

AHED DISPATCH

State News

University of California -

- [University of California Health administers its one-millionth COVID - 19 vaccine.](#)
- [UC Statement on Gov. Newsom May Revise.](#)

California State University -

- [Cheers to the Class of 4 Million Students.](#)
- [CSU Statement on Gov. Newsom May Revise.](#)

California Community College

- [California Community Colleges Announce New Partnerships with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.](#)
- [CCC Statement on Gov. Newsom May Revise.](#)

Federal News

- [Washington Post - Higher Education Leaders Praise Biden's Tuition-Free College Plan.](#)

- [Chronicle of Higher Education - Ways to Encourage Underrepresented Students to Pursue Tech Majors.](#)

- [Inside Higher Ed - How much do inequities in Higher Education really cost.](#)

May Revise 2021-2022

“Don’t tell me what you value. Show me your budget and I will tell you what you value.” – President Joe Biden.

On May 14, Governor Gavin Newsom introduced the May Revision of the 2021-2022 Budget. Examining the proposals pertaining to higher education, California has taken a stance to declare expanding college access and ensuring a skilled workforce for California are cornerstones of the California Roars Back Budget proposal. The May Revision includes \$48.7 billion in funding for Higher Education which the Governor highlighted as being the largest investment in higher education in the history of California. Divided amongst the three public higher education segments, the May Revise provides \$4.27 billion in General Funds to the University of California, \$5.32 billion in General Funds to the California State University, and \$11.872 billion in General Funds to the California Community Colleges.

Some proposals of note in the May Revise include an array of financial allocations to address the total cost of attending college and to increase college affordability. The Governor’s proposal includes \$4 billion split over two years in one-time General Funds for expanding affordable student housing available to University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), and California Community College (CCC) students. Furthermore to address student basic needs, the May Revise allocates \$30 million in ongoing funding to CCC to establish Student Basic Needs Centers and to hire Student Basic Needs Coordinators to assist in connecting students to basic needs resources.

If you wish to examine the full budget please visit the Department of Finance website and locate the [May Revision Higher Education Summary](#).

Campus Vaccination Requirements

The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) announced on April 22 that the universities intend to require faculty, staff and students who are accessing campus facilities at any university location to be immunized against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This requirement will be conditioned upon full approval of one or more vaccines by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), as well as adequate availability of the fully approved vaccines. This requirement will become effective at the beginning of the fall 2021 term, or upon full FDA approval of the vaccine, whichever occurs later.



UC and CSU are joined by many other institutions across the country that are requiring vaccination for students attending class in-person. Some institutions, like Georgetown, are requiring vaccination prior to fall courses under the existing FDA

temporary use authorization. Others, like the State University of New York system, are awaiting full FDA approval before a mandate goes into effect.

This decision to require vaccination is complex, and some perspective is helpful in understanding why institutions waited until April and May to begin announcing their decisions. Only six months ago many news articles noted serious concerns about the existing vaccine supply, potential issues in approval, and possible shortages. Today, over 66% of adults in California have received at least one vaccination dose, and the Center for Disease Control released new guidance on mask wearing and distancing for fully vaccinated individuals that closely resembles pre-COVID-19 normality.

And so, while campuses work to align to an ever-changing health climate reality, we collectively hold our breaths – hoping that students and institutions alike can return to a more recognizable normal. Full approval of one or many vaccines by the FDA will solidify that return in California, and will help bring the COVID-19 pandemic to a much-welcome end.

Admissions in the COVID - 19 Era



It is no secret that the global pandemic, commonly referred to as, COVID-19, caused countless disruptions in the lives of the almost 40 million residents of California. One disruption can be seen by way of millions of college students attending any of the state's public, independent, and/or for-profit colleges and universities. Data suggests that thousands of college students opted to take a gap year (or term) for Fall 2020. But what about the enrollment data for Spring 2021? Did admissions and enrollment decline?

According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, the steepest decline among undergraduates since the pandemic began can be seen by way of Spring 2021 data. The nationwide data, which reflect enrollments through March 25, indicate that undergraduate attendance fell 5.9% compared with the same time last year. Overall enrollment this semester is down 4.2% from a year ago. Further, the data shows that, even fewer students enrolled at community colleges, which, nationwide, saw an 11.3% decline from Spring 2020.

What does it all look like for California? Overall, University of California's (UC) nine undergraduate campuses drew a record number of Fall 2021 applicants, despite a myriad of pandemic challenges, totaling 249,855, a 16.1% increase from last year. Among Californians, Black freshman applicants increased by 21.8%. Latinos — who have made up the largest proportion of in-state students seeking freshman seats since 2013 — rose by 12.2%. Asian Americans increased by 10.7%, whites by 18.8%, Pacific Islanders by 23.9% and American Indians by 5.5%. To note, applicants to California State University (CSU) and UC do not have to submit scores this year from standardized tests such as SAT or ACT. That said, while applications are at a high for the UC, preliminary data shows that applications are down for the CSU. While students who attend a community college do not have a formal application process; preliminary data suggests that the community colleges will also experience a decline in student enrollment.

What will long-term COVID-19 implications entail? Stay tuned for additional updates as data unfolds.

In Case You Missed It...

- Since our last Newsletter, the AHED had three bill hearings and heard a myriad of bills. To find the hearing agenda and the analyses for each of the bills, please visit our website [under hearings](#).
- The California State Auditor published two audits pertaining to Higher Education.

Higher Education Crash Course

The Assembly Higher Education Committee is offering all staff the opportunity for a 30 minute crash course in higher education issues. Please email AHED.Committee@assembly.ca.gov to schedule your meeting!

Ask a Consultant

We continue in our quest to be a valuable resource to all staff and we are reserving this space for questions you may have for the Consultants of the Higher Education Committee. Feel free to submit your questions to AHED.Committee@assembly.ca.gov

Thank you for reading!