



**PRESS RELEASE**

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Contact:  Paige Marlatt Dorr

Office:  [916.327.5356](tel:(916)%20327-5356)

Cell:  [916.601.8005](tel:(916)%20601-8005)

Office E-mail:  [pdorr@cccco.edu](mailto:pdorr@cccco.edu)

**California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley’s Statement on Gov. Jerry Brown’s 2017-18 Budget Proposal**

*SACRAMENTO, Calif.* –California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley issued the following statement on Gov. Jerry Brown’s proposed 2017-18 budget:

“Governor Brown's proposed budget is good news for community college students. It demonstrates continued confidence in our colleges and provides additional resources to build upon investments made by the state over the past few years aimed at improving student outcomes and fulfilling the promise of a quality college credential for more Californians. This year’s $150 million investment in guided pathways will encourage more colleges to redesign student support and instructional programs and to develop integrated strategies that connect more students to programs, leading to attainment of industry-recognized credentials and to jobs that strengthen families, communities and our state. The Governor’s proposed budget also provides for an additional infusion of Innovation Award Funds that will allow the Chancellor’s Office to seed and support innovative practices at our 113 colleges. We look forward to working with the governor and the Legislature in supporting these priorities and focusing on the twin imperatives of improving social mobility for our 2.1 million students and preparing a workforce that fuels our changing economy.”

*The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education in English and math, and prepares students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit* <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>.

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