2. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage  
 30 California Community Colleges to establish regional California  
 31 College Promise programs with the goals of increasing college  
 32 preparation, college access, and college success.

33 (b) (1) The sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) is  
 34 hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Chancellor of  
 35 the California Community Colleges for allocation to community  
 36 college districts upon the submission and approval of district  
 37 applications detailing the strategy for establishing a regional  
 38 California College Promise program pursuant to Part 54.1  
 39 (commencing with Section 88900) of Division 7 of Title 3 of the  
 40 Education Code.

1 (2) *For purposes of making the computations required by*  
2 *Section 8 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, the funds*  
3 *appropriated pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be*  
4 *“General Fund revenues appropriated for community college*  
5 *districts,” as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 41202 of the*  
6 *Education Code, for the 2016–17 fiscal year, and included within*  
7 *the “total allocations to school districts and community college*  
8 *districts from General Fund proceeds of taxes appropriated*  
9 *pursuant to Article XIII B,” as defined in subdivision (e) of Section*  
10 *41202 of the Education Code, for the 2016–17 fiscal year.*

11 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~  
12 ~~legislation to establish a California Community Colleges Promise~~  
13 ~~Program for eligible community college students.~~