



California Community Colleges

Seamless Transfer of Ethnic Studies – Allocation for Implementation Frequently Asked Questions

ABOUT THE FUNDING

What is the expectation for the funding?

The funds must be used to address the seamless transfer of community college students to the California State University (CSU) given the ethnic studies general education requirements. If this stipulation is met, then the colleges may use the funds to assist with advancing anti-racism initiatives within the California Community Colleges (CCCs).

How much money was distributed to each college?

The 2021-22 Budget Act appropriated \$5.6 million in one-time funds to be allocated to 115 brick-and-mortar colleges equally in the amount of \$48,695.00 ([see the Seamless Transfer of Ethnic Studies - Allocation for Implementation \(memo ESS 23-29, released July 14, 2023\)](#)). Each college will receive the full amount through district apportionment in fiscal year 2023-24.

Where can we find the legislation that outlines how the funds should be used?

Information can be found in [the Budget Act of 2021, Schedule 17. Transfer Education and Articulation, Provision 15\(c\)](#) and copied here:

(c)(1) \$5,600,000 shall be used on a one-time basis to implement the provisions of Chapter 32 of the Statutes of 2020 by ensuring the seamless transfer of community college students to the California State University, given ethnic studies general education requirements. Activities may include collaboration with key stakeholder groups, review of regulations and standards, and establishment of a plan for implementation.

(2) These funds may also be used to assist with advancing anti-racism initiatives within the California Community Colleges system.

How does the fund help California community colleges implement the ethnic studies general education requirement?

Colleges have the flexibility to use the funds to work with key stakeholders and groups, review the regulations and establish a plan for implementation. Expenditures are to be locally decided but must align with the intent of the Budget Act. See the “Allowable Expenditures” section below for more details.

What are some examples of activities that ensure the seamless transfer of students?

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Supporting ethnic studies faculty, articulation officers, and/or counselors for submission or resubmission for Area F approval.

- Training for Articulation Officers and/or Counselors in transfer pathways using the CCC ethnic studies core competencies or CSU/UC ethnic studies requirements.
- Building an ethnic studies pipeline from high school to college to university.
- Creating an ethnic studies campus task force on implementation.
- Attending conferences or workshops specifically related to implementation of the new ethnic studies requirements.

What are some examples of activities that assist with advancing anti-racism initiatives?

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Providing professional development for faculty focused on innovative equity-conscious pedagogies and online learning to improve the outcomes of students.
- Providing professional development for staff to deepen their understanding of systemic racism, unconscious bias, and cultural competency.
- Support and collaborate with student-led organizations with a focus on racial equity and social justice.
- Review existing policies, procedures, and practices that may inadvertently harm disproportionately impacted low-income students and historically marginalized populations.
- Updating course syllabi, curricula, content, teaching and grading practices, communication, and engagement.
- Attending conferences or workshops specifically related to advancing anti-racism initiatives.
- Regularly assessing the impact and progress of anti-racism initiatives by collecting data, measuring outcomes, and identifying areas that require improvement.

ALLOWABLE EXPENDITURES

What can the funds be used for?

The primary purpose of these funds is to ensure “the seamless transfer of community college students to the California State University given the ethnic studies general education requirements.” Institutions may collaborate with key stakeholder groups, review regulations and standards, and establish a plan for implementation. As a secondary activity, funds may be used “to assist with advancing anti-racism initiatives within the California community colleges system.” Funds must be used for these purposes and must follow your local hiring and procurement practices.

Can we use the funds:

- **To train my articulation officer?**

Yes, colleges can use the funds to train their articulation officer (AO). AOs have taken a leading role in navigating the recent changes with AB 1460 (Weber, 2020), which brought about CSU GE Area F Ethnic Studies graduation requirements. Their expertise in transfer and navigating the CSU and UC systems makes them invaluable in all matters concerning transfer, curriculum, and general education.

- **For staff and faculty professional development?**

Yes, funds can be used to support staff and faculty professional development. The professional development should ensure the seamless transfer of community college students to the CSU given the ethnic studies general education requirements and/or assist with advancing anti-racism initiatives within the California Community Colleges.

- **To hire an Ethnic Studies faculty?**

Yes, however, the one-time fund of \$48,695.00 may not be a sustainable resource for ongoing full-time work.

- **To purchase materials and supplies?**

To justify an expenditure, a district's governing board must determine if the expense will tangibly benefit the education of its students. If the local governing board has reasonably determined that a particular type of expenditure serves a legitimate public purpose, courts will generally defer to the board's decision.

- **To hire additional consultant personnel to provide direct service to support ethnic studies implementation?**

Yes, a college can use the funds to hire consultants to support ethnic studies graduation requirement implementation.

- **To help develop an Ethnic Studies department?**

Yes, the funds can be used to help start an Ethnic Studies department. However, it is a one-time fund and will not contribute to the ongoing maintenance or sustainability of a new department.

- **To pay for a student internship?**

No, the funds cannot pay for student internships.

Can we "roll over" the funds into the next fiscal year?

The term of the allocation is intended for fiscal year 2023-24 given that the ethnic studies requirement must be implemented by Fall 2024. Colleges may continue to spend their allocation into fiscal year 2024-25 to meet the purpose of these funds.

REPORTING

Where do we report our spending?

Colleges will report their spending in [NOVA](#). More information will be posted to the [Ethnic Studies webpage](#).

What are the reporting requirements?

Colleges will provide a budget, expenditures, and a summary of how the funds were used to ensure the seamless transfer of community college students to the CSU given the ethnic studies general education requirements and/or assist with advancing anti-racism initiatives within the California Community Colleges.

Is there a deadline to report our spending?

The report is due by August 1, 2024.

Colleges may submit their reports before the due dates.

For more information, visit the [Chancellor's Office Ethnic Studies website](#) or log in to the [Vision Resource Center](#) to access the Ethnic Studies community. You may also send your questions to ethnicstudies@cccco.edu.