



California Faculty Association

## 2026 Budget Priorities

Updated: May 19, 2026

### **CFA Budget Ask:**

- 1) Support Assemblymember Mike Fong's proposal to fully fund the compact for the 2026-27 & 2025-26 budget years.
- 2) Adopt budget language that ensures CSU management is accountable for their resource allocation and accountability measures.
- 3) Adopt budget language that ensures the new CSU funding is spent on instruction and not administration. *Fund the classroom, not the board room!*

### **Governor Newsom's 2026-27 Budget Proposal & May Revision**

On January 9, 2026, Governor Newsom released his proposed 2026-27 California state budget.

On May 14, 2026, Governor Newsom released his May Revision, in which he continues his CSU funding proposal from the January budget proposal.

*We are grateful that the Governor is fulfilling his commitment to the higher education compact funding by including a 5% base increase for the CSU in the 2026-27 budget year, which represents \$264.8 million ongoing General Fund. We also thank the Governor for the additional base funding increase of \$100.9 million ongoing General Fund, representing deferred funding from the 4<sup>th</sup> year compact payment as scheduled in the 2025-26 Budget Act.*

### **California must prioritize investing in the CSU**

The CSU is the largest public 4-year higher education institution in the country, serving over 450,000 students across its 23 campuses. The success of the CSU is directly tied to the talents and work of its employees.

**The CSU is a Pathway for Success** – Students of color make up much of the CSU student population, including Latinx, Chicana, Black, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Desi-American, Indigenous, and Native American. Many are the first in their families to attend college, and our faculty and staff are committed to maintaining an environment and support services that enable students to succeed. The CSU produces the most ethnically diverse graduates who contribute to California's diverse economy and take on leadership roles in our society.

**Investing in the CSU in an investment in our economy** – Funding higher education has never been more critical. The CSU is one of the most powerful economic engines of the state, as every dollar California invests in the CSU, \$7.69 of industry activity is stimulated in the state. The CSU is a primary pathway for economically disadvantaged students to graduate into well-paying jobs.

---

**Should you have any questions regarding the CFA's budget priorities, please contact:**

Eric Paredes, *Legislative Director*: [eparedes@calfac.org](mailto:eparedes@calfac.org)

Mario Guerrero, *Government Relations Director*: [mguerrero@calfac.org](mailto:mguerrero@calfac.org)