

SB 1456 (Lowenthal)

Co-author: Senator Carol Liu

California Community Colleges: Student Success Act of 2012

FACT SHEET

PURPOSE

SB 1456 provides critical support services to students on the front-end of their educational experience to increase student success.

SUMMARY

1. Establishes the Student Success Act of 2012;
2. Requires any college or district receiving funds, under this act, to provide a strong foundation and support services including orientation, assessment and placement, counseling and education planning, and academic interventions for students' academic success and ability to achieve their educational goals;
3. Requires the college or district to evaluate the effectiveness of the Student Success and Support Program and other programs to facilitate student success, including but not limited to, disaggregated data by ethnicity, sex, and age, and academic performance;
4. Requires students qualifying for a fee waiver to identify, upon enrollment, a degree, certificate, or career advancement goal and meet academic progress standards; and,
5. Requires the Board of Governors, in consultation with students, faculty, and other key stakeholders, to develop, adopt, and phase in policies over a reasonable period of time.

BACKGROUND

The California Community College system is an accessible and affordable gateway to educational advancement for the 2.6 million students it serves. However, budget reductions over the years have led to many first-time students being turned away, existing students not getting the classes they need, and student support services, such as counseling, assessment and orientation to be drastically cut. The result has been too many students not getting the guidance and courses they need to reach their goals of a degree, certificate, transfer or career advancement.

Senate Bill 1143 (Liu) of 2010 directed the California Community Colleges to establish a task force and develop a plan to promote and improve student success by the beginning of 2012. The 20-member Student Success Task Force, composed of community college CEOs, faculty, students, researchers, staff and external stakeholders, spent a full year researching, studying and debating the best methods to improve student outcomes. Their plan resulted in 22 specific recommendations which identify key strategies to invest in student success and enable students to reach their goals. These recommendations will be implemented through Title 5 regulations, system-wide administrative policies, local best practices, and legislation.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

“Advancing Student Success in the California Community Colleges: *Recommendations of the California Community Colleges Student Success Task Force*,” available at

http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/Portals/o/Executive/StudentSuccessTaskForce/SSTF_Final_Report_1-17-12_Print.pdf

SUPPORT

California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office (Sponsor) Contacts:
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California Communities United Institute

California State Student Association

Hispanas Organized for Political Equality
(HOPE)

LA Area Chamber of Commerce

North Bay Leadership Council

Parent Institute for Quality Education
(PIQUE)

San Bernardino Community College District

The Little Hoover Commission

OPPOSE

California Teachers Association

STATUS

Senate Education Committee set for hearing
April 18th, 2012.

STAFF CONTACT

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