



FOOTHILL-DE ANZA
Community College District

2014 Legislative Principles

Annual legislative principles are adopted by the Board of Trustees to provide policy guidelines for the Chancellor when addressing matters pending before the California Legislature or the United States Congress. For 2014, the Foothill-De Anza Board of Trustees endorses the following advocacy positions:

A. State Legislative Principles

1. Protect the fiscal integrity of the system and stabilize funding, ensuring that funds allocated through the budget process will be provided to the districts, with discrepancies made up by the general fund.
2. Support lowering the vote threshold for the approval of school and community college district parcel tax measures from two-thirds (66%) to a super majority of 55%.
3. Advocate for allocating part of any funding increase in 2014-15 for COLA to address the lack of statutory cost of living adjustments between 2007-08 and 2012-13.
4. Maintain local authority and control in the administration of the colleges.
5. Support use of open textbooks, open educational resources and other appropriate approaches to reduce costs for students and community colleges.
6. Advocate for increasing the authority and flexibility of local districts, including flexibility in setting fees (e.g. health, technology).
7. Support efforts to increase transfer of qualified community college students to the University of California and the California State University.
8. Support a statewide capital construction bond measure that benefits community colleges.
9. Support the preservation and enhancement of state financial aid for community college students.

10. Support efforts to strengthen college preparation and align K-12 and community college curriculum.
11. Support measures that enhance the ability of community colleges to quickly respond to the changing needs of local labor markets.
12. Support programs that enable community colleges to serve disadvantaged and/or underrepresented populations and students who are veterans.
13. Support the advancement of instructional technology to increase access and student success.
14. Support solutions to the escalating costs of health benefits.
15. Support efforts to encourage and sustain public-private partnerships.
16. Support efforts for energy efficiency and sustainability.
17. Support efforts for regional and statewide collaboration that result in lower costs, increased efficiency, and/or improved services to students.
18. Ensure that any new reporting requirements are adequately funded and genuinely serve the interests of students, the colleges and the system.
19. Support expansion of opportunities for high school students to enroll in community college courses through dual enrollment partnerships and remove funding penalties and barriers.
20. Support establishment of an ongoing professional development fund for faculty, staff and administrators.
21. Support authorizing and funding community colleges to offer limited applied baccalaureate degrees.

B. Federal Legislative Principles

1. Support accountability measures that accurately evaluate the success of community colleges on measures of access, affordability and outcomes. Oppose inflexible national ratings that base federal grants and loans on college “value.”
2. Support federal student aid and loan repayment programs that ease economic barriers for students and reduce default rates among low-income students.
3. Advocate for robust Perkins Act funding that serves the needs of all types of career-technical education students and maintains flexibility for community colleges.

4. Support programs that enable community colleges to serve diverse and disadvantaged populations.
5. Support the federal DREAM Act, including make DREAM Act students eligible for federal student aid.
6. Support funding to help institutions serve the particular needs of students who are veterans.
7. Include community colleges in efforts to bolster America's competitiveness in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.
8. Preserve the Community College and Career Training Grant Program (TAACCCT)
9. Support inclusion of community colleges as key partners/training providers in Workforce Investment Act reauthorization, and advocate for revisions in the legislation that would benefit community colleges.
10. Advocate for recognition of institutional autonomy and state and local controls in the delivery of education by community colleges in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.
11. Support making permanent the American Opportunity Tax Credit.

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