

2022 State Legislative Agenda



Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) is one of the largest community college systems globally, proudly empowering 200,000 students annually to succeed by providing the education, training, and skills needed to thrive in tomorrow's economy. MCCCD has 10 colleges spanning across Maricopa County and is the largest workforce development provider in the state, adding \$7.2 billion in income to the state's economy in Fiscal Year 2017, the equivalent of three percent of the total gross regional product of Maricopa County. Recognizing the statewide and global impact of the District, MCCCD developed a 2022 legislative agenda to support the preservation, innovation, and expansion of programs that ensure students enrolled in our colleges are ready for the workforce of today and the workforce of tomorrow. The following items are anticipated to arise during the next legislative session and are the recommended positions of MCCCD's elected governing board.

Funding, Financial Supports, and Incentives

1. Support funding and expansion of Pre-K through 12 teacher preparation programs, including support for high school teachers to gain qualifications to provide college-level instruction.
2. Support full ongoing funding of the statutory STEM workforce development formula for community colleges to support the growth of high demand occupational areas.
3. Support funding for MCCCD to enhance wrap-around basic need supports for students beyond tuition (such as food, housing, transportation, and child care), increase enrollment, bolster short-term workforce driven credential programs, and drive workforce reskilling and recovery efforts.
4. Support expanded scholarship opportunities and incentives for community college students such as adult basic education, short-term training to up- and re-skill, early-college, dual enrollment and CTE.
5. Support adjustments to Proposition 301 that are beneficial to community colleges.

Policy and Operations

6. Preserve the newly adopted statute allowing baccalaureate degrees at community colleges, including the maintenance of local decision-making and local governance of these programs.
7. Protect and expand local district authority and governance in the administration of the colleges, including the ability to pursue revenue-generating strategies, and policy that supports and protects students, staff, and faculty both academically and professionally.
8. Support efforts to expand opportunities for high school students to enroll in community college courses through early college, co-enrollment, and dual enrollment partnerships, including policy and budgetary incentives to enhance the early college instructor pipeline.
9. Maintain primacy of community colleges as providers of high school equivalency programs and support increased funding of those programs.
10. Support efforts to modernize the outdated expenditure limitation formula to better align with the actual costs of programs, including revisions to the statutory "full-time student equivalent" definition to accurately reflect the academic participation of students and mirror university and federal definitions of full-time students.