




SAN JOSÉ - EVERGREEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES




SAN JOSÉ · EVERGREEN
Community College District



EVERGREEN
VALLEY COLLEGE

2026 SJECED LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

San José – Evergreen Community College District (SJECED) proudly presents its 2026 Legislative Priorities in support of our work to advance student success, equity, and operational effectiveness.

Our state priorities focus on student needs, including college access and affordability, student success, housing and basic needs, support for vulnerable student populations, and enhanced early childhood education opportunities. These priorities also address community college baccalaureate degrees and general college operations, including state funding, human resources, and governance.

We’ve organized the proposed legislation by policy area in the tables below and to the right, with the District’s position on each bill noted as Support or Monitor. Each bill number **in orange** links to the corresponding legislative webpage, and supported bills are described in greater detail on the following pages.

BILL	TOPIC	SJECED POSITION
STUDENT NEEDS		
College Access and Affordability		
SB1006	Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant B Access Costs Award	● SUPPORT
AB1534	Student Financial Aid: Federal Workforce Pell Grant Program	● SUPPORT
AB1920	Community Colleges: California College Promise: Fee Waiver Eligibility	● SUPPORT
AB2422	Student Financial Aid: Delayed Financial Aid Awards: Extensions	● SUPPORT
SB968	Community Colleges: San Mateo County Community College District	● MONITOR
AB2251	Student Financial Aid: Cal Grant Program: Cost of Attendance	● MONITOR
AB1636	Cerritos Community College District: Data Sharing	● MONITOR
AB1871	Pupil Instruction: Dual Enrollment: College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships	● MONITOR
Student Success		
AB2374	Postsecondary Education: Designation of California Asian-American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions	● SUPPORT
AB2466	Strong Workforce Program: Work-Based Learning Opportunities: Regional Consortia	● SUPPORT
AB2660	Public Postsecondary Education: Intersegmental Partnerships: STEM Education	● SUPPORT
SB1255	Postsecondary Education: Designation of California Hispanic Serving Institutions	● SUPPORT
AB1552	Public Postsecondary Education: Civic Engagement: Recommendations Report	● MONITOR
AB1728	Community Colleges: Common Course Numbering System: Firefighting Education, Law Enforcement Education, and Modern Policing Degree Program Courses	● MONITOR
AB1858	California Community Colleges and CSU: Joint Associate Degree Pilot Program	● MONITOR
AB2392	Public Postsecondary Education: Artificial Intelligence Products: Training	● MONITOR
Housing and Basic Needs		
AB1829	Community Colleges: CalWORKs Recipients Education Program: Services	● SUPPORT
AB1669	Student Health: Leaves of Absence: Mental Health	● MONITOR
AB1732	California Environmental Quality Act: Exemption: Housing Development Project: Public Higher Education Land Use Plan	● MONITOR
AB2176	Student Housing: Intersegmental Working Group	● MONITOR
AB2766	Public Postsecondary Education: Student Housing: Foster Youth and Homeless Youth	● MONITOR

STUDENT NEEDS ~cont'd

Support for Vulnerable Student Populations		
SB892	Public Postsecondary Education: Priority Registration: Members and Former Members of the Armed Forces of the United States and State Guard	● SUPPORT
AB2203	Public Postsecondary Education: Priority Registration: Veterans and Dependents of Veterans: Fed. GI Bill	● SUPPORT
AB2768	Student Financial Aid: Deferment of Fees and Costs: Foster Youth	● SUPPORT
AB713	Public Postsecondary Education: Student Employment	● MONITOR
AB1784	Postsecondary Education: Nondiscrimination: Pregnancy or Pregnancy-Related Issues	● MONITOR
AB1845	Student Safety: Human Trafficking	● MONITOR
AB2114	Public Postsecondary Education: Nonresident Tuition Fee Exemption: Educational Asylum Program	● MONITOR
AB2212	Postsecondary Education: Sexual Harassment, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Policies: Student Orientation and Training	● MONITOR
Enhanced Early Childhood Education Opportunities		
N/A	No legislation currently identified. SJECED will continue to follow related policy developments.	○

COMMUNITY COLLEGE BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

AB2301	Community Colleges: Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program	● SUPPORT
SB960	Public Postsecondary Education: Community Colleges: Statewide Baccalaureate Degree Program	● SUPPORT
AB664	Community Colleges: Baccalaureate Degree Program: Southwestern Community College District	● MONITOR
AB2136	Community Colleges: Baccalaureate Degree Program: Cerritos Community College	● MONITOR
AB2206	Teacher Credentialing: Community College Baccalaureate Degrees: Designated Subjects Career Technical Education Teaching Credential	● MONITOR
AB2694	Public Postsecondary Education: Community Colleges: Statewide Baccalaureate Degree Program	● MONITOR

GENERAL COLLEGE OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

State Funding		
AB2121	Community Colleges: Current Expense of Education: Exclusions (50% Rule)	● MONITOR
SB1262	Education Finance: Community Colleges: General Fund Balance	● MONITOR
Human Resources		
AB2019	Community Colleges: Deported or Detained Faculty	● SUPPORT
SB975	Nursing Schools and Programs: Faculty Members, Directors, and Assistant Directors	● SUPPORT
AB1171	Part-Time Community College Faculty Health Insurance Program	● MONITOR
AB1750	School and Community College Employees: Absences Due to Illness or Accident	● MONITOR
AB2142	School Districts: Community College Districts: Short Term Employees: Classified Service	● MONITOR
AB2293	Community Colleges: Classified Employees	● MONITOR
AB2417	Community Colleges: Part-Time Faculty: Retirement	● MONITOR
Governance and Administration		
SB1101	Postsecondary Education: Sharing Personal Information: Notice	● MONITOR
SB1154	Public Contracts: Best Value Procurement: Community College Districts	● MONITOR
SB1328	Public Postsecondary Education: Equity in Higher Education Act: Campus Contact	● MONITOR
AB2523	Public Postsecondary Education: Governing Bodies: Biography and Contact Information	● MONITOR
AB2528	Community Colleges: Governing Board Member Compensation	● MONITOR

2026 SJECED STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

STUDENT NEEDS

Student success requires policies that remove financial and structural barriers while providing essential support. SJECED advocates for legislation that expands educational opportunity, advances pathways to academic and career success, and ensures students have access to the resources and protections they need to succeed academically and beyond.

The following priorities guide these legislative efforts:

#1	<p>College Access and Affordability</p> <p>Expanding financial aid and fee waiver access, and supporting College Promise and dual enrollment pathways so higher education remains accessible and affordable for students.</p>
#2	<p>Student Success</p> <p>Advancing academic, transfer, STEM, and workforce pathways that improve retention, degree completion, and career preparation.</p>
#3	<p>Housing and Basic Needs</p> <p>Supporting access to housing, mental health resources, and other essential services so students can stay enrolled and focused on their education.</p>
#4	<p>Support for Vulnerable Student Populations</p> <p>Protecting the rights and educational access of students facing heightened barriers, including veterans, foster youth, and students impacted by immigration-related challenges.</p>
#5	<p>Enhanced Early Childhood Education Opportunities</p> <p>Supporting access to early childhood education pathways and related opportunities for students interested in child development and teaching.</p>

#1 COLLEGE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

SB1006 – Student Financial Aid

Cal Grant B Access Costs Award

(Author: Padilla)

Bill would, commencing with the 2027-28 award year, require the award for access costs under the Cal Grant B Program to be at least the maximum per-student amount provided in the 2025-26 award year and would require that award amount to be increased annually by the amount of the percentage increase, if any, in the California Consumer Price Index, as specified.

SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB1534 – Student Financial Aid

Federal Workforce Pell Grant Program

(Author: Irwin)

Bill would, beginning on July 1, 2026, prohibit a campus of the UC, CSU, or California Community Colleges, as well as a private postsecondary educational institution or an independent institution of higher education that receives state financial assistance, from disbursing federal Workforce Pell Grant program funds for short-term programs, or from advertising, marketing, or informing students about those funds, unless the institution has obtained authorization from the Governor and met all requirements set forth by the U.S. Department of Education.

SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB1920 – Community Colleges

California College Promise: Fee Waiver Eligibility

(Authors: Mark González and Ahrens)

Bill would prohibit a certificate awarded to a student by a postsecondary educational institution as part of a course sequence leading to an associate degree from making the student ineligible for the California College Promise fee waiver.

SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB2422 – Student Financial Aid

Delayed Financial Aid Awards: Extensions

(Author: Caloza)

Bill would, commencing with the 2027-28 academic year, require the CSU, community college districts, and private postsecondary educational institutions and independent institutions of higher education that receive state financial assistance to, and would request the UC to, for a student whose financial aid award is delayed due to factors that are outside of the student’s control, extend specified enrollment and financial deadlines and refrain from imposing punitive actions, as defined.

SJECED Position: SUPPORT

#2 STUDENT SUCCESS

AB2374 – Postsecondary Education

Designation of California Asian-American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions

(Author: Fong)

Bill would establish the Designation of California Asian-American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions to recognize campuses of those segments of postsecondary education that excel at providing academic resources to Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander students.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB2466 – Strong Workforce Program

Work-Based Learning Opportunities: Regional Consortia

(Author: Fong)

Bill would authorize funds apportioned directly to regional consortia to be used to provide direct support to students, employers, or both, for paid work-based learning to increase employability and employment, as specified, and would make conforming changes.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB2660 – Public Postsecondary Education

Intersegmental Partnerships: STEM Education

(Author: Alvarez)

Bill would establish the Cal-Bridge Program as a fully intersegmental partnership between the California Community Colleges, the CSU, and the UC to create a pathway that promotes the advancement of California’s diverse undergraduate public postsecondary student population who major in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

SB1255 – Postsecondary Education

Designation of California Hispanic Serving Institutions

(Author: Reyes)

Bill would establish the Designation of California Hispanic-Serving Institutions to recognize campuses of those segments of postsecondary education that excel at providing academic resources to Latino students. Bill would establish a Designation of California Hispanic-Serving Institutions governing board to designate colleges and universities as California Hispanic-Serving Institutions. Bill would designate the office of the Chancellor of the California State University as the managing entity and would require it to, among other duties, develop the application processes and to process and present initial and renewal applications to receive this designation to the governing board, as specified.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

#3 HOUSING AND BASIC NEEDS

AB1829 – Community Colleges

CalWORKs Recipients Education Program: Services

(Author: Fong)

Bill permits California Community Colleges (CCC) to use existing California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Education (CalWORKS) funds, to provide community college students, who receive CalWORKs, with direct aid for basic needs supports and permits CCC to waive employer contribution for work-study if the number of work-study positions do not decrease.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT



Please see pages 2-3 for additional bills the District is tracking, with SJECED's position listed as Monitor. Each bill number in orange links to the corresponding legislative webpage.

#4

SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE STUDENT POPULATIONS

SB892 – Public Postsecondary Education

Priority Registration: Members and Former Members of the Armed Forces of the United States and State Guard

(Author: Grove)

Bill would remove the limiting priority registration to 4 academic years after leaving state or federal active duty for use within 15 years of leaving state or federal active duty.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB2203 – Public Postsecondary Education

Priority Registration: Veterans and Dependents of Veterans: Fed. GI Bill

(Author: Tangipa)

Bill would require the CSU and each community college district, and would request the UC, with respect to each campus in their respective jurisdictions that administer a priority enrollment system, to grant priority for registration for enrollment to (1) a student who receives a fee waiver pursuant to certain provisions, and (2) a student who is using any federal GI Bill benefits.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

AB2768 – Student Financial Aid

Deferment of Fees and Costs: Foster Youth

(Author: Ahrens)

Bill would require the CSU, community college districts, and private postsecondary educational institutions and independent institutions of higher education that receive state financial assistance to, and would request the UC to, defer the unpaid portion of enrollment fees and costs for a student that is a foster youth or former foster youth, as defined, upon the student’s initial enrollment at the postsecondary educational institution until the student has received an initial disbursement of the student’s financial aid award.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

#5

ENHANCED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

While no legislation is currently identified in this area, SJECED will continue to follow policy developments related to early childhood education opportunities.



2026 SJECED STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

COMMUNITY COLLEGE BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Advancing community college baccalaureate programs provides affordable, workforce-aligned pathways that meet regional labor needs.

These programs address workforce shortages and create high-demand degree opportunities without the cost of transferring to a four-year institution.

AB2301 – Community Colleges

Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program

(Author: Soria)

Bill would require the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to develop a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing Pilot Program that authorizes select community college districts to offer a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree.

The bill would limit the pilot program to 10 community college districts statewide and would require the chancellor’s office to identify and select eligible community college districts based on specified criteria.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

SB960 – Public Postsecondary Education

Community Colleges: Statewide Baccalaureate Degree Program

(Author: Cabaldon)

Bill would prohibit a community college district from offering a baccalaureate degree program or program curricula already offered by the UC, or a campus of the CSU, whose local admission area includes, or overlaps with, the territory of the community college district, unless the CSU program has been impacted for 3 consecutive years before the date the program is approved.

● SJECED Position: SUPPORT

2026 SJECED STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

GENERAL COLLEGE OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

Ensuring the long-term success of community colleges requires policies that promote fiscal stability, support employees, and strengthen governance and institutional effectiveness. SJECED advocates for legislation that helps colleges support students and employees while maintaining strong operations, accountability, and public trust.

SJECED advocates for legislation that focuses on:

#1 State Funding

Supporting fiscal stability and local flexibility so colleges can sustain core operations, student services, and long-term planning.

#2 Human Resources

Advancing the recruitment, retention, and well-being of faculty and staff who are essential to student success and strong college operations.

#3 Governance and Administration

Improving governance, transparency, procurement, and institutional accountability to strengthen college operations and public trust.



#1 STATE FUNDING

Please see pages 2-3 for additional bills the District is tracking, with SJECED's position listed as Monitor. Each bill number in orange links to the corresponding legislative webpage.

#2 HUMAN RESOURCES

AB2019 – Community Colleges Deported or Detained Faculty

(Author: Gipson)

Bill would require a community college district to allow its faculty who departed the United States on or after January 1, 2027, for a specified reason, including, among others, due to immigration enforcement actions by the Department of Homeland Security, and who was teaching for the community college district at the time of departure to perform their instruction and professional duties through distance education or other remote modalities offered by the community college district, as provided.

● **SJECED Position: SUPPORT**

SB975 – Nursing Schools and Programs Faculty Members, Directors, and Assistant Directors

(Author: Ochoa Bogh)

Bill would require the Board of Registered Nursing in the Department of Consumer Affairs to approve an applicant for individual approval if the applicant submits a completed application, as specified, demonstrating that the applicant meets the requirements established by the board for faculty, directors, and assistant directors of an approved school of nursing or nursing program, and, if needed, an approved remediation plan.

● **SJECED Position: SUPPORT**

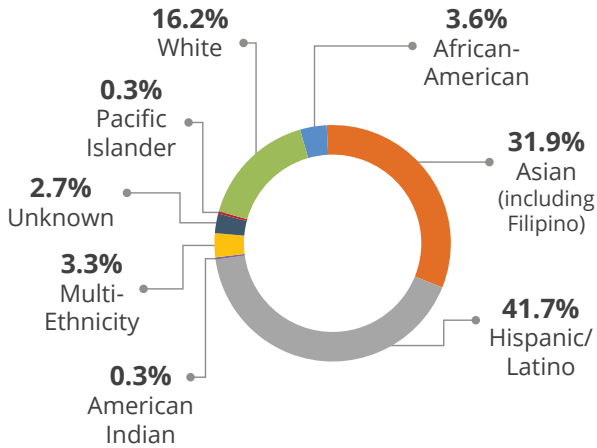
#3 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Please see pages 2-3 for additional bills the District is tracking, with SJECED's position listed as Monitor. Each bill number in orange links to the corresponding legislative webpage.

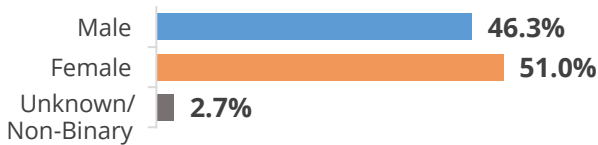
SJECCD STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS (2024-25)

SJECCD’s legislative priorities are shaped by the students and communities we serve. These demographic insights provide a snapshot of who our students are and help guide decisions about which policies to support, monitor, and prioritize in our advocacy. By aligning our advocacy with student needs, we continue working to expand financial aid, strengthen workforce pathways, and enhance support services that remove barriers to success.

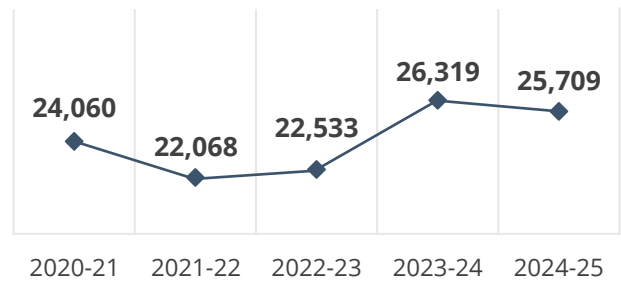
STUDENT ETHNICITY PROFILE



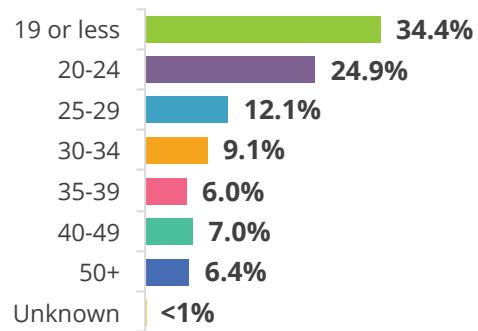
STUDENT GENDER



FIVE-YEAR TREND (HEADCOUNT)



STUDENT AGE



SJECCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Dr. Jeffrey Lease, *Board President*
- Mr. Clay Hale, *Board Vice President*
- Mr. Tony Alexander, *Trustee*
- Ms. Maria Fuentes, *Trustee*
- Ms. Marsha Grilli, *Trustee*
- Ms. Karen Martinez, *Trustee*
- Dr. Buu Thai, *Trustee*
- Ms. Ariana Estrada, *EVC Student Trustee*
- Mr. Omarrion Young, *SJCC Student Trustee*

SJECCD CHANCELLOR

Dr. Beatriz Chaidez

EVC PRESIDENT

Dr. Vinicio López

SJCC PRESIDENT

Dr. Marilyn Flores



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