

COMMUNITY COLLEGE BASE AUGMENTATION

Supporting a Base Augmentation for California Community Colleges

California's community colleges continue to face extensive challenges in offering a quality education that meets every student's needs. Community colleges must retain faculty and staff talent, hire tutors and counselors, cover pension costs and provide healthcare all with the lowest per-pupil funding in the state. While our colleges remain committed to improving their educational quality and student services, rising costs hinder their ability to even maintain current levels of service. Due to its impact on academic quality and student success, a base augmentation is California Community College's highest budget priority. California's Community Colleges simply cannot maintain their level of quality nor their student support services without a base augmentation.

What Are Base/General Operating Funds?

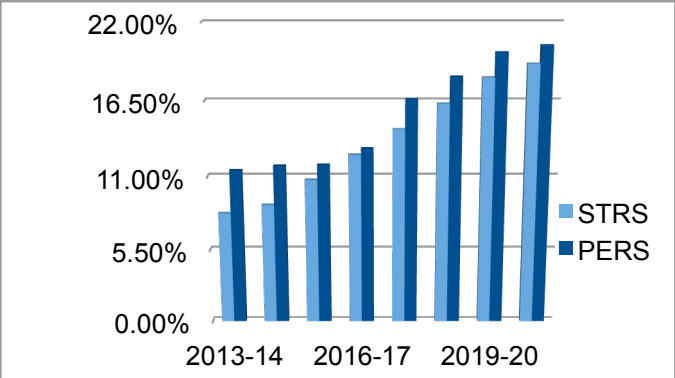
General operating funds ensure that our colleges can continue to offer a quality education. Base funds are essential to maintaining talented faculty and staff, converting part-time adjunct professors to full-time, paying for healthcare and pensions, and covering all other operating costs. Without a base augmentation, California's community colleges will not be able to meet all of these costs in the future.

Why Support A Community College Base Augmentation?

Community colleges continue to be our state's best workforce and economic development strategy, supporting California's most underserved populations. Yet, even though we serve students with the greatest needs, California Community Colleges remain the lowest funded higher education system in the state. Colleges need the Legislature's support of a base augmentation in order to effectively support the 2.3 million students we serve, and to avoid pushing students toward for-profit colleges with poor track records and aggressive recruiting tactics. A base augmentation would:

System	Funding Amount
K-12	\$12,057
CCC	\$7,984
CSU	\$14,914
UC	\$26,162

- Help cover the growing cost of business. These ongoing cost pressures are estimated to be as high as \$400 million annually.



- Alleviate the substantial fiscal challenges districts face in years ahead due to STRS, PERS, and health care costs.
 - Safeguard our core student programs, and protect the state's investment in student support services, equity programs, and workforce training.
 - Better prepare colleges and the students they serve an anticipated economic decline.

How Would Funding Be Used?

Base resources are used to ensure that core services to student are maintained. They support faculty development and provide an opportunity to integrate data review into the broader strategic plans of colleges. Colleges also rely on base funding to administer outreach programs and marketing.