

*Higher Education  
News*

**California Community  
Colleges**

[- California Community Colleges Chancellor to Advise Biden Team - Los Angeles Times](#)

[-How Daisy Gonzales went from foster care to the top of the nation's largest system of higher education.](#)

[-Feds alert colleges nationwide to financial aid scam under investigation at California Community Colleges.](#)

**California State University**

[-CSU launches new initiative to provide free technology to up to 35,000 first-year and transfer students.](#)

[-Cal State universities to require coronavirus vaccines - The Washington Post](#)

[-CSU to launch Global Hispanic Serving Institution Equity Innovation Hub.](#)

**University of California**

[-A UC-Davis Professor's Mission: Saving Academic Credential in Afghanistan.](#)

[-UC admissions hit new diversity record, but harder to get in - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)

[-UC raises undergraduate tuition for financial aid, stability - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)

# AHED DISPATCH

## The Fall Federal Issue

### Higher Education and the Federal Government

Did you know that while the higher education system in the United States is fundamentally state and institution based, from its earliest days, the federal government has facilitated the establishment of public colleges and universities and funded university-based research? Since the passage of the Higher Education Act of 1965, the federal government has provided, and continues to provide, broad-based funding to students in order to increase access to higher education and promote educational attainment across the nation. The share of overall funding coming from the federal government continues to grow; an increasing share of Americans have enrolled in postsecondary education with the help of federal grants and loans. But what about the current federal Administration, what are their goals for higher education?

The United States Secretary of Education, Miguel A. Cardona, Ed. D., in part, is responsible for overseeing the management and distribution of the federal budget for education initiatives; operating the Office of Civil Rights (which, in part, investigates Title IX violations and investigates accusations of sexual assault on college and university campuses); and, influencing federal policy on education. According to Secretary Cardona, some of the higher education goals include the following:



1. Improving Career Pathways – recognizing that a skilled workforce is critical to both strong communities and a strong economy.
2. Investing in Postsecondary Education by -
  - Increasing the maximum Pell Grant and ensuring eligible DACA recipients may receive the Pell and other federal aid.
  - Seeking to provide two years of free community college to first-time students and those wishing to reskill.
  - Seeking to make college more affordable for low- and middle-income students at four-year Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) such as Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs).
    - ♦ A fiscal year 2022 request would increase institutional capacity and student supports at HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs, and other under-resourced institutions, such as community colleges; and, seeks to provide historic mandatory investments over ten years in college access and success, including \$46 billion for HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs, and \$62 billion for a new Completion Grants program that would make formula grants to States to support the use of evidence-based strategies to strengthen completion and retention rates at institutions that serve students from our most disadvantaged communities like community colleges.
3. Improving Student Aid Administration – a request has been made for \$2.1 billion to administer the Federal student aid programs in fiscal year 2022, an increase of \$200

*More News...*

[-LA Times: Students: How are you feeling about the return to in-person?](#)

[- The Chronicle of Higher Education – The new Title IX regulations should be reformed, not rolled back.](#)

[- California accelerates NCAA athlete pay law to take effect September 1, 2021.](#)

*Call On Us to Help...*

As you begin to build Bill packages for 2022, the AHED encourages you to contact us if you are considering Higher Education bills. We are here to assist you and provide guidance as you research ideas.

*Higher Education  
Crash Course*

During the Fall, the higher education consultants are offering a Higher Education Crash Course. The crash course is a 30 minute overview of important issues relevant to Higher Education. Should you wish to engage in a Higher Education Crash Course, please email the committee at [AHED.Committee@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:AHED.Committee@assembly.ca.gov)

million over the fiscal year 2021 appropriation.

- The requested funds will aid in the implementation of the FAFSA Simplification Act and FUTURE Act, which together, speak to the process of applying for student aid and accessing affordable, income-driven repayment options; provide high-quality loan servicing to more than 40 million student loan borrowers; and protect the personally identifiable information of around 75 million students and parents.
4. Cancelling Student Debt of Eligible borrowers – thus far, from January 2021 through the end of August 2021, student loans have been cancelled for more than 563,000 borrowers.

**The NCAA: Where Students Come to Play.**

Recent National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rule changes, as well as an unanimous Supreme Court decision supporting student athletes, has dramatically changed the way that collegiate student athletes can earn certain monetary benefits.

Anyone researching collegiate athletics quickly comes to learn about the confusing and contradictory world of the NCAA. Defining itself as a “member-led organization dedicated to the well-being and lifelong success of college athletes,” the NCAA is made up of 1,098 colleges and universities across 102 athletic conferences. The concept of “amateurism” is at the root of collegiate athletics – yet the NCAA oversees sporting events like “March Madness,” generating nearly one billion dollars of total revenue through broadcast deals, ticket sales, and sponsorship.

Amateur collegiate athletes don’t financially benefit from their revenue-generating gameplay, as direct compensation for athletics violates NCAA rules. Some athletes receive scholarships to cover tuition and fees. According to the NCAA, “Division I schools may provide tuition and fees, room and board, books and other expenses related to attendance at the school. Division II full scholarships cover tuition and fees, room, board and course-related books and supplies. Most student-athletes who receive athletics scholarships receive an amount covering a portion of these costs.”

The passage of SB 206 (Skinner, 2019) paved the way for California collegiate athletes to financially benefit from the use of their name, image, and likeness. Though the NCAA opposed SB 206 upon its passage, over a dozen other states followed suit with similar legislation. On June 21, 2021, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled against the NCAA in *NCAA v. Alston*, striking down NCAA caps on certain student-athlete academic benefits on antitrust grounds. On July 30, 2021, the NCAA revised their rules on name, image, and likeness – creating opportunities for collegiate athletes to take advantage of endorsement deals and other financial opportunities while still retaining NCAA eligibility.

One need look no further than at the all-around gymnastics Gold Medalist, Sunisa Lee, for an example of how this new policy creates new opportunities for athletes. Elite gymnasts have traditionally had to forgo collegiate competition, because they accept endorsements and receive other financial compensation at such a young age. With the recent change to name, image, and likeness policy, Sunisa Lee and other athletes like her won’t be forced to choose between gymnastics or college – she will be able to take advantage of both. Similarly athletes, who may never play professionally, can capitalize on their talent and monetarily benefit from the exposure they gain in collegiate athletics.

