

**CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
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TO: Institutional Research Directors/
Staff Student Equity Directors/
Coordinators

FROM: Ryan Fuller
Interim Director of Research, TRIS

PASSAGE OF AB 504

Last week Governor Jerry Brown signed [AB 504](#) (Medina), Community Colleges: Student Success and Support Program Funding. This legislation requires one standard methodology for measuring equity gaps and disproportionate impact:

“This bill would require the student equity plan to instead include whether that significant underrepresentation of any of these categories of students is found to exist in terms of access and retention, degree and certificate completion, English as a Second Language and basic skills completion, and transfer. The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to establish a standard methodology, for measurement of student equity and disproportionate impact for disaggregated subgroups of the student population of the California Community Colleges, for use in the student equity plans of community college districts, as specified.”

The Chancellor's Office is recommending the Percentage Point Gap method as the standard methodology to measure student equity. Compared to the other methods, the percentage point gap is the easiest to use -- subtracting overall population proportions from proportion of disaggregated subgroups. However, careful attention must be given to the sample size and the margin of error in order to establish a threshold. The research unit developed the document available in the link below to provide an overview of the method and how to identify subgroups that are disproportionately impacted.

<http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/TRIS/Research/Analysis/PercentagePointGapMethod2017.pdf>

This new legislation will take effect on January 1, 2018. Please be advised that the Integrated Plans, due on December 15, 2017, will not be affected nor will require the use of this methodology. We hope that this memo will provide clarity around using the percentage point gap method. Questions can be directed to cramirez-faghih@cccco.edu or scorecard@cccco.edu .