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Overview of California's Higher Education System

LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

Presented to:
Assembly Higher Education Committee
Hon. Das Williams, Chair





The California Master Plan

- Original 1960 Master Plan Lays Out Basic State Policies on Postsecondary Education
 - Assigns missions to the different higher education segments.
 - Specifies which students are eligible to attend each segment.
 - Expresses other broad goals for higher education including affordability, quality, and accountability.

- Some Master Plan Principles Exist in Statute; Some Do Not

- Master Plan Is More Than Any One Document
 - Can be thought of as a collection of major higher education policy goals embraced by the state rather than a single written document.



Master Plan Reviews

Year and Title of Master Plan Reports

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| 1966 | <i>The Master Plan Five Years Later</i> |
| 1972 | <i>The California Master Plan for Higher Education in the Seventies and Beyond</i> |
| 1973 | <i>Report of the Joint Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education</i> |
| 1986 | <i>The Challenge of Change: A Reassessment of the California Community Colleges</i> |
| 1987 | <i>The Master Plan Renewed: Unity, Equity, Quality, and Efficiency in California Postsecondary Education</i> |
| 1989 | <i>California Faces . . . California's Future: Education for Citizenship in a Multicultural Democracy</i> |
| 1993 | <i>Master Plan in Higher Education in Focus</i> |
| 2002 | <i>The California Master Plan for Education</i> |
| 2010 | <i>Appreciating Our Past, Ensuring Our Future: A Public Agenda of Needs for Higher Education in California</i> |



2010 Report Echoes Previous Findings

- Set Public Policy Goals, Measure Related Outcomes, and Monitor Progress
- Maintain Access *and* Hold All Segments Accountable for Results
- Improve Preparation for College and Career
- Promote Coordination Across Segments and Facilitate Transfer
- Promote Affordability While Recognizing That Paying for Higher Education Is a Shared Responsibility



Master Plan at 50: LAO Recommendations

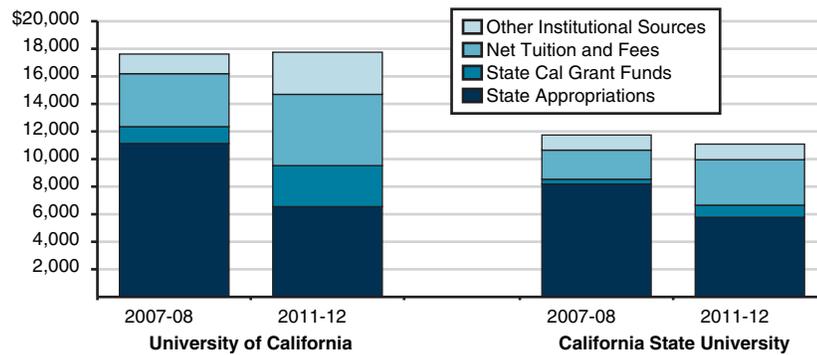
- Articulate State Higher Education Priorities, Develop Performance Measures, and Use Results to Inform Decisions
- Ensure Availability of Data
- Step Up Legislative Oversight, Including Approval for New Schools, Programs, and Facilities
- Establish an Independent Oversight Body
- Amend Master Plan Explicitly to Assign the California State University (CSU) a Regional Role in Education System
- Use Distance Education to Increase Access and Achieve Greater Efficiency



Recent Funding History

State Share of Higher Education Spending Has Declined

Per-Student Education and Student Services Spending by Source of Funds^a



^a Excludes health science instruction, research centers, and public service programs not directly related to instruction. Includes general campus instruction, student services, and a corresponding portion of academic support, institutional support, and operation/maintenance of plant.

- Total Educational Spending Per Student at the University of California and CSU Relatively Flat From 2007-08 to 2011-12 but State Share Declined
- Year-to-Year Comparisons Complicated by Several Factors Including Inflation, Changes in Pension Costs