An act to add Chapter 11.1 (commencing with Section 66910) to Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to postsecondary education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST


Existing law provides for 5 segments of postsecondary education in this state: the University of California, the California State University, the California Community Colleges, independent institutions of higher education as defined in the Donahoe Higher Education Act, and private postsecondary educational institutions as defined in the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009. The Donahoe Higher Education Act applies to the University of California only to the extent that the Regents of the University of California act by resolution to make them applicable.

This bill would establish the Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance. The bill would give the office specified functions and responsibilities for purposes of statewide postsecondary education planning, oversight, data collection, and coordination. The bill would require the public postsecondary segments and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency to submit specified data to the office so it may carry out its functions and responsibilities. The bill would apply to the University of California only to the extent the Regents act by resolution to make it apply. To the extent the bill would impose additional duties on community college districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.
The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.


The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 11.1 (commencing with Section 66910) is added to Part 40 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Chapter 11.1. Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance

Article 1. Title

66910. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited, as the Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance Act.

Article 2. Definitions

66911. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(a) “Office” means the Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance established in Section 66913.

(b) “Public postsecondary segments” mean the California State University, the California Community Colleges, and the University of California.

Article 3. Legislative Intent

66912. It is the intent of the Legislature that all of the following occur:
(a) That the office promotes integration, planning, oversight, and coordination of postsecondary education in the state, whereby each segment of postsecondary education, in accordance with the missions and functions of the segment, contributes toward achieving a common purpose.

(b) That the office, as the state’s postsecondary planning and coordinating entity, ensures the effective use of public postsecondary education resources, thereby eliminating unnecessary duplication of these resources, and promotes diversity, innovation, and responsiveness to student and societal needs.

(c) That the office develops and maintains data capable of tracking a pupil’s academic progress as he or she matriculates into a postsecondary educational institution and ultimately into the workforce. It is the intent of the Legislature that this data be stored and used in a preschool through higher education (P-20) longitudinal statewide data system.

(d) That the office develops and maintains a P-20 longitudinal statewide data system capable of documenting the performance of the public postsecondary segments and their campuses in meeting the education and workforce training needs of California’s diverse population.

(e) That the office be responsible for coordinating public, independent, and private nonprofit and for-profit postsecondary education in this state and for providing independent policy analyses and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on postsecondary education issues.

(f) That the office be responsible for providing effective oversight of private for-profit postsecondary educational institutions and student and public protections against fraudulent or substandard postsecondary academic programs or degrees.

Article 4. Statewide Postsecondary Education Planning and Coordination

66913. (a) The Office of Higher Education Coordination, Accountability, and Performance is hereby established for purposes of statewide postsecondary education planning, oversight, data collection, and coordination.

(b) The office shall have all of the following functions and responsibilities:
(1) It shall advise the Legislature and the Governor regarding the need and optimal locations for a new segment of public postsecondary education or new public postsecondary segment campuses.

(2) It shall receive legislative and budget proposals from the public postsecondary segments for new public postsecondary programs, priorities to guide the public postsecondary segments, and coordination between the public postsecondary segments, and nearby independent institutions of higher education, as defined in Section 66010, and private postsecondary educational institutions, as defined in Section 94858. The office shall make recommendations regarding these proposals to the Legislature and the Governor. Each public postsecondary segment shall submit all proposals for new academic programs at its campuses to the office for review together with supporting materials and documents specified by the office.

(3) It shall review all proposals for changes in eligibility pools for admission to the public postsecondary segments and their campuses, and shall make recommendations regarding those proposals to the Legislature, the Governor, and the public postsecondary segments. In carrying out this paragraph, the office shall periodically conduct a study of the percentages of California public high school graduates estimated to be eligible for admission to the University of California and the California State University.

(4) It shall periodically provide independent oversight on the public postsecondary segments’ and individual campus-based programs and initiatives and cross-segmental and interagency programs and initiatives in areas that include, but are not necessarily limited to, graduation rates, affordability, transfer, financial aid, assessment and placement, remediation, degree and certificate completion, adult education, workforce coordination, student transition into the workforce, effectiveness, and alignment with state goals and performance measures in higher education, including, but not necessarily limited to, the performance measures described in Sections 89295 and 92675. The office shall make recommendations regarding these programs and initiatives to the Legislature and the Governor.

(5) It shall, through its use of information and its analytic capacity, do all of the following:
(A) Inform the identification and periodic revision of state goals and performance measures of higher education in a manner that aligns with the goals for California’s postsecondary education system described in Section 66010.91, and takes into consideration the performance measures described in Sections 89295 and 92675. It shall, biennially, interpret and evaluate both statewide and regional performance in relation to those goals and performance measures.

(B) In consultation with the public postsecondary segments, set performance targets for enrollment and degree and certificate completion statewide and by region. The office shall update the performance targets every two years.

(C) In consultation with the public postsecondary segments and workforce and development agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, periodically measure the supply and demand of jobs in fields of study statewide and by region.

(D) Periodically review both statewide and regional gaps of higher education admission, enrollment, and success by race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, and additional categories of students, as determined by the office.

66914. (a) The office may require the public postsecondary segments to submit data to the office on plans, programs, costs, admission, enrollment, retention, plant capacities, and other matters pertinent to effective planning, policy development, articulation, and coordination. The office shall furnish information concerning these matters to the Governor and to the Legislature as requested by them.

(b) The public postsecondary segments shall provide student data to the office in a manner and format prescribed by the office for the purpose of establishing a P-20 longitudinal statewide data system.

(c) (1) The Labor and Workforce Development Agency shall provide wage record and workforce program data to the office for students who recently entered the workforce under one of the following categories:

(A) As a California high school dropout.

(B) As a California high school graduate who has not enrolled full-time as a public postsecondary student.

(C) As a California public postsecondary dropout.
(D) As a California public postsecondary graduate.

(2) The agency shall submit data pursuant to paragraph (1) disaggregated by category.

(d) The public postsecondary segments and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency shall provide to the office new data every six months for purposes of this chapter.

(e) The public postsecondary segments, the office, and the Labor Workforce and Development Agency may disclose data pursuant to this section only to the extent permitted by state and federal privacy laws, including, but not limited to, the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g).

(f) The office shall make recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on standardizing definitions and data collection across the state’s preschool through grade 12 system and public postsecondary segments.

SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.