Statement Regarding Governor Newsom's Proposed 2023-24 Budget
Kristen Soares, President, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
January 11, 2023

The governor's budget released yesterday reaffirms his vision of a "California for All" by making strong commitments to higher education at the state's UCs, CSUs, and community colleges. Even with the state facing a $22 billion budget deficit, California is well-positioned to maintain critical investments in college access and affordability thanks to the foresight of legislative leaders and the governor to build up the rainy day fund over the last several years. The state should similarly continue building on its commitment to the more than 28,000 low-income California students attending ICCUs.

We thank Governor Newsom and legislative leaders for their investments over the past two years to increase Cal Grant support to low-income students attending the state's independent nonprofit colleges and universities and to expand access to supplemental support to foster youth and students with dependent children.

AICCU looks forward to working with the administration, legislators, and stakeholders to strengthen the state's Cal Grant program by making additional investments in students at ICCUs, simplifying the program, and expanding access to more students by funding the implementation of Cal Grant Reform, including the funding to expand transfer entitlement guarantees for adults to include those who transfer to our colleges and universities.

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About AICCU
The Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU) is comprised of 85 independent, nonprofit colleges and universities, which make up the Independent California Colleges and Universities (ICCU) sector. The ICCU sector plays a pivotal role in the development of the state's model higher education offerings and in making California a symbol of innovation across the globe. Within California, ICCU institutions award over 20 percent of all undergraduate degrees and over 50 percent of graduate degrees, making them the largest preparers of California's advanced workforce.

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