Signed by Governor Jerry Brown on September 13, 2017, Assembly Bill 19 establishes the California College Promise, to be administered by the California Community College Chancellor’s Office.

The goals of the California College Promise include:

» Increasing college enrollment directly after high school
» Increasing the percentage of students in credit bearing math and English courses
» Increasing the number of certificates, associate degrees, and university transfers
» Reducing achievement gaps.

Participating community colleges must:

» Partner with a Local Education Agency (LEA) to establish an early commitment to college program (with one or more LEAs) and support academic preparation programs for college (small learning communities, dual enrollment, etc.)
» Utilize multiple measures placement strategies
» Participate in guided pathways program
» Leverage the California Promise Grant (formerly known as the BOG Fee Waiver), ensure students complete FAFSA, Cal Grant, or Dream Act application, to maximize student access to need-based financial aid
» Participate in a federal loan program authorized under Title IV of Federal higher education act of 1965.

The California College Promise will distribute funding “upon appropriation by the legislature” through a funding formula developed by the Community College Chancellor. Eligible community colleges may use appropriated funding to:

» Waive some or all fees for first-time community college students who are enrolled full-time and complete a financial aid application
» Includes coverage for the summer before the first year

Student eligibility requirements:

» Full-time enrollment (12 or more semester units or the equivalent)
» First-time student

FUNDING FOR THE COLLEGE PROMISE IS EXPECTED IN THE 2018-2019 STATE BUDGET WHICH WILL BE FINALIZED JULY 1, 2018.