Welcome to the California State University (CSU) – the largest comprehensive higher education system in the nation with 23 unique campuses serving more than 437,000 students with 44,000 employees statewide. Each year, the university awards nearly 100,000 bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees. CSU graduates now total nearly three million strong, and are serving as leaders in the industries that drive California’s economy, including business, agriculture, entertainment, engineering, teaching, hospitality, and healthcare. Learn more at www.calstate.edu.

More than 50-Year Tradition of Excellence

Academic excellence has been achieved by the CSU through a distinguished faculty whose primary responsibility is superior teaching. While each campus is unique based on its curricular specialties, location, and campus culture, every CSU is distinguished for the quality of its educational programs. All campuses are fully accredited, provide a high-quality broad liberal educational program, and offer opportunities for students to engage in campus life through the Associated Students, Inc., clubs, and service learning. Through extensive industry partnerships and robust campus auxiliaries, the CSU is expanding programs, internships, and workforce training opportunities to ensure CSU students are ready with the critical thinking skills, industry knowledge, and hands-on experience for employment and career advancement.

Facts

- CSU faculty attract more than $500 million annually in research and education grants, and contracts by federal, state, and regional agencies.
- One in every 10 employees in California is a CSU alumnus.
- The CSU awards 45 percent of the bachelor’s degrees earned in California.
- More than half of all the nurses in the state earn their degrees from the CSU.
- The CSU awards 95 percent of the hospitality/tourism degrees in the state.
- Nearly half of all of the state’s engineers earn their degrees from the CSU.
- The CSU is the leading provider of teacher preparation programs in the state.
- The CSU offers 105 fully online degree programs through www.calstateonline.net.
- The CSU offers 3,250 online courses to provide more educational options to students who may prefer an online format to a traditional classroom setting.
- The CSU’s growing online concurrent enrollment program gives students the ability to enroll in courses offered by other campuses in the CSU system.
- The CSU serves more than 5,000 individuals annually through professional development certificate programs in educational health services, business and technology, leisure and hospitality, manufacturing, international trade, and many other industries.
- For every $1 that the state invests in the CSU, the university generates $5.43 for California’s economy.

Governance

The system is governed by the Board of Trustees, most of whom are appointed by the governor and serve with faculty and student representatives. The CSU Chancellor is the chief executive officer, reporting to the board. The campus presidents serve as the campus-level chief executive officers. The trustees, chancellor, and presidents develop systemwide educational policy. The presidents, in consultation with the Academic Senate and other campus stakeholder groups, render and implement local policy decisions.

CSU Historical Milestones

The individual California State Colleges was established as a system with a Board of Trustees and a Chancellor in 1960 by the Donahoe Higher Education Act. In 1972, the system was designated as the California State University and Colleges, and in 1982 the system became the California State University (CSU). Today, the CSU is comprised of 23 campuses, including 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.

In 1963, the State Academic Senate was established to act as the official voice of CSU faculty in systemwide matters. Also, the California State College Student Presidents Association—which was later renamed the California State Students Association—was founded to represent each campus student association on issues affecting students.

Through its many decades of existence, the CSU has continued to adapt to address societal changes, student needs, and workforce trends. While the CSU’s core mission has always focused on providing high-quality, affordable bachelor’s and master’s degree programs, over time the university has added a wide range of services and programs to support student success— from adding health centers and special programs for veterans to building student residential facilities to provide a comprehensive educational experience.

To improve degree completion and accommodate students working full- or part-time, the educational paradigm expanded to give students the ability to complete upper-division and graduate requirements through part-time, late afternoon, and evening study. The university also expanded its programs to include a variety of teaching and school service credential programs, specially designed for working professionals.

The CSU marked another significant educational milestone when it broadened its degree offerings to include doctoral degrees. The CSU independently offers educational doctorate (Ed.D.), Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT), and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree programs. A limited number of other doctoral degrees are offered jointly with the University of California and private institutions in California.

In 2010, in an effort to accommodate community college transfer students, the university, in concert with the California Community Colleges, launched the Associate Degree for Transfer, which guarantees transfer students admission to the CSU with junior status. Always adapting to changes in technology and societal trends to support student learning and degree completion, the CSU initiated another milestone in 2013, when it launched Cal State Online, a systemwide collection of services that support the delivery of fully online programs from campuses. Now, full-time students also have access to fully online courses offered at other CSU campuses.

The CSU is dynamic and ever changing to ensure a quality higher education to the students of California. With 23 campuses, 437,000 students, and 44,000 faculty and staff, the CSU plays a critical role in preparing outstanding candidates for the job market. The CSU is committed to continually developing innovative programs, services and opportunities that will give students the tools they need to meet their full potential.
The total support cost per full-time equivalent student (FTES) 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 FTES. The total CSU 2013-14 budget amounts were $2,330,500,000 from state General Fund (GF) appropriations (not including capital outlay funding) and before adding $16.3 million CalPERS retirement adjustment, $1,539,029,000 from tuition fee revenue and after tuition fee discounts (forgone revenue), and $408,305,000 from other fee revenues for a total of $4,277,834,000. The number of 2013-14 FTES is 336,510 resident target and 14,358 non-resident students for a total of 350,838 FTES. The GF appropriation is applicable to resident students only whereas fee revenues are collected from resident and nonresident students. FTES 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 2013-14 average support cost per FTES based on GF appropriation and net tuition fee revenue only is $11,312 and when including all sources as indicated below is $12,476, which includes all fee revenue in the CSU Operating Fund (e.g. tuition fees, application fees, and other campus mandatory fees). Of this amount, the average net tuition fee revenue per FTES is $5,551.

The average CSU 2013-14 academic year resident, undergraduate student basic tuition fee and other mandatory fees required to apply to, enroll in, or attend the university is $6,695 ($5,472 tuition fee plus $1,223 average campus-based fees). 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.

| Average Support Cost Per Full-time Equivalent Student and Sources of Funds |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
|                            | Amount          | FTES           | Percentage   |
| State Appropriation (GF)¹  | 2,330,500,000   | 6,925          | 55.5%        |
| Net Tuition Fee Revenue²   | 1,539,029,000   | 4,387          | 35.2%        |
| Other Fees Revenue²        | 408,305,000     | 1,164          | 9.3%         |
| Total Support Cost         | $4,277,834,000  | $12,476        | 100%         |

¹ Represents state GF appropriation in the Budget Act of 2013-14; GF is divisible by resident students only (336,510 FTES).
² Represents CSU Operating Fund, Tuition Fee and other fees revenue amounts (net of tuition fee discounts) submitted in campus August 2013-14 final budgets. Revenues are divisible by resident and nonresident students (346,044 FTES).
The California State University

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