



**FOOTHILL-DE ANZA
Community College District**

2017 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 2017, 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.
2. Support lowering the vote threshold for the approval of school and community college district parcel tax measures from two-thirds (67%) to a super majority of 55%.
3. Support increase of base funding to colleges for 2017-18 to address the lack of statutory cost of living adjustments between 2007-08 and 2012-13.
4. Support revision of funding formulas to account for variable cost of living throughout the state.

~~Advocate for ongoing and expanded funding for systemwide initiatives, such as the Online Education Initiative and CENIC.~~

5. Increase local authority and control in the administration of the colleges.
6. Support use of open textbooks, open educational resources and other appropriate approaches to reduce costs for students and community colleges.
7. Advocate for increasing the authority and flexibility of local districts, including flexibility in setting fees (e.g. health, technology).
8. Support efforts to increase transfer of qualified community college students to the University of California and the California State University.
9. Support statewide funding of career technical education (CTE) that benefits community colleges.

10. Support the preservation and enhancement of state financial aid for community college students.
 11. Support collaborative efforts of K-12 and higher education faculty to refine curriculum to better align with agreed upon student learning outcomes.
 12. Support measures that enhance the ability of community colleges to quickly respond to the changing needs of local labor markets.
 13. Support programs that enable community colleges to provide specialized services to disadvantaged populations, students with disabilities, and veterans. .
 14. Support the advancement of instructional technology, counseling, and support services to increase access and student success.
 15. Support solutions to the escalating costs of health benefits.
 16. Support solutions to scarcity and escalating costs of housing for both students and employees.
 17. Support efforts to encourage and sustain public-private partnerships.
 18. Support efforts for energy efficiency and sustainability.
 19. Support efforts for regional and statewide collaboration that result in lower costs, increased efficiency, and/or improved services to students.
 20. Ensure that any new reporting requirements are adequately funded and genuinely serve the interests of students, the colleges and the system.
 21. Support expansion of opportunities for high school students to enroll in community college courses through concurrent/dual enrollment partnerships and remove funding penalties and barriers.
 22. Support establishment of an ongoing professional development fund for faculty, staff and administrators.
 23. Support expanding the authority for community colleges to offer applied baccalaureate degrees in areas of high workforce demand.
- ~~Support the continuation of Proposition 30 funding, Proposition 13 reform, and ongoing adequate funding for community colleges and other educational institutions.~~
24. Advocate for funding to cover increased employee pension costs.

25. Advocate for unfettered access to quality community college education for all Californians, including lifelong learners.
26. Support audit fee equalization that will allow colleges to provide access at an equitable cost to students.
27. Support legislation requiring the disaggregation of student achievement data by Asian Pacific Islander subgroups.
28. *Support ongoing funding for the College Promise programs.*

B. Federal Legislative Principles

1. Support accountability measures that accurately evaluate the success of community colleges on measures of access, affordability and outcomes.
2. Support funding the Pell Grant program to include automatic inflationary increases and restoration of eligibility for the year-round Pell Grant and for “ability-to-benefit” 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 continuation of the deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) program.
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. Reauthorize and improve the Higher Education Act and recognize the unique nature, mission and contributions of community colleges.
9. Maintain the country’s commitment to civil rights and immigrant rights.
10. Support elimination of the federal financial aid cap for those students who begin their education at a community college.
11. *Advocate for revisions to tax reform legislation that would place heavier financial burdens on the neediest students.*