

# ASSEMBLY CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE

**CAPITOL OFFICE**  
State Capitol  
Room 2117  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 319-2030 Phone  
(916) 319-2130 Fax



**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
100 West Alisal Street  
Suite 134  
Salinas, CA 93901  
(831) 759-8676 Phone  
(831) 759-2961 Fax

## **LUIS A. ALEJO**

ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTIETH DISTRICT

### **Assembly Bill 490: Extended Opportunity Programs and Services**

#### **Summary**

AB 490 will restore funding for the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) and the Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) in California's community colleges. Thirty-two million dollars will be restored for EOPS and eight million dollars for CARE. These programs were cut by 40 percent in the 2008-2009 budget year.

#### **Background**

EOPS was created in 1969 as a civil justice program to address inequity by enabling low income, educationally disadvantaged students affected by language, social, and economic handicaps to achieve a college education. CARE was established in 1982 as a program for welfare recipients seeking job-relevant education to break the cycle of dependency.

EOPS services include, but are not limited to: grants, counseling, academic monitoring, specialized transition to transfer and employment assistance, and workshops designed to teach study skills, time-management, and money-management. In addition to the core supportive services provided by the EOPS program, CARE students may be awarded supplemental grants, services and allowances to pay for educational related expenses (such as child care, transportation, textbooks and supplies) not offered by other resources to strengthen their retention, persistence, graduation and transfer rates.

#### **Purpose**

EOPS and CARE are funded through categorical line items in the state budget for community colleges. In 2008, due to severe budget cuts, the programs' funding were dramatically reduced. In the 2012-2013 budget year EOPS received partial restoration, but not enough to fully serve the students seeking access to these resources. CARE received no restoration.

Restoring funds to these programs will provide more disadvantaged students with the ability to succeed both academically and professionally. These students will be provided with a complete set of services that will link them to academic and community resources, enabling them to overcome obstacles and achieve academic and professional success.

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For more information, please contact Lily Lopez at [lily.lopez@asm.ca.gov](mailto:lily.lopez@asm.ca.gov)