



MEMORANDUM

**To: Omar Orihuela, President
CCCEOPSA**

From: Evan Hawkins

RE: Recommended Advocacy Plan on 2019-20 Budget and Chancellor's Office Issues

Date: April 22, 2019

The Chancellor's Office proposed guideline changes would effectively dismantle the EOPS program. In the name of flexibility and easing administrative burdens, the Chancellor's Office is prioritizing the following far-reaching changes:

1. **§ 56262. Director Qualifications** The elimination of the Minimum Qualifications for the EOPS Director
2. **§ 56264. Counselor Qualifications** The elimination of the minimum qualifications for the EOPS Counselors
3. **§ 56236. Counseling and Advisement** Allowing tutoring and workshops to count as EOPS counseling contacts
4. **§ 56230. Full-Time EOPS Director** The elimination of the requirement for programs with over 500 students to have a full time Director
5. Allowing EOPS counselors to see any student

EOPS leaders must activate and respond to these proposals. Here are FACCC's recommendations for next steps:

Schedule a Meeting With Local Legislators:

EOPS has a lot of support in the legislature. We must leverage this to put pressure on the Chancellor's Office.

Contact your [local Assemblymember and Senator](#) in their district office and ask to schedule a meeting to discuss community college issues. Introduce yourself and your college affiliation and ask to schedule the meeting with the legislator (meeting with staff works as well).

Call Your Legislator's Capitol Office

In addition to scheduling a district meeting, you should [call your Legislators' Capitol Office](#) and get your students and supportive colleagues to do the same. When making the call, ask to speak to the staff member who handles higher education issues.

Use the following points to guide your conversation.

MESSAGE POINTS TO LEGISLATORS REGARDING CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE PROPOSALS:

1. The Chancellor's Office is attempting to drastically alter EOPS in community colleges.
2. The Chancellor's Office is proposing far-reaching changes to EOPS Guidelines that have been met with strong opposition from EOPS leaders across the state.
3. If implemented, the guideline changes would severely jeopardize academic success for the underrepresented students who the program excels at serving.
4. For 50 years, EOPS has succeeded as a program specifically designed to help students with economic or social disadvantages achieve their educational goals.
5. Each of our students at every community college deserves a fully funded and accessible EOPS program.
6. Proponents of the guidelines suggest they only seek flexibility; however, this proposal would essentially eliminate the work EOPS does.
7. While this issue isn't state legislation, the changes will have significant consequences for our students and we need to legislature to support EOPS now more than ever.

THE ASK: will the legislator (or staff) contact the Chancellor's Office to raise concerns about the misguided proposal and ask for it to be reconsidered.

Attend the Next Community College Board of Governor's Meeting

Ultimately, these proposed changes will need to go through the Community College Board of Governors. These meetings are open to the public. Filling the room with an EOPS presence will send a strong message. The next meetings are [May 20-21 in Sacramento](#).

Build Coalitions Locally

If you have supportive CSSOs and CEOs, bring them into the conversation. Ask them to support EOPS' effort and to defend the program. Have them participate in the meetings and call with legislators as well.