



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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Community College Transfer Degree Bill Advances

The initiative will streamline the transfer process, saving students time, money and generating resources to serve more students

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The Assembly Higher Education Committee today on a 9-0 vote approved the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act, [Senate Bill 1440](#). If enacted, the initiative will simplify the transfer process between the California Community Colleges and California State University systems, increase efficiency and generate approximately \$160 million annually in cost savings. The savings would provide access to roughly 40,000 additional community college students and nearly 14,000 California State University students each year.

The bill, authored by [Sen. Alex Padilla](#) (D-Pacoima), is strongly supported by California Community Colleges Chancellor [Jack Scott](#) and California State University Chancellor [Charles Reed](#).

“This bill will ease transfer for community college students who want to continue their educational goals at a four year college,” said Chancellor Jack Scott. “I’m pleased it is swiftly moving through the Legislature and strongly believe now is the time for this important reform to finally take place.”

According to a report from the California Legislative Analyst’s Office, community college students transferring to a California State University graduated with an average of 162 units when the minimum requirement is 120 units. A new study by the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office finds roughly 50,000 community college students transfer annually to the California State University system. They do so with an average of 80 semester units when only 60 semester units are required. Similarly, when these students arrive at the California State University, they take excess units to make up for courses that did not transfer from their community college.

“In these tough economic times it is critical that we actively seek ways to save our students and the state money,” said Scott. “This bill will save students thousands of dollars, taxpayers millions and help students quickly transition into the workforce, thus generating additional revenue for our state.”

The bill has been approved by the Senate and will next head to the Assembly Appropriations Committee where it will be heard in a couple of weeks.

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.9 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training and basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

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