

Community College Administrators Call for Regulatory Relief

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Sacramento, CA. June 11, 2009 The Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) is calling for relief from state mandates and local flexibility to help colleges manage during this fiscal crisis. ACCCA is supporting the proposal of the Governor and others to temporarily suspend the 50% Law and provide additional relief through the suspension of other mandates.

Schwarzenegger is calling for a suspension of the 50% Law, a section of the education code that requires 50 percent of a community college district's educational expenditures to be used for teacher salaries. He's also calling for suspension of the code that sets a system-wide goal that 75 percent of instructional hours be taught by full-time faculty.

"Our college administrators, working in concert with local trustees and faculty members, are best suited to make these tough decisions at the local level," said Marcy Wade, ACCCA Board President. "Relief from regulatory restraint is needed so that we can maintain the highest possible level of services for students."

In addition to temporarily suspending the 50% law, ACCCA vigorously advocates the following:

- Workload measures must be adjusted to reflect actual funding per FTES.
- No more growth funding at the expense of base funding.
- Restrictions on program and usage fees should be eliminated.
- Matching fund requirements on all Title 5 categorical programs should be temporarily suspended.
- All Title 5 mandates that carry a cost increase or financial penalty should be temporarily suspended.
- An alternate to the recommendation of more PE and recreation classes being reclassified, as non-credit should be considered. At a minimum, any of these courses that are transferable to the UC and CSU should maintain credit status.

"Representing over 1,000 administrators in the system and our affiliate organization ACBO representing all of the system's business officers, ACCCA strongly believes that the local community college districts will be in the best position to address the cuts they will be facing if given the needed flexibility to deal with existing regulatory and budget requirements," said Susan Bray, ACCCA Director of Operations. "In most cases, we view the relaxing of some mandates and regulatory suspensions as temporary, but

necessary in order to ensure and maintain quality services to students based on actual funding provided to the system.”

ACCCA

ACCCA (Association of California Community College Administrators) is the foremost member-supported professional organization for administrators and managers of California's 110 community college campuses. ACCCA provides advocacy, professional development, insurance benefits, publications, business partnerships, counseling and assistance to over 1200 fulltime administrators, associate members, affiliates and corporate members. For more information on ACCCA, visit the website at www.accca.org or call (916) 443-3559.

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