An act to amend Sections 78222, 78261, 84850, and 88825, to add Article 4 (commencing with Section 71100) to Chapter 1 of Part 44 of Division 7 of Title 3 of, and to repeal Sections 69648.5, 79228, 79229 of, the Education Code, relating to community colleges.
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 69648.5 of the Education Code is repealed.

69648.5. The board of governors may use up to 1 percent of the funds appropriated for the EOPS program by the annual Budget Act to monitor program activities and to conduct the evaluation of EOPS offered by districts.

SEC. 2. Article 4 (commencing with Section 71100) is added to Chapter 1 of Part 44 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 4. California Community Colleges System Support Program

71100. (a) The California Community Colleges System Support Program is hereby established.

(b) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

1. The state has historically provided funding to support systemwide technical assistance set-asides and systemwide initiatives for the development, implementation, and evaluation of community college programs.

2. Many of these supports and initiatives have been established independently of one another, creating a patchwork of supports and technical assistance for the system’s community colleges that are not well-coordinated and may not address the system’s most pressing needs.

3. Consolidating systemwide technical assistance set-asides and initiatives can provide for enhanced coordination and delivery of systemwide technical assistance or initiatives to meet the evolving needs of the community college system.

(c) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that this program support the achievement of strategic policy goals adopted by the board of governors, including supporting student access and success for all students, and closing achievement gaps for underrepresented students.

2. It is also the intent of the Legislature that to the extent this program achieves savings from administrative efficiencies and the streamlining of services, those savings will be used to increase services consistent with the objectives of the Vision for Success, which were adopted by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges in 2017, and adjusted for available funding for the program.

3. It is further the intent of the Legislature that in administering the program, the board of governors use cost-effective methods in accomplishing the objectives established for this program.

(d) The funds appropriated for this program shall be allocated by the board of governors to one or more community college districts for systemwide support activities, including, but not limited to:

1. Program and administrative costs to support the California Community Colleges in the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs including, but not limited to, the following:

   A. Activities and practices pursuant to the California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program (Part 54.81 (commencing with Section 88920)).

   B. Placement policies pursuant to the requirements of Section 78213.

   C. The Student Equity and Achievement Program, established pursuant to Section 78222.
(D) The Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, established pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 69640) of Chapter 2 of Part 42 of Division 5.

(E) Educational programs and support services to be provided to disabled students by community college districts pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 67310) of Chapter 14 of Part 40 of Division 5.

(F) The Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support Program, established pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 79220) of Chapter 9 of Part 48.

(G) The Strong Workforce Program, established pursuant to Part 54.5 (commencing with Section 88820).

(H) The programs established pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 79140) of Chapter 9 of Part 48.

(2) Program and administrative costs relating to improving the fiscal health and stability of districts, including the reimbursement of expenses to the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team.

(3) Media campaigns, including administrative costs, for the California Community Colleges, including, but not limited to, campaigns related to the following:

(A) Community college affordability.

(B) Transfer to four-year universities.

(C) Outreach for students from non-English-speaking households and bilingual households, targeting areas of the state that meet, but are not limited to, the following conditions:

(i) Have concentrations of non-English-speaking and bilingual households.

(ii) Have concentrations of underserved populations.

(iii) A history of declining community college attendance.

(4) (A) Support for activities that promote, or respond to concerns relating to, institutional effectiveness and improvement for California Community Colleges, especially for colleges that demonstrate low performance in any area of operations, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(i) Technical assistance.

(ii) Creation or maintenance of an online clearinghouse of resources, such as effective practices, guidance, and curriculum, to support improvement of the California Community Colleges for statewide priorities, including, but not limited to, the development of educational programs or courses for incarcerated adults in prisons and jails, and the formerly incarcerated, educational programs or courses for California Conservation Corps members, and the Strong Workforce Program established pursuant to Part 54.5 (commencing with Section 88820).

(iii) Research and evaluation.

(iv) Professional development.

(v) Data collection.

(B) Technical assistance pursuant to this paragraph for colleges that is initiated by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges may be provided at no cost to the district. If a community college district requests technical assistance, the district is required to spend at least one dollar ($1) from local or other resources for every two dollars ($2) received as determined by the chancellor.
(5) Technology services for the California Community Colleges, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
   (A) Accessibility services.
   (B) Information security services.
   (C) Infrastructure, including, but not limited to, e-transcript, e-planning, and other tools to assist colleges to implement multiple measures of assessment pursuant to Chapter 745 of the Statutes of 2017, and technologies that facilitate portability of education credentials.
   (D) Platforms, including, but not limited to, the California Partnership for Achieving Student Success (Cal-PASS) program.
   (E) Telecommunications services, including, but not limited to, systemwide internet, audio bridging, data security, telephony, and statewide multimedia hosting and delivery services.
   (F) Professional development, including, but not limited to, faculty and staff development related to technology use and adoption.
   (G) Technical assistance.
   (H) Programs, including pilot programs, that serve to maximize the utility and economies of scale of the community college system to improve student outcomes.
(6) Program and administrative costs to increase the number of courses available through the use of technology, including, but not limited to, the California Virtual Campus Distance Education Program, funded pursuant to Item 6870-101-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2018 and a consistent learning management system to help implement this program. The chancellor shall ensure, to the extent possible, that the following conditions are satisfied for increasing the number of courses available through the use of technology:
   (A) These courses can be articulated across all community college districts.
   (B) These courses are made available to students systemwide, regardless of the campus at which a student is enrolled.
   (C) Students who complete these courses are granted degree-applicable credit across community colleges.
   (D) These funds shall be used for those courses that have the highest demand, fill quickly, and are prerequisites for many different degrees.
   (7) (A) Expenditures for transfer education and articulation projects and common course numbering projects.
   (B) Any funding that is provided to community college districts for the purposes of this paragraph shall directly offset any costs claimed by community college districts to be mandates pursuant to Chapter 737 of the Statutes of 2004.
   (e) (1) The board of governors shall approve a budget for this program no later than September 30 of the fiscal year for which the funds have been appropriated.
   (2) The board of governors shall adopt procedures for the implementation of this program.
   (3) Any funds appropriated for this program shall be encumbered only after the board of governors has approved a budget for the program.
   (4) Funds available for this program shall be allocated only as authorized in the budget approved by the board of governors.
(f) The board of governors shall report to the Department of Finance and the Legislature by September 30 of each year on expenditures for the program for the prior fiscal year.

(g) Any funds appropriated for this program shall be available for encumbrance or expenditure for three fiscal years after the funds have been appropriated in the annual Budget Act.

SEC. 3. Section 78222 of the Education Code is amended to read:

78222. (a) (1) The Student Equity and Achievement Program is hereby established.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that funds for the Student Equity and Achievement Program support the California Community Colleges in advancing the systemwide goal to boost achievement for all students with an emphasis on eliminating achievement gaps for students from traditionally underrepresented groups by doing all of the following:

(A) Implementing activities and practices pursuant to the California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program.

(B) Ensuring students complete their educational goals and a defined course of study.

(C) Providing quality curriculum, instruction, and support services to students who enter college deficient in English and mathematics to ensure these students complete a course of study in a timely manner.

(b) As a condition of the receipt of funds for purposes of this section, a district shall comply with all of the following:

(1) Maintain a student equity plan pursuant to Section 78220 to ensure equal educational opportunities and to promote student success for all students, regardless of race, gender, age, disability, or economic circumstances.

(2) Provide student matriculation services pursuant to Section 78212, including implementation of orientation, counseling and advising, referral to specialized student support services, and other education planning services needed to assist a student in making informed decisions about the student’s educational goal and course of study and in developing an education plan. The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges shall establish guidelines on student matriculation services, including, but not limited to, the development of an education plan leading to a course of study. Notwithstanding any other law, students who are exempted from matriculation services pursuant to Section 78215 are not subject to the requirements of this paragraph.

(3) Adopt and implement placement policies consistent with the requirements of Section 78213.

(4) Provide all students with an education plan, which identifies courses, a sequence of courses, key progress milestones, and other requirements the student must complete to earn an associate degree, career technical education certificate, other community college certificate, or meet transfer requirements. Notwithstanding any other law, students who are exempted from having an education plan under Section 78215 are not subject to the requirement of this paragraph.

(5) Provide a report to the chancellor’s office by January 1 of each year detailing how funding pursuant to this section was expended in the prior fiscal year and for what specific purposes. A district report shall also include an assessment of the progress in advancing the goals identified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a).
(c) (1) If the total amount of funds appropriated for purposes of this section is equal to or greater than the amount of funds appropriated in the 2017–18 fiscal year for the Student Success and Support Program pursuant to Section 78212, the student equity plans pursuant to Section 78221, and the Student Success for Basic Skills program pursuant to Section 88815, the chancellor shall allocate to each district an amount equal to or greater than the amount allocated in the 2017–18 fiscal year.

(2) If the total amount of funds appropriated for purposes of this section is less than the amount of funds appropriated in the 2017–18 fiscal year for the Student Success and Support Program pursuant to Section 78212, the student equity plans pursuant to Section 78221, and the Student Success for Basic Skills program pursuant to Section 88815, the chancellor shall allocate to each district the pro rata share of the amount appropriated based on the amount allocated to each district in the 2017–18 fiscal year.

(3) The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges may require districts or colleges to provide a local fund match for funding appropriated for purposes of this section.

(4) The chancellor shall provide guidance to districts regarding eligible expenditures and activities and integrated planning to ensure funding for the Student Equity and Achievement Program is used to support the goal of eliminating disparities pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). It is the intent of the Legislature that colleges prioritize funding for high-need and disadvantaged students, as those terms are defined in subdivision (c) of Section 78221.

(5) (A) The chancellor may allocate up to 5 percent of the total funds appropriated for the purposes of this program for state administrative operations to carry out the intent of this section.

(B) Of the amount allocated pursuant to subparagraph (A), the chancellor shall allocate to a community college district no less than the amount that was provided to a district in the 2017–18 fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 88815 to carry out faculty and staff development to improve curriculum, instruction, student services, and program practices in the areas of basic skills and English as a second language program.

(6) (5) By April 1 of each year, the chancellor’s office shall submit a systemwide report to the Legislature and Department of Finance that provides a summary of the district reports referenced in paragraph (5) of subdivision (b). A report to the Legislature pursuant to this paragraph shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(d) (1) All districts receiving an allocation of funds pursuant to subdivision (c) shall comply with the requirements of Section 78214. In meeting this requirement, the Student Success and Support Program referenced in Section 78214 means the Student Equity and Achievement Program.

(2) For purposes of Section 87482.3, the Student Success and Support Program means the Student Equity and Achievement Program.

SEC. 4. Section 78261 of the Education Code is amended to read:

78261. (a) The Legislature finds and declares both of the following:

(1) The Legislature intends to facilitate both the expansion of associate degree nursing programs and the improvement in completion rates in those programs.
(2) The Legislature also intends that community colleges employ nationally recognized diagnostic assessment tools that are aligned with national nursing licensure requirements. Both students and the state benefit when diagnostic assessments are supplemented with educational opportunities to assist students in meeting skill levels.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to create a Nursing Enrollment Growth and Retention program in the Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges. The purpose of this program shall be to provide grants to community college associate degree of nursing programs that meet either of the following conditions:

(1) The nursing program has low or moderate program attrition levels.

(2) The nursing program provides a comprehensive program of diagnostic assessment, prenursing preparation, and program-based support to students.

(c) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that this program shall be funded, beginning in the 2006–07 fiscal year, by a redirection of the ten million dollars ($10,000,000) provided annually pursuant to the Budget Act of 2005, along with an additional investment of two million eight hundred eighty-six thousand dollars ($2,886,000) annually, for a total program budget of twelve million eight hundred eighty-six thousand dollars ($12,886,000) annually. Unencumbered funds that were appropriated in the Budget Act of 2005 may be used for capacity building and equipment in the 2006–07 fiscal year.

(2) Up to 3 percent of the funds appropriated for this program may be used for statewide administration, program development, program evaluation, and program accountability. As used in this paragraph, “program development” includes, but is not necessarily limited to, activities related to partnerships or collaborations between community colleges and institutions of higher education offering baccalaureate degrees in order to increase the number of students completing bachelor of the science of nursing (BSN), master of the science of nursing (MSN), and master’s entry programs in nursing (MEPN) courses of study.

(d) The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges may award grants to community college districts with associate degree nursing programs to expand enrollment, reduce program attrition, or both. Funds shall be used only for the following purposes: expanding enrollment, providing diagnostic assessments, and offering preentry coursework to prospective nursing students and diagnostic assessments and supportive services to enrolled nursing students. For purposes of this section, supportive services include, but are not necessarily limited to, tutoring, case management, mentoring, and counseling services. Funds may also be used to develop alternative delivery models such as part-time, evening, weekend, and summer program offerings. In order to qualify for these funds, a community college associate degree nursing program shall do either of the following:

(1) Have a program attrition rate, as determined by the Board of Registered Nursing’s Annual School Report or the Information Program Data System of the Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges, of 15 percent or less for the year prior to application for funding.

(2) Commit to implement a comprehensive program of diagnostic assessment, prenursing enrollment preparation, and program-based support to enrolled students, as defined in this article.
(e) Notwithstanding Section 78213 or any other provision of law, prior to awarding any funds to be used for reducing program attrition, the chancellor's office shall do all of the following:

1. Identify, in collaboration with community college associate degree nursing programs, nationally recognized diagnostic assessment tools that determine the likelihood of academic success in community college registered nursing education programs.

2. Establish, in collaboration with community college associate degree nursing programs, the systemwide proficiency level necessary for academic success for each diagnostic assessment tool.

3. Define the kinds of educational and support services that qualify for funding under this program.

(f) As a condition of receiving grants under paragraph (2) of subdivision (d), a community college district shall, at a minimum, do all of the following:

1. Utilize diagnostic assessment tools prior to enrollment to determine readiness for community college associate degree nursing programs.

2. Offer, or identify, educational preentry coursework, including, but not necessarily limited to, tutorials, instructional resources, or noncredit instruction, aligned to the entry level nursing standards and curriculum for students who fail to demonstrate readiness based upon the diagnostic assessment tools.

3. Provide access to prenursing coursework for all students who do not demonstrate readiness based upon the diagnostic assessment tools.

4. Require that students demonstrate readiness through the diagnostic assessment or successful completion of the prenursing coursework specified above prior to commencing the registered nursing program.

5. Ensure that students that participate in educational preentry coursework in order to demonstrate readiness based upon the diagnostic assessment tools are not disadvantaged in the program enrollment process.

(g) As a condition of receiving grant funds pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d), each recipient district shall report to the chancellor’s office the following data for the academic year on or before a date determined by the chancellor’s office:

1. The number of students enrolled in the nursing program.

2. The number of students taking diagnostic assessments.

3. The number of students failing to meet proficiency levels as determined by diagnostic assessment tools.

4. The number of students failing to meet proficiency levels that undertake preentry preparation classes.

5. The number of students who successfully complete preentry preparation coursework.

6. The average number of months between initial diagnostic assessment, demonstration of readiness, and enrollment in the nursing program for students failing to meet proficiency standards on the initial diagnostic assessment.

7. The average number of months between diagnostic assessment and program enrollment for students meeting proficiency standards on the initial diagnostic assessment.
(8) The number of students who completed the associate degree nursing program and the number of students who pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

(h) (1) Data reported to the chancellor under this article shall be disaggregated by age, gender, ethnicity, and language spoken at home.

(2) The chancellor’s office shall compile and provide this information to the Legislature and the Governor by March 1 of each year.

(i) It is the intent of the Legislature that, pursuant to funding to be provided in the annual Budget Act, in the 2009–10 academic year, the California Community Colleges should increase the statewide enrollment of full-time equivalent registered nursing students by 450 and, beginning in the 2010–11 academic year and continuing each academic year thereafter, add 900 new full-time equivalent registered nursing students.

SEC. 5. Section 79228 of the Education Code is repealed.

SEC. 6. Section 79229 of the Education Code is repealed.

SEC. 7. Section 84850 of the Education Code is amended to read:

(a) The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges shall adopt rules and regulations for the administration and funding of educational programs and support services to be provided to disabled students by community college districts pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 67310) of Chapter 14 of Part 40 of Division 5.

(b) As used in this section, “disabled students” are persons with exceptional needs who have applied to or enrolled at a community college who, because of a verified disability, cannot fully benefit from classes, activities, and services regularly provided by the college without specific additional specialized services or educational programs.

(c) The regulations adopted by the board of governors shall provide for the apportionment of funds to each community college district to offset the direct excess cost of providing specialized support services or instruction, or both, to disabled students enrolled in state-supported disabled student services programs or courses. Direct excess costs are those actual fixed, variable, and one-time costs, as defined in Section 67311, which exceed the combined total of the following:

(1) The average cost to the district of providing services to nondisabled students times the number of students served by disabled student programs and services.

(2) The indirect cost to the district of providing facilities and support for the administration of disabled student programs and services.

(3) The revenue derived from average daily attendance in special classes.

(4) Any other funds for serving disabled students which the district receives from federal, state, or local sources.

(d) As a condition of receiving funds pursuant to this section, each community college district shall certify that reasonable efforts have been made to utilize all funds from federal, state, or local sources which are available for serving disabled students.
Districts shall also provide the programmatic and fiscal information concerning programs and services for disabled students that the regulations of the board of governors require.

(e) The board of governors may authorize the chancellor, consistent with the requirements the board may impose, to designate up to 3 percent of the funds allocated pursuant to this section for program development and program accountability.

SEC. 8. Section 88825 of the Education Code is amended to read:

88825. (a) This section applies to the Community College component only, and applies commencing with the 2017–18 fiscal year.

(b) To promote the success of community college students and the career technical education programs that serve them, up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated for the Community College component may be allocated by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to a community college district for statewide activities to improve and administer the program, including the facilitation of system, program, and data alignment at the state and regional levels and the implementation of the 25 recommendations presented to the board of governors on January 19 and 20, 2016, by the Strong Workforce Task Force. The chancellor’s office shall consult with the California Workforce Development Board and other appropriate state agencies on the development of all statewide activities that would be implemented by the selected district to facilitate broader workforce and education system alignment. Statewide coordination activities funded out of this allocation may include, but are not limited to, the following activities:

(1) State-level coordination for the development of labor market analyses pertaining to economic and industry trends and jobs projections for the purpose of supporting common regional planning efforts and the alignment of career technical education program offerings with regional labor market dynamics.

(2) Research, evaluation, and technical assistance on the use of effective local and regional policies, best practices, and model partnerships.

(3) Development and prototyping of innovative policies, practices, and coordinated services with local workforce and education partners.

(4) Participation of community college districts in existing regional coalitions and planning efforts.

(5) Cross-training local program staff.

(6) Development and maintenance of a state-level cross-system data reporting mechanism with partners formed pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) for the purpose of monitoring workforce program outcomes and performance accountability.

(7) Leveraging allocated funds with state and local partners through interagency agreements, memorandums of understanding, or other appropriate mechanisms.

(b) (1) Forty percent of the funds apportioned for the Community College component of the program shall be apportioned directly to the fiscal agent of the consortium for the purpose of funding regionally prioritized projects and programs that meet the needs of local and regional economies, as identified in regional plans and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) regional plans.

(2) Sixty percent of the funds apportioned for the Community College component of the program shall be apportioned directly to community college districts in the
consortium. Funds apportioned directly to a community college district shall be expended for the purpose of funding regionally prioritized projects and programs within the community college district that meet the needs of local and regional economies, as identified in regional plans and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) regional plans. As a condition of receiving direct funding, each community college district shall actively participate in its consortium.

(d) The allocation of funds to a consortium shall be based on a schedule determined by the chancellor’s office and is effective for the four years of each plan cycle. Within the four-year plan cycle, this schedule may be altered to reflect changes in the statewide allocation for the program as appropriated in the annual Budget Act.

(e) (1) For each four-year plan cycle, the chancellor’s office shall determine the amount of funds to be allocated to each consortium based on the following weighted factors in each region:

(A) The unemployment rate. This factor shall comprise 33 percent of the allocation formula.

(B) The proportion of career technical education full-time equivalent students. This factor shall comprise 33 percent of the allocation formula.

(C) The proportion of projected job openings. This factor shall comprise 17 percent of the allocation formula.

(D) The proportion of successful workforce outcomes as evidenced by the performance accountability measures of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128). This factor shall comprise 17 percent of the allocation formula.

(2) For each four-year plan cycle, the chancellor’s office shall determine the amount of funds to be allocated directly to each community college district within a consortium based on the weighted factors, specified in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1), in each district within the region.

(f) A consortium shall allocate funds in accordance with its plan and only to community college districts. Decisions governing, or relating to, the distribution of the consortium’s fiscal resources shall be determined exclusively by the community college districts participating in the consortium.

(g) As a condition of receipt of funds under this section, a participating community college district shall comply with all of the following:

(1) Be a member of a consortium.

(2) Participate in regional planning efforts formed pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) and other efforts that align workforce, employment, and education services.
(3) Work with other consortium members to create and submit a plan to the chancellor’s office by January 31 of every fourth year of a four-year plan cycle.

(4) Provide accessible performance and labor market data that can be used by community college districts and their regional partners to support the implementation of the program and any related efforts to align regional workforce and education programming with regional labor market needs, including, but not limited to, regional planning efforts established pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128).

(5) Include interested public universities and local educational agencies in regional planning.

(6) Certify that the use of funds will meet the intent of the program to accomplish all of the following:

(A) Increase the number of students in quality career technical education courses, programs, and pathways that will achieve successful workforce outcomes.

(B) Increase the number of quality career technical education courses, programs, and pathways that lead to successful workforce outcomes, or invest in new or emerging career technical education courses, programs, and pathways that may become operative in subsequent years and are likely to lead to successful workforce outcomes.

(C) Address recommendations from the Strong Workforce Task Force, including the recommended provision of student services related to career exploration, job readiness and job placement, and work-based learning.

(h) Funds appropriated to community college districts for the program shall supplement, not supplant, existing funding of community college career technical education programs. This subdivision shall not be interpreted to mean that a participating community college district is prohibited from eliminating or altering existing programs, but the percentage of that community college district’s total full-time equivalent students enrolled in career technical education courses relative to the total full-time equivalent students enrolled in the district shall not be reduced from the percentage computed for the 2015–16 fiscal year.

(i) Programs, courses, or instructional materials developed using funding from the program may be made available to all community college districts, as appropriate, through the online clearinghouse of information created as part of the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative.
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

Bill No. 
as introduced, ______. 
General Subject: California Community Colleges: California Community Colleges System Support Program: administration of program funds.

(1) Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes these districts to provide instruction at the community college campuses they operate and maintain. Existing law also establishes various student support programs and services in the community college districts, including the Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, the California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program, and the Student Equity and Achievement Program.

This bill would establish the California Community Colleges System Support Program to support the achievement of strategic policy goals adopted by the board of governors. The bill would authorize funds appropriated for the program to be used for systemwide support activities, including, among others, support of state administrative operations of various student support programs and services in the community college districts; program and administrative costs relating to improving the fiscal health and stability of community college districts; media campaigns; activities that promote institutional effectiveness and improvement; technology services; and transfer education and articulation projects and common course numbering projects. The bill would require the board of governors to approve a budget for the program and would require that funds only be used as authorized in the board’s budget. The bill would require the board to report to the Department of Finance and the Legislature annually by September 30 on the expenditures for programs for the prior fiscal year.

(2) Existing law establishes various community college programs that, among other things, advance the systemwide goal of eliminating achievement gaps for students from traditionally underrepresented groups, facilitate the expansion of associate degree nursing programs and the improvement of outcomes in those programs, and provide specialized support services or instruction to disabled students enrolled in state-supported disabled student services programs or courses. Existing law authorizes the board of governors to designate a percentage of funds allocated for many of these activities and programs for administrative activities related to those programs.

This bill would repeal these explicit authorizations for the board to designate for program administration a percentage of funds allocated to a specified group of these programs.