

# AHED DISPATCH

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## Reports/Briefs

Legislative Analyst Office - 2022-2023  
Budget - [Student Housing](#).

Public Policy Institute of California  
(PPIC) - [Extended Freeze on Student  
Loan Payments could help many  
California borrowers](#).

PPIC - [The Pandemic's Effects on  
Higher Education](#).

The Institute for College Access and  
Success - [The Detrimental Cost of  
Remedial Education for California  
Community College Students](#).

## In case you missed it

Assembly Higher Education  
Committee conducted hearings on  
March 15, April 5, April 19, and April  
26. The Agendas and Analyses are  
located [here](#).

Assembly Budget Subcommittee on  
Education Finance Hearing on March  
15 (University of California and  
Hastings College of the Law), March  
29 (CSU, etc), April 5 (California  
Community College), and April 19  
(Higher Education Student Housing,  
etc) agendas are located [here](#).

## For Your Information

The Assembly Higher Education  
Committee is holding an oversight  
hearing, "Preparing Teachers for the  
K-12 Ethnic Studies Requirement" on  
May 11th at 1:30 pm in room 447.



## Noncredit and Adult Education

There are currently over 700,000 students, mostly underrepresented and minoritized populations, enrolled in adult education in California community colleges and the K-12 adult school systems. These students are resilient and committed to their goals. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the already disproportionate impact that resulted in significant enrollment declines. Hundreds of thousands of adult learners experienced unforeseen emergencies and crises during the pandemic and did not have the financial means to meet their technology or basic needs. Fortunately, these students were eligible for food pantry giveaways and emergency federal and state funding to support their basic needs and increase the likelihood of continuity of enrollment and goal completion.

And like other underprivileged groups, the digital divide among adult learners widened during the pandemic and continues to exist as distance education continues. Noncredit and adult education students often do not possess adequate technology, including free or low-cost broadband, or the skills necessary to navigate online learning.

California community college noncredit and K-12 adult education programs were able to access some of the available state and federal emergency dollars for computer loans and temporary Wi-Fi access. Programs have also been able to quickly design and deliver instruction on how to navigate within a virtual environment.

In spite of these challenges, California noncredit and adult education programs have remained robust and have been steadfast in retaining and re-engaging adult students. Programs can and have been immediately responsive and flexible to



## State News -

### California Community College

- [California Community College officials eye new rule forcing districts to hand over data.](#)
- [Nationally recognized researcher and education leader tapped to head office of innovation, data, evidence, and analytics.](#)
- [Long Beach Community College adjuncts sue over unpaid work hours.](#)

### California State University

- [LA Times - Cal State pays millions to executives after they resign, with little oversight of what they do.](#)
- [LA Times - Sonoma State president faulted CSU's sex harassment response. Now has her own scandal.](#)
- [Jolene Koester Appointed Interim Chancellor of the CSU.](#)

### University of California

- [CNN - University of California system will waive tuition for Native American students.](#)
- [Ed Source - UCLA apologizes and backtracks on controversial ad for unpaid adjunct job.](#)

### Miscellaneous News

- [LA Times - You got into your dream school, but it's pricey. Can California help you pay for it?](#)
- [Washington Post - Defrauded borrowers sue over six-year-old student debt-relief claim.](#)
- [Politico - Keep an eye on Title IX.](#)

*Thank you for Reading!*

adult learners and employers. Adults can access short-term training in careers with high labor market demand, gain state certifications, and build skills for immediate employment and college transition. Some of the high demand career fields offered through noncredit short-term programs include: Advanced transportation and logistics; Energy, construction, and utilities; Information, communication, and technology; and Health careers.

Moving forward, it will take time and funding to re-engage the adult learners who originally dropped out from education at the beginning of COVID-19. To this end, colleges should be permitted to continue reporting annual full-time enrolled students using the emergency condition provision through the end of 2025.

Additionally, noncredit programs should preserve the same level of access to all eligible funding sources, including California Adult Education Program, Strong Workforce Program, and Student Equity and Achievement Program.

Noncredit and adult education student eligibility are often inadvertently overlooked when critical resources are available. Intentional inclusion of adult learners in policy that provides resources would ensure that this disproportionately impacted group would be served.

Finally, there is a need to leverage the federal infrastructure for broadband service and continued support for noncredit and adult education to build the necessary infrastructure; the digital divide is a major obstacle for adult learners.

*Guest Authors - Ashley S. Walker of Nossaman LLP and various adult education program experts.*

## Budget Update as of May 2, 2022:

In early to late May of every year, the Governor releases the May revision of the budget proposal. The May revision is a document of his revised January Budget proposal based on increases or decreases in state revenue. In the four years Gavin Newsom has been Governor, only one budget cycle resulted in a May revise with reduced spending or proposals when compared to the January proposal. This was due entirely to the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020. Economic and Revenue updates from the Department of Finance suggest there will be an additional \$17.3 billion in general funds available above the 2022-2023 Governor's Budget forecast of \$138.348 billion. This influx of available funds may be reflected in the Governor's May revise proposal either in additional programs or through infrastructure projects. When the May revision proposal is announced, the AHED Dispatch will publish a special edition on the new higher education proposals.