

Implementation of the California College Promise

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Christine Statton, CPA
Vice President, Administrative Services
College of the Sequoias

Jeanette Gordon
Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Los Angeles Community College District

Bryan Dickason
Financial Aid Specialist
CA Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

The California College Promise

- ▶ College Promise Prior to AB 19
 - ▶ Some districts implemented their own programs with their own funding
 - ▶ LACCD is an example
- ▶ AB 19 funding
 - ▶ For 2018-19 year
 - ▶ Expend by June 30, 2020
- ▶ Governors Budget
 - ▶ For 2019-2020
 - ▶ \$45.2 million + \$40 million to cover two years of fee waivers
- ▶ AB 2 (still a bill)
 - ▶ Current language would waive fees for all full-time students
 - ▶ Conflicts with Governor's budget

Current Examples:

Los Angeles Community College District Los Angeles College Promise

*Implemented PRIOR to AB 19 using District Funds
Issues a Fee waiver - Waived Tuition*

- Includes Priority enrollment at all nine colleges
- Includes a dedicated support team providing an array of academic and student support services

LA College Promise Prior to AB 19

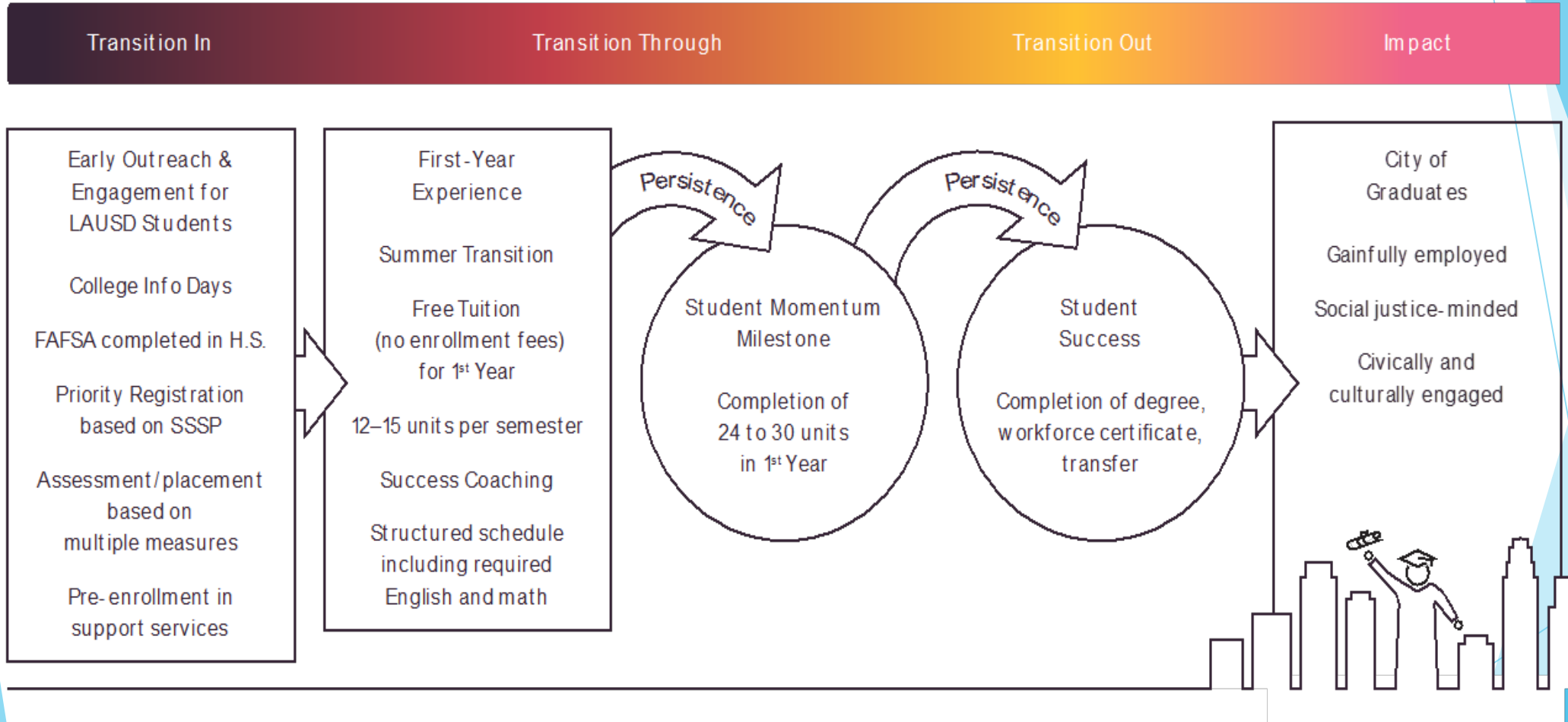
- ▶ Collaboration with the Los Angeles Community College District, Los Angeles Unified School District, City of LA Mayor's Office, and the LA Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Design Retreat in Summer 2016
 - Used an Appreciative Inquiry model to answer the question “Who are the people and what are the events that will most help students through the transition from high school to college?”
 - Created core elements around Transition In, Transition Through and Transition Out
 - Intentionally leverages existing California Student Success initiatives and funding



LA College Promise Prior to AB 19

- ▶ LA Promise provides one year free enrollment fees for all full time, first year students from LAUSD & Charter Schools.
- ▶ 1st year Cohort in Fiscal 2017-2018 funded by LACCD Foundation, City of L.A., California Community Foundation.
- ▶ 2nd year for the 1st year Cohort in Fiscal 2018-2019 also funded from same sources.

LACP Conceptual Model



The Los Angeles College Promise will seamlessly transition graduating LAUSD students to full-time LACCD students. This will lead to increased college completion, enhanced social mobility and equity for Angelinos, and a more robust local economy.

LACP - What is the Promise?

For First-time Fulltime students

Colleges provide:

- ▶ One Year Free (Mandatory Fees) up to 30 units
- ▶ Priority Registration
- ▶ Success Coaching and intrusive support

Students MUST:

- ▶ Apply for Financial Aid (FAFSA/Dream/BOG)
- ▶ Complete AOC
- ▶ Enroll full-time
- ▶ Participate in Summer transition
- ▶ Enroll in required English/Math (per educational plan)
- ▶ Participate in Success Activities - including major/career exploration (as prescribed by college)

LACP - Beyond the Tuition

If free tuition was all it took, then the BOG fee waiver would have solved our problems years ago

How LACP goes Beyond Free Tuition.....

- ▶ Requires participation in a Summer Transition experience
- ▶ Requires students to take English and Math
- ▶ Included Success Coaching & Required Student Success Activities
- ▶ Partnership with the Mayor and Chamber of Commerce: Mayor's Youth Ambassador Program & LACPWorks!
- ▶ Provision of food, textbook or transportation support

LA College Promise Outcomes

- ▶ The LACP has achieved significant program outcomes:
 - ▶ **Increased Access:** Overall enrollment for recent LAUSD graduates increased by 24% since Fall 2016, in contrast to negative statewide enrollment trends driven, in part, by the declining population of high school seniors
 - ▶ **Increased Full-Time Enrollment:** Full-time enrollments of first-time college students from LAUSD increased by 54% district-wide from Fall 2016 to Fall 2018

LA College Promise Outcomes

- ▶ **Increased Student Success:**
 - ▶ Fall 2017 LACP students both attempted and completed English and Math at higher rates compared to their Fall 2016 peers: 96% of students attempted English (vs 89%); 94% of students attempted Math (vs 86%)
 - ▶ The percentage of students completing English 101 and Transferable Math in the first year increased by 44% percent (from 9% in Fall 2016 to 13% in Fall 2017). Moreover, an additional 212 students completed this significant milestone--a 71% increase over 2016
- ▶ **Increased Equity:** Improved student outcomes are being realized for Latino/Hispanic and low income students which comprise higher proportions of the LACP cohort
- ▶ LACP has the potential to graduate hundreds of students in the first two-year timeframe and the projected **2-year graduation rate** for LACP students is comparable to the **3-year graduation rate** for non-LACP students

Alignment with AB 19 - California College Promise

- ▶ Waives fees for direct HS matriculants for one year (including summer prior)
- ▶ Requires full-time enrollment, financial aid application,
- ▶ Requires partnership with local educational agencies to establish Early Commitment to College Program and reduce post-secondary remediation
- ▶ Requires utilizing evidence-based assessment and placement including multiple measures
- ▶ Colleges **MUST** participate in Guided Pathways Grant Program and incorporate multiple measures to receive funding
- ▶ Includes priority registration for students completing AOC
- ▶ Colleges can fundraise for other supports - books, transportation, incentives

Goals of the California College Promise Legislation (AB 19)

- ▶ AB 19 created the California College Promise that provides funds to districts to advance the goals of the legislation.
- ▶ The California College Promise is one program of several programs that can be used to promote student success

California College Promise Goals

1. Increasing the number and percentage of high school students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school and increasing the percentage of high school graduates who are placed directly into transfer-level mathematics and English courses at a community college.
2. Increasing the percentage of students who earn associate degrees or career technical education certificates that prepare them for in-demand jobs and increasing the percentage of students who report being employed in their field of study.

California College Promise Goals

3. Increasing the percentage of students who successfully transfer from a community college to the California State University or the University of California and increasing the percentage of students who graduate from college with a baccalaureate degree.
4. Reducing and eliminating regional achievement gaps and achievement gaps for students from groups that are underrepresented at the California Community Colleges, including, but not limited to, underrepresented students, low-income students, students who are current or former foster youth, students with disabilities, formerly incarcerated students, undocumented students, students meeting the requirements of Assembly Bill 540 of the 2001-2002 Regular Session of the Legislature, and students who are veterans.

When the Legislation Passed...

- ▶ News media painted AB 19 as “free college”

- ▶ Like opening Pandora’s Box

- ▶ Bill synopsis language:

“This bill would establish the California College Promise to, among other things, accomplish specified policy goals and waive fees for one academic year for first-time students who are enrolled in 12 or more semester units or the equivalent”

- ▶ Some are still calling AB 19, AB 2 and the Governor’s 2019-20 budget proposal “free college.”

What the law says...

▶ Law language, CEC 76396.3.

(b) “The community college may use funding appropriated pursuant to this article to waive some or all of the fees for first-time community college students who are enrolled at the college full-time.”

(d) ”It is the intent of the Legislature that funding provided to support the California College Promise be used by the community college to advance the goals outlined in Section 76396.1.”

Current Example:

College of the Sequoias Local College Promise Reimbursement

Not issuing a Fee waiver, but rather:

An enrollment fee reimbursement grant to be paid upon successful full-time completion of each term

Planning to add book vouchers or reimbursements in 2020-21 for those students who also receive Pell grants or state college promise grants (BOG waivers)



SEQUOIAS COLLEGE PROMISE REIMBURSEMENT - AB 2

WHAT STUDENTS AND PARENTS NEED TO KNOW!

College of the Sequoias has a program utilizing “College Promise” state funding, called the College Promise Reimbursement Program. The local program allows for reimbursement of previously paid tuition costs for those students that do not qualify for BOG Waivers/College Promise Grant (Waivers), or for Cal Grants, Pell Grants, or other full financial aid/third party payments (excluding scholarships).



WHO IS ELIGIBLE



The reimbursement program is for first and second year college students only. Prior dual enrollment or concurrent enrollment does not count as first or second year.



Students must enroll in, and complete with a passing grade (C or above), a minimum of 12 units per semester. (Units beyond 12 in the same semester will also be reimbursed with passing grades)

HOW IT WORKS



Students planning to request reimbursement at the end of the semester must submit a FAFSA or Dream Act application by the last day of October for fall semester or last day of March for the spring semester. (FAFSA/Dream Act required per AB 19)



Reimbursement of 12 units or more of tuition will be made upon successful completion of 12 units in a student's first semester, and again in their second semester, and repeated in their second year.



HOW IT WORKS



Student's account will be credited for tuition previously paid approximately six weeks after the semester grades are officially posted. Any credit balance is automatically applied to future charges. If the student account is paid in full, students can request a refund at the Cashier's Office.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS



This program will only apply to a student's first four consecutive semesters at COS. (Summer sessions not included)



The reimbursement does not cover fees, such as transit, health, student center, student activity, non-resident fees, etc. The reimbursement does not cover books or material fees.



Students will not have any option for appeal.



Go to College for FREE!

Everyone knows that college can be expensive.
But did you know you could go to College for FREE?

Be a First or Second Year college student!

Complete the FASFA or Dream Act
application by October 2019!

Enroll in a minimum of 12 units
and pass your classes!

Local College Promise Program
will reimburse you!

Visit the COS Financial Aid Office TODAY to learn more!
Visalia - Hanford - Tulare

Sequoias College Promise

California College Promise Participation Requirements

(AB 19)

Participation Requirements

- ▶ CEC Section 76396.2
- ▶ (a) Partnering with one or more local educational agencies to establish an Early Commitment to College Program
- ▶ (b) Partnering with one or more local educational agencies to support and improve high school student preparation for college
- ▶ (c) Utilizing evidence-based assessment and placement practices at the community college that include multiple measures of student performance.(AB 705)
- ▶ (d) Participating in the California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program

Participation Requirements, Cont.

- ▶ CEC Section 76396.2
- ▶ (e) Maximizing student access to need-based financial aid:
 - ▶ by leveraging the California College Promise Grant,
 - ▶ ensuring students complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, Cal Grant application, or Dream Act application, and
 - ▶ participating in a federal loan program authorized under Title IV of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1070 et seq.).

For colleges using College Promise funds to provide a waiver of fees

If providing fee waivers

- ▶ Recipient must not be eligible to receive a CCPG
- ▶ Recipient must be a CA resident or be eligible for non-resident exemption
- ▶ Recipient cannot be a non-resident
- ▶ Recipient must have submitted FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application (CADAA)
- ▶ Recipient must be a first-time college student (IPEDS)
- ▶ Recipient must attend and maintain full-time status, at least 12 units (in law)

What is full-time equivalent for DSPS students?

- ▶ The law, as written, tells us that students must be in 12 units to be considered full-time for purposes of using AB 19 funds to waive fees.
- ▶ The Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Government Code section 11135, prohibit discrimination in programs that receive state funding. *A strong argument can be made that disabled students whose Academic Accommodation Plan (AAP) permits them to take less than 12 units should be considered full-time for eligibility under AB 19.*
- ▶ To determine if disabled students should be considered full-time for eligibility under AB 19 if enrolled in less than 12 units, a local determination would have to be made based on a fact-intensive analysis - most appropriately conducted by a district's legal counsel.

Must a student enroll in 12 units or more for every term they attend to receive a waiver of fees?

- ▶ 12 units is required. Section 76396.3(c)(1) of the California Education Code, added by the AB 19 legislation states:

“For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

“Full time” means 12 or more semester units or the equivalent.

- ▶ Initially, for students attending in Summer prior to their first year in college, fees may be waived only if the student enrolls in 12 units

- ▶ BUT, May Revise proposes to “permit students who are full-time during primary terms to receive fee waivers during summer sessions

- ▶ Current law: 76396.3(b) of the California Education Code states, in part:

“A fee waiver that a student receives pursuant to this subdivision shall only be for one academic year and fees shall only be waived for the summer term and each semester or quarter of that year in which the student maintains full-time status.”

If not issuing fee waivers?

What, if not fee waivers?

The following are just suggestions...

If not providing grants to pay enrollment fees for first time, full-time student's:

- ▶ An enrollment fee reimbursement grant to be paid upon successful full-time completion of each term.
- ▶ Grants to pay student non-enrollment fees
- ▶ Grants to assist meeting child care, transportation, books and other costs.
- ▶ Support at Local Education Agencies (LEA) to promote college preparedness and attendance
- ▶ Other uses that support the goals of the legislation

Do all 2018-19 AB 19 funds have to be expended?

- ▶ Yes. Please spend all funds
- ▶ AB 19 funds must be expended by June 30, 2020.
- ▶ Yes. Funding is expected to be ongoing on a yearly basis

Would you expect that colleges will have to expend any AB 2 funds (if approved) by June 30, 2020?

- Yes. Funding is expected to be ongoing on a yearly basis

How will any AB 19 financial aid be reported?

- ▶ Two MIS codes will be created:
 - ▶ One new code to report AB 19 fee waivers
 - ▶ You will be reporting only AB 19 fee waivers using this code
 - ▶ A different code to report any direct assistance that is not a fee waiver
 - ▶ This code will be for direct assistance such as book vouchers, transportation and child care.

Intended uses from Summer 2018 Certification forms

- ▶ Emphasis of funding
- ▶ 82 went with a fee waiver
- ▶ 30 direct assistance and college emphasis
- ▶ 21 went almost 100% to assist LEAs
- ▶ 9 colleges opted out (Since then some have indicated that they will return to the loan program)
 - ▶ Barstow College
 - ▶ College of the Desert
 - ▶ Imperial Valley College
 - ▶ Mt. San Jacinto College
 - ▶ Palo Verde
 - ▶ Crafton Hills College
 - ▶ San Bernardino Valley College
 - ▶ Victor Valley College
 - ▶ Taft College

Questions?

- Christine Statton, CPA
Vice President of Administrative Services, College of the Sequoias
christines@cos.edu
559-730-3734
- Jeanette Gordon
Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, Los Angeles Community College District
gordonjl@laccd.edu
213-891-2090
- Bryan Dickason
Educational Services & Support Division
bdickason@cccco.edu
916-323-5952