

AHED DISPATCH

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*Please follow the link to our 2023-24 Mid-Session
Legislative Report:*

<https://ahed.assembly.ca.gov/publications/reports>

**Federal
Updates**

**State
Updates**

**Trending in
the News and
ICYMI**

FEDERAL UPDATES

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$5 Billion in Additional Student Debt Relief – Press Release

*"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."
- ???*

The Biden-Harris Administration announced the approval of an additional \$4.8 billion in student loan debt relief for 80,300 borrowers. These discharges stem from fixes made by the U.S. Department of Education to income-driven repayment (IDR) forgiveness and Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF).

The announcement brings the total approved debt cancellation by the Biden-Harris Administration to nearly \$132 billion for more than 3.6 million Americans.

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-announces-nearly-5-billion-additional-student-debt-relief>

"Before President Biden took office, it was virtually impossible for eligible borrowers to access the student debt relief they rightfully earned," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "The data released today once again make clear that the Biden-Harris Administration's relentless efforts to fix the broken student loan system are paying off in a big way, with more than 3.6 million borrowers now approved for nearly \$132 billion in loan forgiveness. This level of debt relief is unparalleled and we have no intention of slowing down."



STATE UPDATES

California State University Tuition increase: Two insights

"Why should society feel responsible only for the education of children, and not for the education of all adults of every age?"

- ???

The California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees approved a multi-year tuition increase in September 2023. These increases are designed to provide financial stability for the systems, and predictability for students, but will increase the cost of college for many. Some of this new revenue will go to financial aid—and as prospective students plan their futures, institutions will need to ensure that they are well-informed about available resources in this new era of higher costs.

<https://www.ppic.org/blog/tuition-at-csu-and-uc-is-growing-but-so-is-aid/>



Eight students at four California State University campuses were asked:

“The California State University board of trustees voted this past month to increase tuition by 6% each year for the next five years to help fill a budget gap of \$1.5 billion. For reference, this means that in 2024, the annual increase of \$342 will result in full-time undergraduate students paying tuition of \$6,084, with annual tuition reaching \$7,682 by the 2028-29 school year. We are asking students if this higher tuition would have changed your plans to attend (school name here), and why or why not?”

<https://edsources.org/2023/csu-students-sound-off-on-impact-of-upcoming-tuition-increase/698551>

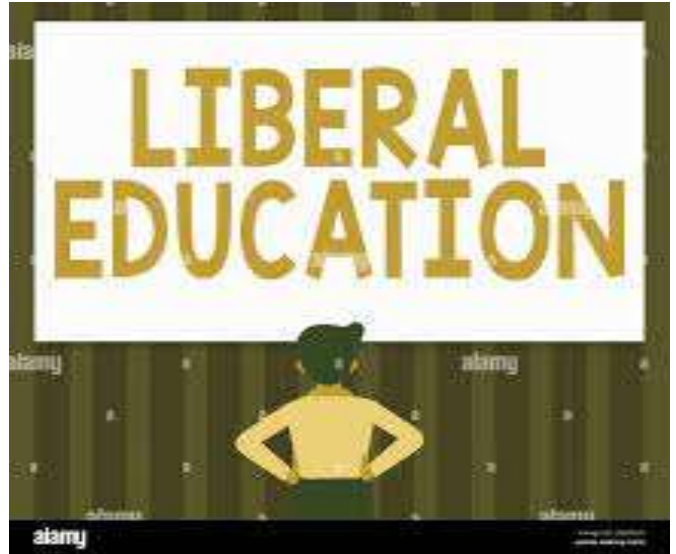


TRENDING IN THE NEWS

Community Colleges: The Future of Liberal Education

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- ???*

The mission in practice of community colleges today is not what it was a generation ago. According to enrollment trends and degree completion, that mission, now and for the foreseeable future, has a lot to do with liberal education. In well-designed lower-division humanities and liberal-arts courses, community-college students talk about common human values and concerns, across their personal and principled differences. There, they begin to build a shared sense of being human together, as they recognize the complexity of our moral, political, and social lives.



This is important, and not only for the 4.7 million students who enroll at community colleges each year. Many students begin at community colleges and then transfer to state or private institutions. About half of all four-year-degree recipients, according to a study conducted by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, will complete at least some of their course work at community colleges. For transfer students studying subjects like computer science, business, or health care, community-college coursework is where they are most likely to encounter the Dialogues of Plato or the novels of Toni Morrison. There will be little time for that in the discipline-specific courses they'll need to take to fulfill their major requirements at their new institution.

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/community-college-is-the-future-of-liberal-education>

ICYMI...

AHED had three oversight hearings in 2023!

1. *California State University: It Did Not Adequately or Consistently Address Some Allegations of Sexual Harassment (Report 2022-109)* [08-31-2023](#)
2. *Enrollment Decline, Learning Loss, Retention, and Recruitment Strategies* [10-16-2023](#)
3. *Landscape of Dual Enrollment* [11-06-2023](#)

For more information please go to the link below:

<https://ahed.assembly.ca.gov/hearings/oversight-hearing-agendas-2023-24>

The Department of Finance Released the Governor's Proposed Budget 2024-25

<https://ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2024-25/#/BudgetDetail>

Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) issued three Higher Education reports:

- *Tracking Progress In Community College Access and Success* - October 2023
<https://www.ppic.org/publication/tracking-progress-in-community-college-access-and-success/>
- *Improving College Access and Success through Dual Enrollment* - August 2023
<https://www.ppic.org/publication/improving-college-access-and-success-through-dual-enrollment/>
- *Strengthening California's Transfer Pathway* - August 2023
<https://www.ppic.org/publication/strengthening-californias-transfer-pathway/>