AICCU President Kristen Soares Statement regarding
Gov. Newsom's Signed 2024-25 State Budget

June 27, 2024

The budget is a statement of our values as a state, and AICCU applauds Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Legislature for developing a final budget agreement that largely protects the state's investments in higher education access, support, and financial aid for students.

We recognize that policymakers had many difficult budget decisions to weigh this year, and we are grateful to see there were no cuts to the Cal Grant program. We look forward to working with Gov. Newsom and legislative leaders in the future to strengthen the award for students in the independent California colleges and universities (ICCU) sector and on the implementation of Cal Grant Reform, including funding the transfer entitlement award for students transferring to an ICCU.

As a leading producer of new teacher credentials in the state, we were also pleased to see the Golden State Teacher Grant program was protected from any budget cuts in the final agreement. This program is an incredibly powerful teacher recruitment tool and will continue to be an indispensable source of support for candidates entering the teaching profession.

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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 nearly 20% of all undergraduate degrees and over 50% of graduate degrees, making them the largest preparers of California's advanced workforce.

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