

- 6) Requires the Board of Governors to charge each student a \$46 per unit per semester fee. Existing law exempts students enrolled in the noncredit courses. (EC § 76300)

ANALYSIS

This bill:

- 1) Requires, by July 31, 2019, the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges (CCC), to revise the CCC online application process so that only data that is required by the federal government, state law, or that is otherwise necessary, as determined by the chancellor, is collected during the process.
- 2) Provides that to the extent that data can be collected from the student at a later time, the chancellor may delay the collection of that data until after the student has applied to a CCC.
- 3) Exempts a student seeking to enroll exclusively in noncredit courses at a CCC from being subject to residency classification requirements.
- 4) States legislative findings and declarations relative to the online application process and abandonment rates.
- 5) Establishes if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, the state shall reimburse the applicable entities.

STAFF COMMENTS

- 1) ***Need for the bill.*** According to the author, “The system by which students enroll in the Community College system is known to be cumbersome and creates a barrier for access to many students. This process does not need to be complicated or difficult to complete, given the fact that the Community Colleges accept 100 percent of the students eligible to enroll. This bill would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to revise the lengthy and complicated CCCApply application so that it is accessible and efficient for all applicants.”
- 2) ***CCCApply.*** CCCApply is the online system by which students enroll in the community college system. CCCApply accepts more than one million submitted applications per year. In 2011, the CCCApply master development contract between the CCC Chancellor's Office and the Xap Corporation expired, allowing the CCC Technology Center to develop a new version of CCCApply.

The CCC Chancellor's Office received a \$500,000 grant from the College Futures Foundation in early 2018 to revise CCCApply to be more student centered. The revisions are consistent with the requirements of this bill. The chancellor's office plans to implement these changes to the CCCApply system by fall of 2019

- 3) **CCCApply Abandonment Report.** The California Community Colleges (CCC) Technology Center released a “CCCApply Application Abandonment Report” in February of 2017. That report noted concerns that the application creates barriers for students because of its length and certain personal information it requires. Specifically, it found that, from 2012-2016, the average application abandonment rate was 5.13 percent. The colleges with the highest abandonment rate range from 7percent to 11 percent abandonment, and some of those colleges with the highest rates are located in communities with low college attainment rates. The report also observed that “personal information” page on CCCApply was the area where students were most likely to abandon their application, with a 23 percent abandonment rate observed on average. The Center recommended the chancellor’s office take actions generally consistent with the provisions of this bill.

Staff notes that an independent analysis of CCC apply and noncredit residency requirements also found that the residency components of CCC Apply are overwhelming for a very large percentage of noncredit students, and nearly half of all noncredit programs in the state do not use the online system, instead using paper applications.

- 4) **Noncredit courses.** Existing law requires each student be classified as a resident or nonresident at a public postsecondary educational institution. This bill exempts noncredit students from being subject to those requirements. Current law, provides that noncredit instruction is limited to ten categories of which include English as a second language, remedial academic courses and short-term vocational programs. Unlike credit bearing courses, students enrolled in noncredit courses are exempted from paying CCC systemwide enrollment fee. The rate of this fee depends on a student’s resident or nonresident classification (i.e. nonresidents pay a higher rate). Information used to help determine residency status is collected during the application process. According to proponents of this measure since enrollment fees are not assessed to students enrolled in noncredit courses there is no need to determine residency status or collect that information during the application process. It appears that the proposed exemption would also prohibit residency classification status from being determined for any other reason.

SUPPORT

Association of Community and Continuing Education
 Coastline Community College
 Community College League of California
 Contra Costa College
 El Camino Community College District
 Foothill-De Anza Community College District
 Golden West College
 Kern Community College District
 Lassen Community College District
 Los Angeles Community College District
 Los Rios Community College District
 North Orange Community College District

Orange Coast College
Peralta Community College District
Solano Community College
South Orange County Community College District
Southwestern Community College District

OPPOSITION

None received

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