

MARCH 1 DAY OF ACTION FOR EDUCATION

PLEASE SELECT AT LEAST THREE FACTS ABOUT
COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO SHARE WITH STUDENTS ON MARCH 1

- The CA community college system is the largest system of higher education in the world, serving more than 2.9 million students annually and educating 25% of community college students nationwide.¹
- The decades-long policy of open access to community colleges is being severely challenged by state budget constraints.²
- Since 2007-08, total funding to CA community colleges has been cut by 23%.³
- CA community colleges play an essential role in promoting ethnic diversity in California.⁴
- Fees cover 22% of a community college education; the other 78% is funded by the state (taxpayers).⁵
- More than 50 cents out of every state dollar goes to education.⁶
- Projected state revenues for next year will be about 1/3 less than expected before the recession.⁷
- Additional state revenue is needed to prevent further cuts to education.
- 2012-13 budget estimates for Cabrillo College:
 - \$5 million in cuts to programs & services even if the Governor's proposal passes.
 - \$8 million in cuts to programs & services with no new revenue.
 - \$0 in cuts to programs & services if the Millionaires Tax passes.

¹ Source: Chancellor's Office.

² Colleges have been considering various ways to ration education, including some recommendations coming under the title of "Student Success."

³ Source: Community College League.

⁴ According to the Chancellor's Office, "53% are members of minority groups (including Asian/Pacific Islander, Filipino, Black, Hispanic, and American Indian, among others)."

⁵ The amount allocated by the state per full-time student for 2011-12 is \$5,115, or \$170.50 a unit.

⁶ Source: California Budget Project. Projected spending for 2012-13: 41.3% for K-12; 10.1% for Higher Ed; 28.5% for Health and Human Services; 9.4% for Corrections & Rehab; 10.7% for all other categories.

⁷ Source: California Budget Project and Governor's Office.