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ACCCA Legislative Alert - 2015-16 State Budget Proposal

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January 9, 2015 2015-16 State Budget Proposal

Governor Jerry Brown's 2015-16 State Budget Proposal outlines the spending of \$113.3 billion overall, and with \$65.7 billion earmarked from state and local revenues for K-14 Proposition 98. Clearly, Governor Brown's hallmark proposal for education is his \$50.7 billion appropriation for continued implementation of the K-12 Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). According to Department of Finance calculations, **California community colleges receive a 10.95% share of Proposition 98 funds.**

Funding for community colleges and schools available in the current year is also anticipated to increase substantially as state revenues exceed the Budget estimates both last year and this year. Proposition 98 revenues are estimated to rise, respectively, by \$0.4 billion and \$2.3 billion above 2013-14 and 2014-15 budgeted levels. The additional revenues from the past-and current-year Proposition 98 increases are available for one-time purposes, and are proposed to be used to fully retire remaining community college and K-12 education deferrals at a cost of nearly \$1 billion, and to fund several other priorities noted below.

While Governor Brown's primary focus remains on the successful implementation of the K-12 LCFF, several community college funding streams are receiving considerable funding infusions:

- Mandate Apportionment—Governor Brown proposes \$353.3 million to pay down outstanding mandate claims by community colleges
- Adult Education—the State Budget provides \$500 million Proposition 98 General Fund for the "Adult Education Block Grant" to fund programs in elementary and secondary basic skills, classes and courses in citizenship and English as a second language, education programs for adults with disabilities, short?term Career Technical Education programs, and programs for apprentices
- Student Success and Support Programs—\$200 million increase to improve and expand student success programs
- **Base Allocation Funding**—\$125 million increase to base allocation funding in recognition of increased operating expenses such as retirement benefits
- Growth—\$106.9 million for growth in general-purpose apportionments, a 2% increase in full-time
 equivalent enrollment; the State Budget summary notes a new growth formula is to begin in the 2015-16
 fiscal year
- Elimination of remaining deferrals in the current budget year—the 2015-16 State Budget eliminates all remaining budgetary deferrals, \$94.5 million for community colleges
- Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)—A 1.58% COLA is funded, costing \$92.4 million
- Enhanced Non-Credit Rate Change—As adopted in the 2014-15 State Budget, the funding rate for career development and college preparation non-credit courses will equal the rate provided for credit courses, costing \$49 million

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