



2025-26 Federal Legislative Priorities

Legislative and Governmental Relations Division - Office of the Chancellor

Invest in Workforce Development:

Significant funding for workforce development continues to be essential for a strong economy and global competitiveness. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) was last reauthorized in 2014 and has been due for reauthorization since 2020. In the 118th Congress, significant progress was made in advancing bipartisan WIOA legislation.

For WIOA reauthorization, LACCD supports:

- Ensuring the highest possible funding levels for critical workforce programs
- Codifying and increasing funding for the Department of Labor's Strengthening Community College Training Grants.
- New competitive grant programs to expand employment and training activities for high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations, such as advanced manufacturing, information technology, and healthcare.
- Support for the Reentry Employment Opportunities Program, which establishes a competitive grant that allows eligible entities, including community colleges, to implement projects that prevent recidivism among justice-involved adults and youth through training and workforce opportunities.

LACCD also strongly supports:

- Continuing support for apprenticeship and workforce training programs to expand the number of skilled workers necessary to upgrade our nation's infrastructure.
- Expanding federal funding to address healthcare workforce shortages through training and education programs, with a focus on programs to address nursing shortages.



Address Student Basic Needs:

The true cost of attending community college extends beyond tuition. A recent study of more than 33,000 community college students found that one-third faced food insecurity and over fifty percent were housing insecure. Fourteen percent of those students surveyed were homeless. These statistics mirror the challenges facing LACCD students, who experience unmet financial needs to pay for necessities such as food, housing, transportation, child care, and medical expenses, including mental health. LACCD supports policies that allow students to access vital basic needs services and increase the capacity of community colleges to connect students with critical services.

LACCD strongly supports:

- FY 25 and 26 funding for the Department of Education's Basic Needs for Postsecondary Students program, which provides grants to eligible institutions of higher education to support these programs as well as additional legislation and funding to address student basic needs, including housing, transportation, and access to food.
- Increased support for existing childcare programs for student parents, including the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS), and developing new programs to address the childcare workforce shortage.
- Ensuring that the Farm Bill reauthorization eliminates eligibility restrictions for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to make it easier for community college students to access this program and oppose efforts to limit SNAP eligibility and cut SNAP funding.

Provide robust support for student, faculty, and employee mental health:

The demand for mental and behavioral health care in schools continues to be overwhelming. At the same time, shortages of professionals exist across the country. This has been particularly deleterious for the most vulnerable students, including students of color and LGBTQ+ students.

LACCD strongly urges:

- Congress to support legislation to ensure that all students, faculty, and employees can have access to comprehensive mental health services.
- Congress to strengthen incentives and programs that grow the mental health care workforce.

Expand College Access and Affordability:

The college affordability gap continues to grow. Additional student financial aid is critically needed to help address racial and economic inequities and performance gaps in college completion rates and increase overall educational attainment. In addition, programs like dual enrollment that help increase college access and degree attainment should be expanded.

LACCD strongly supports:

- Increasing Pell Grant funding annually to maintain its purchasing power. Pell Grant eligibility should also be extended to short-term training programs offered by institutions of higher education.
- **Support federal investments in higher education, including:**
 - Supporting the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs, which enhance community college student enrollment and success.
 - Maintaining funding for vital institutional aid programs, including the Strengthening Institutions (Title III-A of the HEA), Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions, and Predominantly Black Institutions programs.
 - Strengthen TRIO, GEAR UP, and other student support programs.

Support for DACA:

As one of the nation's leading educators of DACA students, LACCD urges Congress to enact legislation that would establish a path to citizenship for qualifying undocumented students who entered the U.S. as minors. Further, federal restrictions on states that offer in-state tuition to undocumented students should be eliminated. DREAM Act students should be eligible for federal student financial aid.

Scan here for more information on LACCD's past and present advocacy efforts:



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