

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 2, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 31, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2822**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Chiu**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Medina, Santiago, Weber, and**  
**Williams)**

February 19, 2016

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An act to ~~amend Section 78212 of~~ *add Section 72670.7 to* the Education Code, relating to student financial aid.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2822, as amended, Chiu. Student financial aid: ~~Student Success and Support Program~~; *community college auxiliary organizations*; emergency student financial assistance.

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, known as the Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012, defines “matriculation” as a process that brings a college and a student who enrolls for credit into an agreement for the purpose of realizing the student’s educational objectives. The act specifies the matriculation services that community colleges are required to provide. *law authorizes the board of governors to establish auxiliary organizations, as defined, for the purpose of providing supportive services and specialized programs for the general benefit of the mission of the California Community Colleges.*

This bill would authorize the use of ~~Student Success and Support Program~~ *auxiliary organization* funds for the provision of emergency student financial assistance, as defined, to eligible students, as defined, to overcome unforeseen financial challenges, as specified, that would directly impact a student's ability to persist in his or her course of study, ~~if emergency student financial assistance is included in an institution's plan for interventions to students. The bill would authorize no more than 3% of the total funding that a community college district or campus receives for the Student Success and Support Program to be used for the provision of emergency student financial assistance.~~ *study. The bill would authorize auxiliary organizations to solicit and accept private funding, as specified, for the purposes of this bill.*

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) ~~Given the need to improve community college student~~
- 4 ~~outcomes, the Legislature required the California Community~~
- 5 ~~Colleges to develop plans to improve student success through the~~
- 6 ~~Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012 (Article 1~~
- 7 ~~(commencing with Section 78210) of Chapter 2 of Part 48 of~~
- 8 ~~Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code).~~
- 9 (b)
- 10 (a) Research indicates that students' ability to pay for nontuition
- 11 costs plays a major role in determining the outcomes of their
- 12 academic careers and impacts student success. Unexpected
- 13 financial emergencies can play a major role when community
- 14 college students drop out of school.
- 15 (c)
- 16 (b) Emergency aid is an effective strategy to retain students and
- 17 ultimately improve graduation rates and overall student success.
- 18 Emergency aid provides the flexibility needed to respond to a
- 19 student's unexpected financial emergency that may arise during
- 20 the academic year. Emergency aid is a critical tool for student
- 21 retention and persistence that is most effective as a part of a broader
- 22 set of student success efforts.
- 23 (d)

1 (c) It is in the interest of the state to reduce the attrition rates of  
2 full-time students. Nationally, billions of dollars are lost when  
3 full-time students do not return in what would be their second year  
4 of college. California has lost more than one hundred million  
5 dollars (\$100,000,000) in state and federal funding due to first-year  
6 attrition. Emergency aid is an efficient investment that addresses  
7 student attrition while only providing small dollar grants when a  
8 student is in crisis. With this type of well-timed aid, students are  
9 more likely to complete the academic term and re-enroll for the  
10 next term.

11 (e)

12 (d) A well-educated citizenry provides tremendous benefits to  
13 the state as higher educational attainment is connected with higher  
14 earnings, which produce more tax revenue and lower the cost of  
15 social services.

16 SEC. 2. ~~Section 78212 of the Education Code is amended to~~  
17 ~~read:~~

18 ~~78212. (a) (1) For purposes of this article, “matriculation”~~  
19 ~~means a process that brings a college and a student into an~~  
20 ~~agreement for the purpose of achieving the student’s educational~~  
21 ~~goals and completing the student’s course of study. The agreement~~  
22 ~~involves the responsibilities of both parties to attain those~~  
23 ~~objectives through the college’s established programs, policies,~~  
24 ~~and requirements including those established by the board of~~  
25 ~~governors pursuant to Section 78215.~~

26 ~~(2) The institution’s responsibility under the agreement includes~~  
27 ~~the provision of student services to provide a strong foundation~~  
28 ~~and support for their academic success and ability to achieve their~~  
29 ~~educational goals. The program of services funded through the~~  
30 ~~Seymour-Campbell Student Success Act of 2012, which shall be~~  
31 ~~known and may be cited as the Student Success and Support~~  
32 ~~Program, shall include, but are not necessarily limited to, all of~~  
33 ~~the following:~~

34 ~~(A) Orientation services designed to provide to students, on a~~  
35 ~~timely basis, information concerning campus procedures, academic~~  
36 ~~expectations, financial assistance, and any other matters the college~~  
37 ~~or district finds appropriate.~~

38 ~~(B) Assessment before course registration, as defined in Section~~  
39 ~~78213.~~

1     ~~(C) Counseling and other education planning services, which~~  
2     ~~shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:~~

3     ~~(i) Counseling and advising.~~

4     ~~(ii) Assistance to students in the exploration of educational and~~  
5     ~~career interests and aptitudes and identification of educational~~  
6     ~~objectives, including, but not necessarily limited to, preparation~~  
7     ~~for transfer, associate degrees, and career technical education~~  
8     ~~certificates and licenses.~~

9     ~~(iii) The provision of information, guided by sound counseling~~  
10    ~~principles and practices, using a broad array of delivery~~  
11    ~~mechanisms, including technology-based strategies to serve a~~  
12    ~~continuum of student needs and abilities, that will enable students~~  
13    ~~to make informed choices.~~

14    ~~(iv) Development of an education plan leading to a course of~~  
15    ~~study and guidance on course selection that is informed by, and~~  
16    ~~related to, a student's academic and career goals.~~

17    ~~(D) Referral to specialized support services as needed and~~  
18    ~~available, including, but not necessarily limited to, federal, state,~~  
19    ~~and local financial assistance; health services; career services;~~  
20    ~~veteran support services; foster youth services; extended~~  
21    ~~opportunity programs and services provided pursuant to Article 8~~  
22    ~~(commencing with Section 69640) of Chapter 2 of Part 42 of~~  
23    ~~Division 5; campus child care services provided pursuant to Article~~  
24    ~~6 (commencing with Section 66060) of Chapter 2 of Part 40 of~~  
25    ~~Division 5; programs that teach basic skills education and English~~  
26    ~~as a second language; and disabled student services provided~~  
27    ~~pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 67300) of Part~~  
28    ~~40 of Division 5.~~

29    ~~(E) Evaluation of each student's progress and referral to~~  
30    ~~appropriate interventions for students who are enrolled in basic~~  
31    ~~skills courses, who have not declared an educational goal as~~  
32    ~~required, or who are on academic probation, as defined by~~  
33    ~~standards adopted by the Board of Governors of the California~~  
34    ~~Community Colleges and community college districts.~~

35    ~~(3) The student's responsibilities under the agreement include,~~  
36    ~~but are not necessarily limited to, the identification of an academic~~  
37    ~~and career goal upon application, the declaration of a specific~~  
38    ~~course of study after a specified time period or unit accumulation,~~  
39    ~~as defined by the board of governors, diligence in class attendance~~  
40    ~~and completion of assigned coursework, and the completion of~~

1 ~~courses and maintenance of academic progress toward an~~  
2 ~~educational goal and course of study identified in the student's~~  
3 ~~education plan. To ensure that students are not unfairly impacted~~  
4 ~~by the requirements of this chapter, the board of governors shall~~  
5 ~~establish a reasonable implementation period that is phased in as~~  
6 ~~resources are available to provide nonexempt students with the~~  
7 ~~core services pursuant to this section.~~

8 ~~(b) Funding for the Student Success and Support Program shall~~  
9 ~~be targeted to fully implement orientation, assessment, counseling~~  
10 ~~and advising, and other education planning services needed to~~  
11 ~~assist a student in making an informed decision about his or her~~  
12 ~~educational goal and course of study and in the development of~~  
13 ~~an education plan.~~

14 ~~(c) (1) Funding for the Student Success and Support Program~~  
15 ~~may be used for provision of emergency student financial~~  
16 ~~assistance to help eligible students to overcome unforeseen~~  
17 ~~financial challenges that would directly impact the student's ability~~  
18 ~~to persist in his or her course of study. These challenges include,~~  
19 ~~but are not necessarily limited to, the immediate need for shelter~~  
20 ~~or food. Each community college district and campus is encouraged~~  
21 ~~to consider the unique characteristics of its student body in~~  
22 ~~developing specific guidelines for further defining what constitutes~~  
23 ~~an unforeseen financial challenge for its students.~~

24 ~~(2) In order for emergency student financial assistance to be an~~  
25 ~~allowable use of Student Success and Support Program funds,~~  
26 ~~emergency student financial assistance shall be included in the~~  
27 ~~institution's plan for interventions to students.~~

28 ~~(3) For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms are~~  
29 ~~defined as follows:~~

30 ~~(A) "Eligible student" means a student who has experienced an~~  
31 ~~unforeseen financial challenge, who currently meets satisfactory~~  
32 ~~academic progress of the institution he or she attends, and who is~~  
33 ~~at risk of not persisting in his or her course of study due to the~~  
34 ~~unforeseen financial challenge.~~

35 ~~(B) "Emergency student financial assistance" means financial~~  
36 ~~support in the form of financial assistance to support a student to~~  
37 ~~help overcome unforeseen financial challenges so that the student~~  
38 ~~can continue his or her course of study.~~

39 ~~(4) No more than 3 percent of the total funding that a community~~  
40 ~~college district or campus receives for the Student Success and~~

1 ~~Support Program may be used for the provision of emergency~~  
2 ~~student financial assistance.~~

3 *SEC. 2. Section 72670.7 is added to the Education Code, to*  
4 *read:*

5 *72670.7. (a) An auxiliary organization established pursuant*  
6 *to Section 72670.5 shall provide guidelines and resources for*  
7 *community college districts or campuses that seek to establish*  
8 *student emergency aid programs among the supportive services*  
9 *and specialized programs it provides.*

10 *(b) Any funds that the auxiliary organization may receive may*  
11 *be used for the provision of emergency student financial assistance*  
12 *to help eligible students to overcome unforeseen financial*  
13 *challenges that would directly impact the student's ability to persist*  
14 *in his or her course of study. These challenges include, but are*  
15 *not necessarily limited to, the immediate need for shelter or food.*  
16 *The auxiliary organization shall encourage each community*  
17 *college district and campus to which it provides supportive services*  
18 *or specialized programs under this section to consider the unique*  
19 *characteristics of its student body in developing specific guidelines*  
20 *for further defining what constitutes an unforeseen financial*  
21 *challenge for its students.*

22 *(c) For purposes of this section, the following terms are defined*  
23 *as follows:*

24 *(1) "Eligible student" means a student who has experienced an*  
25 *unforeseen financial challenge, who currently meets satisfactory*  
26 *academic progress of the institution he or she attends, and who is*  
27 *at risk of not persisting in his or her course of study due to the*  
28 *unforeseen financial challenge.*

29 *(2) "Emergency student financial assistance" means financial*  
30 *support in the form of financial assistance to support a student to*  
31 *help overcome unforeseen financial challenges so that the student*  
32 *can continue his or her course of study.*

33 *(d) It is the intent of the Legislature that priority for emergency*  
34 *assistance funding be given to community college districts or*  
35 *campuses based on their enrollment of student populations that*  
36 *are in the most need.*

37 *(e) The auxiliary organization may solicit and accept private*  
38 *funding for the purposes of this section. These private funding*  
39 *sources may include, but are not necessarily limited to,*

- 1 *foundations, corporate funding, crowdfunding, donation drives,*
- 2 *or any other sources of private investment that may be available.*

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