

**15-DAY NOTICE OF MODIFICATIONS TO TEXT OF PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS TO CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5  
ASSOCIATE DEGREE**

**15-Day Notice published September 7, 2023**

The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges hereby provides notice of changes to the above-referenced proposed regulatory action that was the subject of a public hearing on July 24, 2023. Section 206, subdivision (c), of the Procedures and Standing Orders of the Board of Governors requires the Board to re-notice a proposed regulatory action where the proposed regulations have been previously considered, are being modified, and the modifications are substantial and sufficiently related to the text of the previously-proposed regulations.

**CHANGES TO THE TEXT**

Following the 45-day comment period that ended on August 12, 2023 and the July 24, 2023 Board meeting, changes were made to this regulatory action in proposed sections 55061 and 55062. The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office will present the regulatory action to the Board of Governors at its September 26-27, 2023 meeting. The changes are submitted for an additional 15-day comment period effective today, September 7, 2023.

The changes to the proposed regulatory are denoted by double underline for additions to the text and ~~double-strikeout~~ for deletions from the text.

**WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the changes to the proposed regulatory action subject to this 15-day notice. The Chancellor's Office will respond to comments received that are related to title 5, California Code of Regulations, sections 55061 and 55062. Comments should be addressed to:

Regulations Coordinator

California Community Colleges  
Chancellor's Office  
1102 Q Street, Suite 636  
Sacramento, CA 95811-6549  
Email: [regcomments@cccco.edu](mailto:regcomments@cccco.edu)

Comments must be received by the Regulation Coordinator prior to 4:00 p.m. on September 22, 2023. All written comments received by Chancellor's Office staff during the public comment period are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act.

## **CHANGES OR MODIFICATIONS TO PROPOSED TITLE 5 AMENDMENTS**

Following the public hearing and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Board of Governors may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice or may modify the proposed regulations if the modifications are sufficiently related to the original text.

## **INFORMATIVE DIGEST**

The Chancellor's Office and the California Community Colleges Curriculum Committee (5C) have been reviewing and revising these regulations since 2020, when the Chancellor's Office and 5C brought forward the regulatory recommendation to institute an Ethnic Studies course requirement in Section 55063 (the Board of Governors unanimously approved that revision at the July 2021 Board of Governors meeting). The 2021 revisions streamlined and reorganized Section 55063, but it was not holistically reviewed and revised. The Chancellor's Office and 5C committed to complete that more holistic review and have done so over the past two academic years. This present proposed regulatory action is the culmination of that work, which includes field vetting with amendments to the Title 5 regulations to bring them into alignment with current legislation, allow for innovation in curriculum development, and streamline and simplify requirements for students.

Specific amendments include:

- Removing the requirement of Elementary Algebra as a prerequisite for a course to be approved to meet the mathematics competency;
- Clarifying definitions of course "completion" (student receives credit) and course "satisfactory completion" (student receives "C" or better or "P");

- Allows districts to calculate Grade Point Average (GPA) solely on courses that satisfy degree requirements when a student earns over 60 units (for local degrees);
- Clarifying that a course may be used by a student to meet a general education area, a major/area of emphasis requirement, and a competency demonstration;
- Adding language from Section 55064 regarding the use of noncredit courses to fulfill credit requirements as a form of credit for prior learning;
- Removing references to specific disciplines and adding language focusing on competencies students should be able to demonstrate;
- Alignment with California General Education Transfer Curriculum (CalGETC) pattern;
- Clarifying that Ethnic Studies courses are Baccalaureate-level courses; and
- Clarifying that students who have been awarded a bachelor's degree from an institutionally-accredited institution (new United States Department of Education nomenclature) shall be deemed to have fulfilled the general education course requirements for the associate degree.

The changes to the regulatory action since first reading clarify the courses that are appropriate to complete associate degree ethnic studies requirements.

## **ESTIMATED COST OR SAVINGS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

The estimated cost or savings of the proposed amendments are anticipated to be as follows:

Mandate on local agencies or community college districts: *None*.

Cost or savings to state agencies: *None*

Costs to local agencies or community college districts for which reimbursement would be required pursuant to part 7 (commencing with section 17500) of division 4, of title 2, of the Government Code: *None*

Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on community college districts: *None*

Cost or savings in federal funding to state agencies: *None*

The proposed amendments to title 5 would result in no fiscal impact to local or state governments, nor will it have any fiscal impact on any federal funding.

## **CONTACT PERSON**

Inquiries concerning the content of these regulations may be directed to:

Raul Arambula, Dean  
California Community Colleges  
Chancellor's Office  
[regcomments@cccco.edu](mailto:regcomments@cccco.edu)

Inquiries concerning the regulatory process may be directed to the Regulations Coordinator, at [regcomments@cccco.edu](mailto:regcomments@cccco.edu).

## **TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS AND CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTS**

Copies of the proposed regulatory action subject to this 15-day notice are attached as noted above. Information upon which the proposal is based may be obtained online at:

[Office of the General Counsel - Pending Regulatory Action](#)

Those who receive the Board of Governors Agenda package for the September 26-27, 2023, meeting can find a further description of the proposal and the full text of the regulations. You may also request a copy of the proposal from the Regulations Coordinator using the contact information provided above.