



San Bernardino Community College District

# Legislative Priorities

2024



# Opportunity Is Here



## Tomorrow's Leaders Are Studying Today at SBCCD

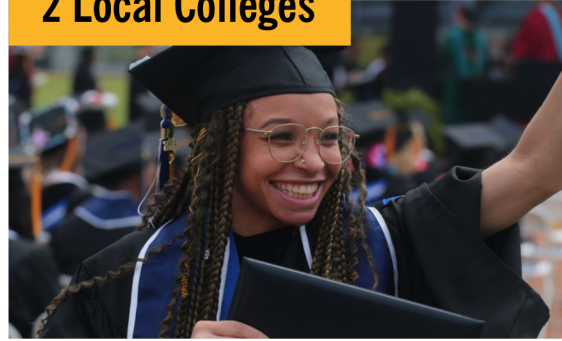
For almost 100 years, we've been the catalyst that inspires, educates, and sends leaders out to make the world a better place. And the best part? We're just getting started.

### 20,000 Students



Crafton Hills College and San Bernardino Valley College offer over 140 academic and career education programs to help students succeed.

### 2 Local Colleges



With the highest level of accreditation from the independent ACCJC, Crafton Hills College and San Bernardino Valley College provide local access to quality education.

### 1 Training Center



Our workforce training center is one of the biggest in California. We work with employers, labor, non-profits, and public agencies to offer rapid upskilling programs to professionals, job seekers, and formerly incarcerated adults.

### 1 Public Media Station



We own and operate KVCR, the Inland Empire's PBS and NPR news affiliate station. KVCR is the home of First Nations Experience (FNX), the only U.S. TV channel devoted to Native American and World Indigenous programming.

# Let's Expand College Affordability



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## Explore New Local Funding to Enhance Affordability and Access for Textbooks, Career Training, and Higher Education Programs at SBCCD

SBCCD is dedicated to providing affordable, high-quality higher education and skills training, which are crucial for students' success in our region. While state funding remains vital for this mission, we will explore the potential for additional local funding sources. These funds could be used to assist students with various needs, such as affordable tuition, addressing housing and food insecurity, offering work experience opportunities, and supporting initiatives like "Books+." This program aims to provide students with free rental access to textbooks and essential course materials.

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## Expand and Simplify the State's Financial Aid System

In 2022, the Governor and Legislature approved the Cal Grant Equity Framework to make it easier for low-income adults to go to college. This means that factors like a student's age, GPA, and how long it has been since they graduated from high school will not prevent them from getting financial aid. However, to make this happen, the state must invest in the implementation of the Cal Grant Equity Framework. SBCCD supports funding that will create more financial aid opportunities and a Cal Grant 2 program for community college students and Cal Grant 4 for four-year university students.

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## Support FAFSA Simplification and Expansion of Pell Grants

SBCCD supports federal policies that reduce the complexity and eliminate student barriers to filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Additionally, SBCCD supports increased investments in the Pell Grant to make college more accessible and affordable for low-income students.

# Let's Combat Student Hunger and Housing Insecurity

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## Expand Access to CalFresh Food Assistance

SBCCD supports local, state, and federal policies, initiatives, and funding that can increase students' access to food assistance under CalFresh. SBCCD supports efforts to increase student access to EBT benefits on campus and county partnerships to streamline the CalFresh application process for SBCCD students.



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## Continue Investments in Affordable Student Housing

SBCCD supports investments to build student residential housing for community college students experiencing housing insecurity. SBCCD supports ongoing funding to support colleges working with local, county, and student agencies to establish housing options for community college students.





# Let's Prepare Students for Good-Paying Careers

## Support the CCC's 2024-25 Systemwide Budget Request

SBCCD supports \$711 million in ongoing and \$310 million in one-time resources to reach the systemwide Vision 2030. The requested investments focus on a students' full educational journey – from enrollment, persistence, and supports to student success and economic mobility.

## Enhance Dual Enrollment and Credit for Prior Learning

SBCCD advocates for policies aimed at simplifying and expanding opportunities for high school students to earn college credits before graduation through dual/concurrent enrollment agreements between community colleges and K-12 institutions. Additionally, SBCCD supports initiatives that allow adult learners to receive college credits based on their relevant work experience. Furthermore, SBCCD is committed to efforts that ensure the seamless transfer of any “credit for prior learning” recognized by community colleges to University of California (UC) and California State University (Cal State) institutions.

## Modernize the San Bernardino Regional Emergency Training Center

As a member of the San Bernardino Emergency Regional Training Center Joint Powers Authority, SBCCD supports funding for new equipment and facility repairs to enhance firefighting and emergency response training.



# Let's Open Doors Of Opportunity For Everyone



## Support Equitable Funding for Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Simplify Administrative Processes

SBCCD supports higher levels of federal investment in Title V, Part A and Title V, Part B of the Higher Education Act. Additionally, SBCCD supports efforts to streamline the annual recertification process required by the U.S. Department of Education for institutions to be recognized as Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

## Support Opportunities for All Students, Regardless of Immigration Status

SBCCD supports state and federal policies to ensure all students have higher education, career training, and financial aid opportunities, regardless of immigration status.

## Support Funding to Strengthen Equal Employment Opportunity Best Practices

SBCCD supports ongoing funding to connect future hiring practices and procedures to statewide equity and diversity efforts, and help strengthen institutional capacity to close equity gaps and improve student outcomes.



# Let's Safeguard the Financial Stability of Our Colleges

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## Protect Funding for Community Colleges Under Proposition 98

We encourage policymakers to prioritize state funding for community colleges under Prop. 98. It is vital to ensure that community colleges receive equitable funding to maintain educational accessibility and quality.

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## Improve Part-Time Faculty Health Insurance Program Funding Model

SBCCD advocates for a system where the state directly provides the necessary funding to community college districts instead of reimbursing them later.

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## Improve Student Centered Funding Formula Rates

SBCCD supports state investment and policies to improve the Student Centered Funding Formula rates to advance the mission of SBCCD.

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## Provide CalSTRS/CalPERS Relief

SBCCD supports ongoing funding in non-Proposition 98 resources to “buy down” the employer contribution levels required by colleges/districts. Doing so will free up general fund revenues for other student-centered priorities.

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## Ongoing Funding for KVCR TV/FM

SBCCD owns and operates KVCR, the Inland Empire's NPR and PBS affiliate station, and the headquarters of FNX, the nation's only TV channel devoted to Native American and World Indigenous programming. SBCCD requests ongoing public investment to enhance KVCR TV/FM's ability to provide long-term educational content, local news, and diverse cultural programs to our region and beyond.





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SAN BERNARDINO  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DISTRICT



[sbccd.edu](http://sbccd.edu)



[craftonhills.edu](http://craftonhills.edu)



[valleycollege.edu](http://valleycollege.edu)



[kvcr.org](http://kvcr.org)



## \$721 Million

We contribute \$721 million to the local economy through alumni earnings, student spending, and support for local businesses.



## Which cities and communities does SBCCD serve?

We proudly serve students and families from Big Bear Lake, Bloomington, Calimesa, Colton, Grand Terrace, Highland, Lake Arrowhead, Loma Linda, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Yucaipa, and beyond.