



NORTH ORANGE COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

# LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

STATE & FEDERAL ADVOCACY EFFORTS



# 2021

NOCCCD.EDU



NORTH ORANGE COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT



Cypress College



Fullerton College

**NOCE**  
NORTH ORANGE  
CONTINUING EDUCATION

## About

Two of the state's premier colleges and one of the most extensive continuing education program combine to provide the quality educational programming of the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD). Nearly 74,000 students enroll annually at Cypress College, Fullerton College, and North Orange Continuing Education. The NOCCCD campuses serve an area of over one million diverse people each pursuing their own, unique ambitions.

## 2019-20 Snapshot

73,885 students served

5,552 degrees awarded

5,476 certificates and diplomas awarded

2,735 transfers to four-year universities

2,795 total employees



During the 2016-17 fiscal year, NOCCCD and its students added **\$1.6 billion** in income to the Orange County economy. NOCCCD activities supported **20,076 jobs** or one out of every 113 jobs in Orange County.

# NOCCCD AT A GLANCE



# LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

## California State Assembly

### Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva (AD-65)

Sacramento Office - State Capitol, Rm 6012, Sacramento, CA 94249 | (916) 319-2065

District Office - 1440 N. Harbor Blvd., Suite 270, Fullerton, CA 92835 | (714) 525-6515

## California State Senate

### Senator Josh Newman (SD-29)

Sacramento Office - State Capitol, Rm 4066, Sacramento, CA 95814 | (916) 651-4029

District Office - 203 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92832 | (714) 525-2342



NOCCCD Chancellor Cheryl Marshall advocating for the interests of students, faculty, and staff at the California State Capitol.

# STATE PRIORITIES

**The North Orange County Community College District has identified six critically important state legislative priorities to focus advocacy efforts on for 2021. Each priority has been carefully chosen to focus on results that will support the District's student population, staff, faculty, and long-term sustainability. These priorities allow staff and the District's advocates in Sacramento to act expeditiously on key state issues that impact the District and the students we serve; however, this is not an all-inclusive list of the issues the District will engage in and advocate on.**

## **Part-Time Students**

Part-time students make up the vast majority of who the California Community Colleges (CCCs) serve statewide. Our District's student population is comprised of 75% part-time students, in credit and noncredit courses. The COVID-19 pandemic has only further driven students towards part-time college attendance, as they struggle to balance health, economic, and family pressures. There is a disconnect between how our CCC system is structured in terms of the student populations we are rewarded for serving, versus the students we actually serve. Examples of this are systemically driven in the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) and the College Promise Program. Districts and colleges financially benefit most by serving full-time students through the SCFF. Additionally, students reap the financial benefits of full-time attendance through the College Promise Program. The District believes systemic policy changes are needed, with an equity lens, to shift the CCC's mission in a way that more accurately reflects the broad range of students we serve.

## **Workforce Development**

California Community Colleges will play a key role in the State's economic recovery needed due to the COVID-19 pandemic impacts. The truth is, CCC's have always played a significant role in the economic health and wellbeing of our state. CCC's are the State's job training providers. We partner with K-12 districts, universities, and industry to provide career ladder opportunities. Through the State's continued investments in the Strong Workforce Program, Guided Pathways, the Baccalaureate Program, and Career Education, we stand ready to partner with the State and ensure our students are trained and prepared for the labor industries that are growing in our region. The District strongly supports ongoing investments and policies that support the CCCs in preparing our students for the workforce, including making the Baccalaureate degree a permanent program.

# STATE PRIORITIES

## **Basic Needs**

Student success is directly impacted by their access to basic needs, such as food, housing, technology, transportation, and mental health services. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the demand for these services to be provided to our students. The District strongly supports any policy and/or budget related efforts aimed at increasing CCC students' ability to access basic needs and mental health services. Efforts on these issues are underway through proposed policy changes by the California Community Colleges Chief Executive Officer's (CEOCCC) Affordability Housing and Food Insecurity Taskforce created in 2018. The District strongly supports the recommendations of the Taskforce.

## **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (DEIA)**

The District is committed to DEIA initiatives with the goal of developing an interculturally proficient community of students, faculty, and staff. During these challenging times of racial tension across the country, the District supports policies that systemically challenge racism, and further promote diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts for CCCs.

## **Noncredit**

The District has one of the largest noncredit centers in California. North Orange Continuing Education (NOCE) serves over 30,000 students a year through such programs as high school diploma, English as a second language, parenting, and career certification classes. Historically, there have been several examples of statewide community college initiatives implemented that have not adequately considered the special administration challenges inherent to noncredit education, even when that inclusion would have been a valuable addition to the initiative. The District will continue to advocate for equitable legislative and regulatory consideration for noncredit students and programs, including how the California Adult Education Program (CAEP) funding is disbursed, to ensure the community is being served to the fullest extent possible.

## **Return to In-Person Instruction and Services**

The CCC system has seen a significant decline in enrollment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the shift from in-person courses, to online and distance learning. While the District has taken extraordinary measures to ensure students have the resources they need to be successful with distance learning, we understand it's just not for every student. The District supports policies and financial resources to provide students with the access to technology they need to succeed in a distance or online learning format, including access to broadband, computers, and software. The District supports the need for resources for campuses to successfully transition courses and student services to online and distance platforms, including the need for professional development, training, and technology support for staff. The District supports policies and resources that will support implementation of health and safety guidelines required to successfully return to in-person instruction. The District supports the recommendations of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's office, Safe Campus Reopening Workgroup.

# FEDERAL PRIORITIES

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**The North Orange County Community College District has identified three critically important federal legislative priorities to focus advocacy efforts on for 2021. Each priority has been carefully chosen to focus on results that will support the District's student population, staff, faculty, and long-term sustainability. These priorities allow staff and the District's advocates in Washington, D.C. to act expeditiously on key federal issues that impact the District and the students we serve; however, this is not an all-inclusive list of the issues the District will engage in and advocate on.**

## **Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act**

The Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) is important to the District for many reasons, including that it governs federal financial aid programs for our students. Federal financial aid consists of student loans and need-based financial aid, such as the Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), and Federal Work-Study. The HEA has been expired since 2013 and extended by Congress while debates over the reauthorization take place. With a new federal Administration, we anticipate significant changes to be proposed in the reauthorization process, including increased student aid support through efforts to make community college free for students, as well as policy changes related to accreditation, regulation reform, student loans, and additional transparency. It is important during reauthorization of the HEA that any changes to law reflect the diverse student population and interests of our students. The District supports additional resources to lessen and/or eliminate the cost for students to attend community college in California.

## **Title IX**

One of President Biden's stated higher education priorities includes addressing how colleges across the nation respond to sexual assault on campus. These new regulations drastically change how colleges and our District responds to sexual assault on campus. The new requirements for a hearing, where the victim would have to face the alleged perpetrator and where the perpetrator's representative can cross examine the victim will likely result in fewer complaints being filed and more victims dropping their complaint (grievance under the Title IX regs) just before the hearing. Additional costs for the District would be due to the new regulations requiring an advisor for the parties, the requirement of a hearing officer, and the additional steps in the investigative process that would increase the hours billed by outside investigators. We believe these regulations must be changed immediately, as they deter students from coming forward with legitimate sexual assault claims, and put an undue financial burden on our District.

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# FEDERAL PRIORITIES

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NORTH ORANGE COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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