



2023-25 Legislative Session Budget Key Messages

- 1) The pandemic caused an unprecedented drop to community college enrollment that now seems to be leveling off and rebounding in some parts of the state.
- 2) Students enrolling are coming to community colleges with greater need for services such as advising and coaching as well as help meeting basic needs such as food and housing.
- 3) Student enrollment is growing most in career and technical education programs and short-term certificate programs leading directly to employment. These classes are usually much more expensive to operate than lower-division transfer courses like writing or math.
- 4) Community colleges are critical workforce training and economic development engines for the communities they serve and when unemployment rises enrollment usually grows as unemployed workers seek new training and skills. Colleges must retain capacity to meet these local needs.