

State
News



PPIC - California remains on track to close the degree gap.



LA Times - A bold plan for UC: Cut share of out-of-state students by half amid huge California demand.

LA Times - Many CSU students see big upsides to online learning. Now, there is a push to expand it.



Ed Source - University of California will require vaccines even without full FDA approval.

Ed Source - California Community Colleges lost students to more expensive for-profit colleges.



AHED DISPATCH:



THE INDEPENDENT ISSUE

Non-public higher education institutions in California.

In California there are two categories of non-public higher education institutions which provide educational services to students, the independents and the private postsecondary institutions. The independents institutions of higher education (independents) are defined as nonpublic, nonprofit higher education institutions that grant undergraduate degrees and/or graduate degrees. Examples of independents include Stanford University, Azusa Pacific University, and the University of Southern California. Independents play an integral part in educating California’s workforce as they currently provide more than 20% of the state’s undergrad and 55% of the state’s graduate degrees according to the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU). Furthermore in the 2020-2021 academic year, the independents enrolled more than 2,174 CCC transfer students providing a necessary pathway to a degree. For additional information on how independents serve the state please visit the [AICCU resources page](#).

**Independents
account for 55% of
the state’s
graduate degrees**

Private postsecondary institutions are defined as for-profit institutions who provide postsecondary education including academic, vocational, or continuing professional education. Some private for-profits currently operating in California include A-1 Trucking Driving School, Inc., University of Phoenix, and the California Northstate University. Private for-profits provide an alternative to traditional university programs by offering more focused educational training at a faster pace; but policy concerns have arisen due to the disproportionate share of student debt and loan defaults attributed to these programs. In recent years, these concerns have been addressed through additional oversight by the Bureau for Postsecondary Education in California (BPPE) to ensure for-profits are providing students with a career advancing education.

What is the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE)?

The regulation of for-profit institutions in California has a long and fascinating history. Prior to 1990, a division within the California Department of Education loosely carried out regulation of the private postsecondary education industry in California. In response to concerns that the structure failed to provide appropriate oversight of the sector, the Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education Reform Act overhauled the regulatory program and the Maxine Waters School Reform and Student Protection Act expanded student protections. The framework established by merging the Acts, led to duplicative and conflicting statutory provisions. Numerous sunset review reports document California’s struggles to provide appropriate oversight of private postsecondary institutions. The former Bureau for Private Postsecondary and Vocational Education (BPPVE) sunset on January 1, 2007.

The BPPE and the California Private Postsecondary Educational Act (Act) was established by Assembly Bill 48 (Portantino, Chapter 310, Statutes of 2009) after several failed legislative attempts to remedy the former BPPVE structural challenges. AB 48 took effect January 1, 2010, and provided the BPPE responsibility for oversight of private postsecondary educational institutions operating with a physical presence in California. While the Legislature has amended the Act several times since the initial passage of AB 48, it has consistently directed BPPE to make protection of the public the highest priority in performing duties and exercising powers. Today, the Act expresses Legislative intent that BPPE:

1. Ensure minimum educational quality standards and opportunities for success for California students attending private postsecondary schools in California;
2. Provide meaningful student protections through essential avenues of recourse for students;
3. Establish a regulatory structure that provides an appropriate level of oversight;
4. Provide a regulatory structure that ensures all stakeholders have a voice and are heard in policymaking by the Bureau;
5. Ensure accountability and oversight by the Legislature through program monitoring and periodic reports; and,
6. Prevent harm to students and the deception of the public that results from fraudulent or substandard educational programs and degrees.

Thank you for reading!

If you wish to know more, [please visit our website.](#)



BPPE also actively investigates and combats unlicensed activity, administers the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF), and conducts outreach and education activities for students and private postsecondary educational institutions within the state. Within BPPE is the Office of Student Assistance and Relief (OSAR), established by SB 1192 (Hill, Chapter 593, Statutes of 2016) which exists to advance the rights of students at private postsecondary educational institutions and assist students who have suffered economic loss due to unlawful activities or the closure of an institution.

Budget Update - One for the Record Books!

At the time of this publication, the Governor has signed AB 128 (Ting) which provides historical levels of funding for California public higher education institutions. Contained within AB 128, are allocations of \$6.105 billion for the California Community Colleges, \$1.56 billion for the California State University, and \$1.247 billion for the University of California. Due to an unprecedented budget year, the Legislature and the Governor continue to negotiate and approve additional appropriations. AHED will continue to monitor the budget and provide updates in subsequent newsletters. For additional information please examine [SB 132 \(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review\)](#) and [AB 128 \(Ting\)](#).

Federal News

- Washington Post - [Education Dept. drops embattled for-profit college accreditor.](#)
- Politico - [Supreme Court rules in favor of athletes in NCAA compensation case.](#)
- Politico - [Why colleges should ditch the SAT permanently.](#)
- Washington Post - [Title IX protects transgender students, Biden’s Education Department says.](#)



In Case you Missed it

- Since our last issue, the AHED had two Senate Bill hearings. For agendas and analyses of the Senate bills, please visit [our website.](#)
- [The California State Auditor published an audit pertaining to Higher Education.](#)