



**AB 1705 Next Steps:
The Policy Path to Reclaiming Student
Agency and Equitable Access**

The Legislative Landscape: Part One



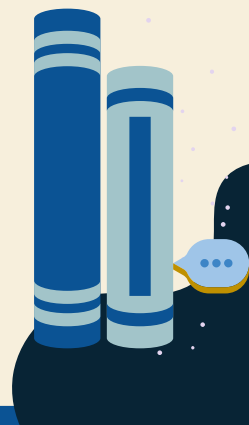
The Ask: Standalone Pre-Transfer Course Access

"FACCC seeks to enact legislation clarifying that California Community Colleges students can enroll in (and California Community Colleges can offer) standalone foundational pre-transfer courses to promote student agency and equitable access."



- Allow students to enroll in courses that meet them where they are at
- No proposed modification of AB 705 placement: we don't want long remedial pathways back
- We need to make sure students have options
- Collect full comprehensive data to show the full picture

Further language simplification did not remove Asm. Irwin's opposition



The Legislative Landscape: Part Two

Feb 2024

CCCCO Guidance

February guidance: precalculus and trigonometry elimination for STEM majors by Fall 2025

Dec 2024

CCCCO Guidance

December guidance: STEM students who did not take precalculus or trigonometry in high school can take them

Public Advocates threatens to sue over guidance memo

Jan 2025

Board of Governors

Faculty and students show up en masse to support Dec 2024 memo, with opposition from special interest groups

FACCC shops bill to Legislature to allow students to access standalone pre-transfer courses

Feb 2025

SSCCC votes to cosponsor AB 1705 reform bill

Legislative Oversight Hearing on AB 1705 Implementation held at the Capitol, with powerful testimonies from students and faculty

Late Feb 2025

Bill Intro Deadline

Need for reform on AB 1705 widely acknowledged

Asm. Irwin requests that Legislature not act on AB 1705

What We've Accomplished



The Players –2022

SUPPORT

Blu Educational Foundation
California Acceleration Project
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers
California Competes
California Edge Coalition
Californians Together
Campaign for College Opportunity
Career Ladders Project
Central Valley Higher Education Consortium
Cerritos College
Community College Highered Access, Leadership, and Equity Scholarship

OPPOSITION

Mt. San Antonio College
Faculty Association of California Community Colleges
One individual

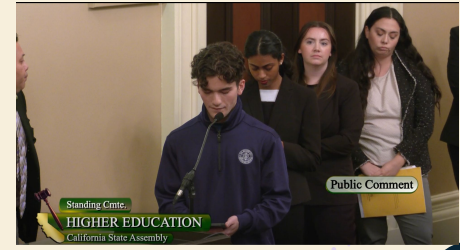
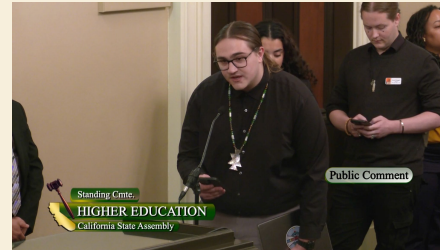
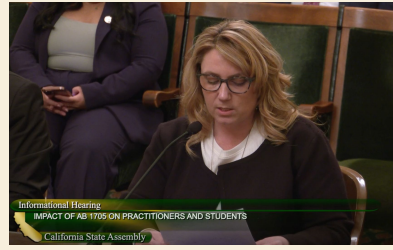
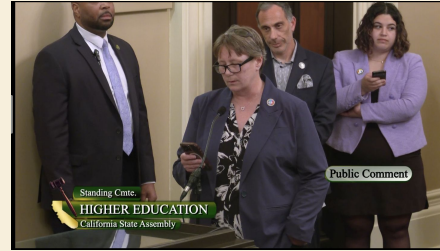
Complete College America
Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement (COPE)
Genup
Growing Inland Achievement
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE)
Improve Your Tomorrow, INC.
Just Equations
Office of Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis
Pasadena Area Community College District
Pasadena City College
Promesa Boyle Heights
Public Advocates
Public Advocates INC.
Southern California College Attainment Network
Student Senate for California Community Colleges
Students Making a Change (SMAC)
The Education Trust-West
The Institute for College Access & Success
Uaspire
UC Student Association
Unidosus
United Way of Greater Los Angeles
USC Race and Equity Center
Young Invincibles

AB 1705 Memo: BOG Meeting



+ SO MANY faculty and students via Zoom that they weren't allowed to read their statements for the sake of time!

AB 1705 Implementation Oversight Hearing



+ over 200 emails sent in public comment!

Moving Forward

We may not have a bill, but we're just getting started.



Power of the People

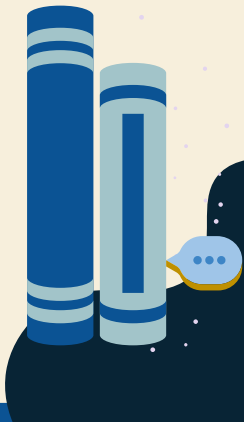
If students and faculty from all community colleges organize and speak with their legislators about their experiences and out-advocate the special interest groups...

We can use our power to make our voices heard.

Students and faculty are the experts.

They may have money, but we have people power- let's use it!

- The Legislature is in office because we elected them! It is their job to listen to us
- Don't be timid or awestruck- they're people too
- You have every right to be upset about how this has impacted students. But don't bring your anger to the legislative meeting- bring facts!
- To be an effective advocate you have to win them over, and you can.
- The Legislature has been lied to by special interests. To change their view we have to create an environment where they trust us and our perspectives



Framing the Argument

- Compliment sandwich approach: If you want to be listened to, sandwich criticisms between compliments on progress.

“Thank you for the opportunity to share our experiences at the Oversight Hearing”

“This model is helping many students pass through transfer level courses quicker”

“The lengthy remedial pathways pre-705 didn’t work, and we don’t want to go back”

- Be specific and focused in your criticisms, and provide solutions.

“I know your office cares about closing equity gaps for marginalized students, and we need some flexibility in enrollment for that to happen”

“The issue was with implementation within the system. The carve-outs created in the original bill have not been honored by guidance memos”

“This is working for many students, which is great! However, we need more options for those who are withdrawing and failing transfer level classes”



Call to action

1. Pass a resolution in support of AB 1705 Reform
2. Gather student, faculty and alumni testimonials, and local data
3. Meet with legislators in the district (even after the A&P) and showcase your student testimonials, resolutions and local data

Don't let the Legislature forget or ignore this issue. Post about it on social media, remind your legislator of their responsibility to fix this in their comment sections, in meetings, calls, and emails. Keep talking about it on your campuses and with the Legislature.

If we continue the conversation, we can accomplish this as soon as the next window of opportunity arises. But we have to keep the momentum going.



Get informed and involved!

Advocates Listserv



FACCC Membership

