

# The California State University

The individual California State Colleges were brought together as a system by the Donahoe Higher Education Act of 1960. In 1972 the system became the California State University and Colleges, and in 1982 the system became the California State University. Today the campuses of the CSU include comprehensive and polytechnic universities and, since July 1995, the California Maritime Academy, a specialized campus.

The oldest campus – San José State University – was founded in 1857 and became the first institution of public higher education in California. The newest – CSU Channel Islands – opened in fall 2002, with freshmen arriving in fall 2003.

Responsibility for the California State University is vested in the board of trustees, whose members are appointed by the Governor. The trustees appoint the chancellor, who is the chief executive officer of the system, and the presidents, who are the chief executive officers of the respective campuses.

The trustees, the chancellor, and the presidents develop system-wide policy, with implementation at the campus level taking place through broadly based consultative procedures. The Academic Senate of the California State University, made up of elected representatives of the faculty from each campus, recommends academic policy to the board of trustees through the chancellor.

Academic excellence has been achieved by the California State University through a distinguished faculty whose primary responsibility is superior teaching. While each campus in the system has its own unique geographic and curricular character, all campuses, as multi-purpose institutions, offer undergraduate and graduate instruction for professional and occupational goals as well as broad liberal education. All the campuses require for graduation a basic program of “General Education Requirements” regardless of the type of bachelor’s degree or major field selected by the student.

The CSU offers more than 1,800 bachelor’s and master’s degree programs in some 240 subject areas. Many of these programs are offered so that students can complete all upper division and graduate requirements by part-time, late afternoon, and evening study. In addition, a variety of teaching and school service credential programs are available. A limited number of doctoral degrees are offered jointly with the University of California and with private institutions in California.

Enrollments in fall 2005 totaled 405,000 students, who were taught by some 22,000 faculty. The system awards about half of the bachelor’s degrees and a third of the master’s degrees granted in California. Nearly 2.5 million persons have been graduated from CSU campuses since 1960.

## Average Support Cost Per Full-time Equivalent Student and Sources of Funds

The total support cost per full-time equivalent student includes the expenditures for current operations, including payments made to students in the form of financial aid, and all fully reimbursed programs contained in state appropriations. The average support cost is determined by dividing the total cost by the number of full-time equivalent students (FTES). The total CSU 2006/07 final budget amounts were \$2,788,910,000 from state General Fund appropriations (not including capital outlay funding), \$1,016,931,000 from State University Fee (SUF) revenue, \$403,278,000 from other fee revenues and reimbursements for a total of \$4,209,119,000. The number of projected 2006/07 full-time equivalent students (FTES) is 348,262. The number of full-time equivalent students is determined by dividing the total academic student load by 15 units per term (the figure used here to define a full-time student’s academic load).

The 2006/07 average support cost per full-time equivalent student based on General Fund appropriation and State University Fee revenue only is \$10,928 and when including all sources as indicated

below is \$12,086. Of this amount, the average student fee support per FTE is \$3,551, which includes all fee revenue in the CSU Operating Fund (e.g. State University Fee, nonresident tuition, application fees, miscellaneous course fees).

2006/07	Amount	Average Cost Per FTE	
		Student	Percentage
Total Support Cost	\$4,209,119,000	\$12,086	100%
–State Appropriation	2,788,910,000	8,008	66%
–Student Fee Support*	1,016,931,000	2,920	24%
–Other Income and Reimbursements**	403,278,000	1,158	10%

\* Student fee support represents campus 2006/07 final budget submitted State University Fee revenue.

\*\* The other income and reimbursements represent campus other fee 2006/07 final budget revenues submitted, as well as reimbursements in the CSU Operating Fund. The average CSU 2006/07 academic year, resident, undergraduate student fees required to apply to, enroll in, or attend the university is \$3,199. However, the costs paid by individual students will vary depending on campus, program, and whether a student is part-time, full-time, resident, or nonresident.

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