

The COMMUNITY COLLEGE UPDATE

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SCFF Trailer Bill Language Released

On the heels of Governor Gavin Newsom's 2019-20 May Revision proposals, the Department of Finance (DOF) released the language behind the proposals, one of which is to modify the community college Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF). The SCFF Trailer Bill reflects these major proposed changes to the statutes related to the SCFF for 2019-20:

- Freeze the proportions for the rate structure as they are for 2018-19:
 - 70% for the Base Allocation;
 - 20% for the Supplemental Allocation; and
 - 10% for the Student Success Allocation
- Starting in 2019-20, limit the increase in each district's Student Success Allocation to 10% from the prior year, as adjusted for changes in the marginal funding rates per point
- Extend the hold harmless provision for one more year, through 2021-22, guaranteeing each district at least the amount of general purpose apportionment received in 2017-18 adjusted for cost-of-living adjustments provided in each year

While a couple of these changes are consistent with some of the recommendations of the Chancellor's Office, there are many more recommendations that are not reflected in the May Revision proposal. In a conference call following the release of the Governor's revised Budget proposal, representatives from DOF confirmed that the Newsom Administration remains committed to the formula and will engage the Chancellor's Office and the SCFF Oversight Committee this summer and fall to look at implementing more recommendations for the 2020-21 Budget.

Also, the May Revision is silent on the prospect of backfilling the \$228-million short fall in the current year. In the meantime, the Chancellor's Office has had to allocate the 2018-19 general apportionment revenues within the available funds unless and until there is state funding made available to backfill the deficit.

—*Kyle Hyland and Sheila G. Vickers*

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