

NDLA, S APP - Laning, Rose

From: Cronquist, Alex J.
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Holmberg, Ray E.; Krebsbach, Karen K.; Mathern, Tim
Cc: NDLA, S APP - Laning, Rose; NDLA, S APP ASST - Strand, Skyler; Bloms, Renae R.
Subject: Federal funding for community colleges

Members of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on SB 2003,

This email is in response to the subcommittee's request for information at the meeting on Tuesday regarding potential federal funding for community college tuition. We contacted NCSL for information regarding potential federal legislation to provide for tuition-free community colleges and received the response below.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

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From: Austin Reid <austin.reid@ncsl.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 10:04 AM
To: Cronquist, Alex J. <ajcronquist@nd.gov>
Cc: Sunny Deye <sunny.deye@ncsl.org>; Daniel Thatcher <daniel.thatcher@ncsl.org>; Karmen Hanson <karmen.hanson@ncsl.org>
Subject: RE: Federal funding for community colleges

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Hi Alex,

This issue is top of mind for me. Democrats in the House introduced legislation last Congress that would make community colleges tuition-free for students if states agreed to certain conditions. You can see the full landing page for the legislation [here](#) and a short summary on the community college proposal [here](#) (see page 4). There are many other free college proposals out there, but this is the one to pay attention to. The bill should be reintroduced soon, though I imagine the committees are coordinating with the Biden administration to polish up the proposal before introducing. I would not expect major changes to the legislation, but we will see.

We will be engaging the administration/Congress on these proposals soon. I don't believe they have a realistic shot at passing this Congress, but this will be a top priority for NCSL as we shift into the recovery phase of the pandemic.

Let me know if you have questions. There is plenty to discuss on these proposals as they would have a potentially major impact on state higher education.

Best,
Austin