

# California State Assembly



## Agenda

### Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance

Assemblymember David Alvarez, Chair

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

9:00 A.M. – State Capitol, Rm 447

ITEMS TO BE HEARD		
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<b>6440</b>	<b>University of California</b>	<b>2</b>
Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. UC Core Operations Funding Proposals</li><li>2. UC Enrollment</li><li>3. Federal Fund Update</li><li>4. Title IX Update</li><li>5. Basic Needs Funding</li><li>6. Common Course Numbering</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2</li><li>9</li><li>14</li><li>19</li><li>23</li><li>27</li></ol>

Public Comment will be taken in person before or after the completion of all panels and any discussion from the Members of the committees, at the discretion of the Chair.

## Items To Be Heard

### 6440 University of California

#### Issue 1: UC Core Operations Funding Proposals

The Subcommittee will discuss the University of California’s (UC) core operations budget, and the Governor’s Budget proposals to increase General Fund support by \$541 million ongoing General Fund and defer a 7% base increase.

#### Panel

- Alex Anaya Velazquez, Department of Finance
- Florence Bouvet, Legislative Analyst's Office
- Seija Virtanen, University of California Office of the President

#### Background

The Governor proposes \$541 million in additional ongoing funding for UC. The largest ongoing proposals are for providing UC with unrestricted base increases. The Governor also proposes \$61 million ongoing General Fund to complete implementation of a plan to replace some nonresident students with more resident students at three high-demand campuses. Although the administration proposes to provide UC broad discretion over the additional 2026-27 ongoing funding, UC would be expected to cover the costs of enrollment growth within its base increase. The Governor’s budget maintains the expectation that UC increases its resident undergraduate enrollment by about 3,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) students (1.4 percent) in 2026-27.

Figure 3

#### Governor Has Several UC Proposals

Reflects Governor’s Budget, 2026-27 (In Millions)

Ongoing Spending	
Base increase (5 percent)	\$254
Base restoration <sup>a</sup>	130
Base increase (2 percent delayed from 2025-26) <sup>b</sup>	96
Nonresident enrollment replacement <sup>c</sup>	61
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>(\$541)</b>

### University of California Funding by Source

(Dollars in Millions Except Funding Per Student)

	2024-25 Actual	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Proposed	Change from 2025-26	
				Amount	Percent
<b>Ongoing Core Funds</b>					
Tuition and fees <sup>a</sup>	\$5,822	\$6,000	\$6,273	\$273	4.5%
General Fund	4,858	4,853	5,386	\$533	11.0
Lottery	56	61	61	—	—
Other core funds <sup>b</sup>	488	488	488	—	—
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>(\$11,224)</b>	<b>(\$11,402)</b>	<b>(\$12,208)</b>	<b>(\$806)</b>	<b>(7.1%)</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>					
Medical centers	\$22,423	\$23,993	\$25,673	\$1,680	7.0%
Sales and services	13,060	13,746	14,357	610	4.4
Federal	5,862	5,890	5,826	-64	-1.1
Private	4,046	4,344	4,626	282	6.5
State	805	732	736	5	0.6
Other	1,427	1,414	1,414	—	—
One-time General Fund	5	90	—	-90	-100
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>(\$47,630)</b>	<b>(\$50,209)</b>	<b>(\$52,632)</b>	<b>(\$2,423)</b>	<b>(4.8%)</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$58,854</b>	<b>\$61,611</b>	<b>\$64,840</b>	<b>\$3,229</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
FTE Students <sup>c</sup>	300,027	304,258	301,127	-3,131	-1.0%
Ongoing Core Funding Per Student	\$37,410	\$37,475	\$40,541	\$3,066	8.2%

<sup>a</sup> Includes funds that UC uses for tuition discounts and waivers.

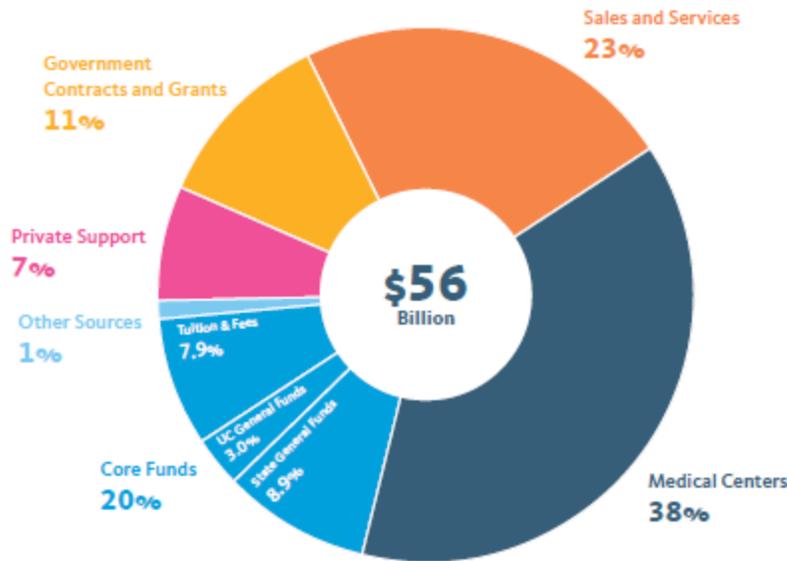
<sup>b</sup> Includes a portion of overhead funding on federal and state grants and a portion of patent royalty income.

<sup>c</sup> A FTE student equates to 30 credit units for an undergraduate and 24 credits units for a graduate student. Student counts include residents and nonresident students.

FTE = full-time equivalent.

UC also provided a chart in their 2026-27 budget proposal document. The numbers slightly differ from LAO due to timing and scope, but provide a good visual representation that only 20 percent of the UC budget are for “Core” functions that are generally the focus of state discussion:

Display 1: Overview of the University of California Budget, 2025–26 (Estimated)



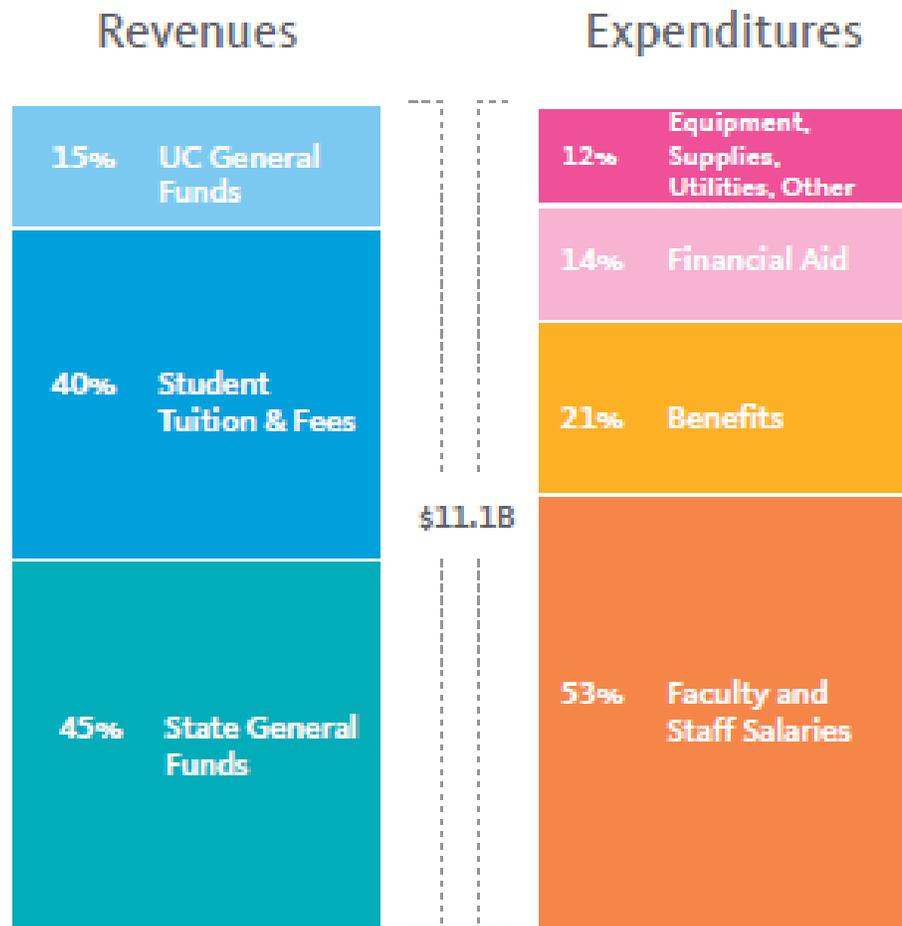
As seen in the chart above, Core funds, consisting of State General Funds, UC General Funds, and student tuition and fees, provide permanent funding for UC’s core mission and support Activities, including faculty salaries and benefits, academic and administrative support, student services, operation and maintenance of plant, and financial aid.

The other elements of the UC budget are:

- Medical center revenue, including patient care service revenue from private health plans, Medi-Cal, and Medicare, and other operating revenues, supports medical centers (also known as teaching hospitals), clinical operations, research, and faculty.
- Sales and services revenues directly support faculty physician clinical operations, auxiliary enterprises such as housing and dining services, parking facilities, bookstores, University Extension, and other activities such as museums, and publishing.
- Government contracts and grants provide direct support for specific research endeavors, student financial support, and other programs.
- Private support, including endowment payouts, campus foundation transfers, and other private gifts, grants, and contracts, funds a range of activities typically restricted by the donor or sponsor. Private support comes from alumni and friends of the University, foundations, corporations, and collaboration with other universities.
- Other sources include indirect cost recovery funds from research contracts and grants, patent royalty income, and management fees for Department of Energy labs.

UC provided this chart below to outline how the “Core” fund are used:

Display 2: Revenue and Expenditures from Core Funds, 2025–26 (Estimated)

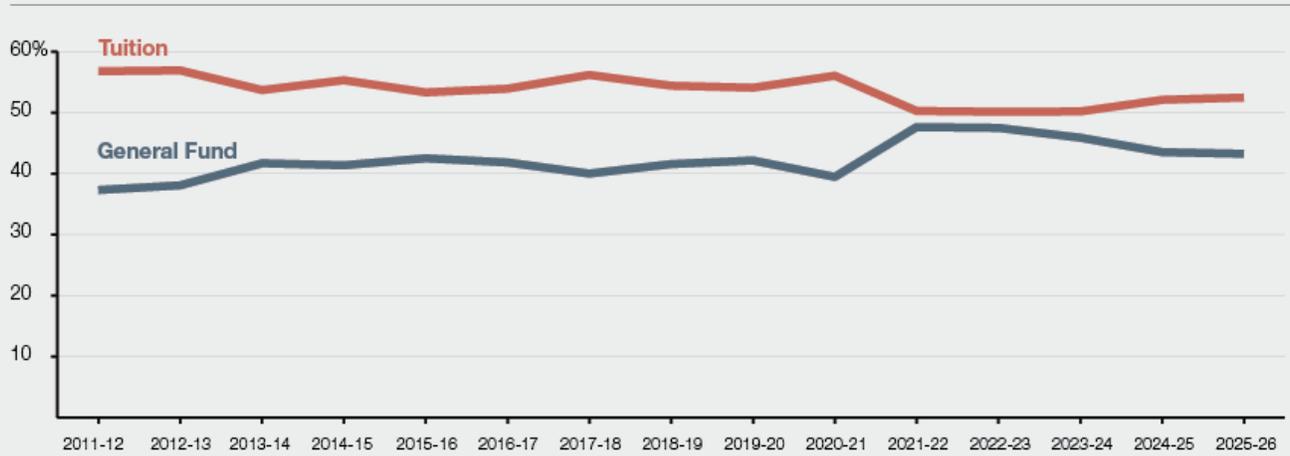


The split of Core operation support between tuition and State General fund has followed a similar ratio over the last 15 years, as shown the following chart prepared by LAO:

Figure 4

**State Support Has Accounted for Less Than Half of UC's Core Funds Over Past 15 Years**

Fund Source as a Share of Total Core Funding



Note: Total core funds include lottery, a portion of overhead funding on federal and state grants, and a portion of patent royalty income. Tuition includes systemwide tuition and fees.

LAOA

**UC Anticipates Receiving Additional Revenue from Tuition and Other Sources in 2026-27.**

UC has identified a total of \$308 million from nonstate sources that it plans to use for its core operations in 2026-27. Most notably, UC estimates it will generate \$273 million in additional tuition and fee revenue. (Of this amount, UC has earmarked \$95 million for its systemwide program that provides student financial aid.) In addition, UC intends to use \$20 million from its investment earnings for its core operating costs in 2026-27. UC also anticipates generating \$15 million in freed-up funds from procurement savings and other operational efficiencies that it will use for its core operations in 2026-27.

**UC Has a Tuition Stabilization Policy**

The UC Regents adopted a tuition stabilization policy adopted in 2021. Students who enrolled prior to fall 2022 will continue to pay 2021-22 rates through 2026-27 for Tuition, the Student Services Fee, and NRST. For students who entered fall 2022 and later, the three charges are assessed on a cohort basis – all three charges for each entering cohort are expected to be higher than the amounts charged to prior cohorts but remain flat for the duration of a student’s enrollment, up to six years. Annual adjustments from one cohort to the next are expected to decline over time, from inflation plus 2% for fall 2022 to inflation only for fall 2026.

Forty percent of new revenue generated by adjustments to tuition and the Students Services Fee are set aside for financial aid. 20% of new revenue generated by adjustments to NRST are set aside for financial aid.

**UC Will Use Additional Funding for Its Spending Priorities.** Under the Governor's budget assumptions, after restoring UC's General Fund base support for the payment deferral, UC would have \$658 million in total additional core funding for new spending priorities in 2026-27. With this additional funding, UC likely would:

- Provide salary increases for nonrepresented and represented employees. LAO estimates each 1 percent increase in payroll would cost \$55 million in 2026-27.
- Cover health benefit and pension cost increases. UC estimates benefit costs will increase by \$134 million. UC estimates its health care costs will grow by 8.2 percent, while its employer contribution rate to UCRP will be 17.2 percent of payroll, up from 16.5 percent of payroll in 2025-26.
- Cover the cost associated with enrollment growth, particularly for the hiring of additional faculty and support staff. The LAO estimates each 1 percent increase in resident undergraduate enrollment would have a total marginal cost (state and student shares combined) of \$54 million in 2026-27.
- Increase student financial aid by \$99 million primarily to account for enrollment growth and tuition increases.
- Pay for nonpersonnel operating cost increases (such as for utilities and insurance).
- Potentially launch a few, small new initiatives.

#### LAO Comments

**Recommend Reducing or Eliminating Base General Fund Increase.** The Governor proposes a \$351 million (7 percent) base increase for UC in 2026-27 and assumes UC generates \$273 million in additional tuition revenue. Given the state's fiscal outlook, the Legislature could provide a smaller base increase aligned with inflation. Alternatively, it could provide no base increase to help manage the structural deficit and reduce pressure for more significant reductions over the coming years. Even without a base increase, UC's core funding would grow by 3.5 percent.

**Recommend Using Available One-Time Funding to Retire Payment Deferral.** In 2025-26, the state began deferring a \$130 million General Fund payment from one fiscal year to the next. If one-time funding becomes available, we recommend the Legislature make retiring this payment deferral a high priority. Retiring the deferral would return UC's state payments to their regular schedule, eliminate the associated debt obligation, and reduce state budgetary pressures in the out-years.

**Recommend Removing Out-Year Commitments.** Under the Governor's budget, the state commits to providing UC with a one-time back payment of \$241 million in 2027-28, followed by a 3 percent ongoing base increase of \$144 million in 2028-29. We recommend removing these out-year commitments. The Legislature could determine each year how much support to provide UC in light of overall fiscal conditions and its budget priorities.

### Staff Comments

For more than a decade, the UC system has relied on compacts with the Governor to provide certainty for core operations planning. These compacts have also been linked to state policy goals; first pausing and stabilizing tuition increases and then increasing in-state enrollment. With the Newsom-era compacts ending this year, the Assembly has an opportunity to shape the conversation around the long-term direction of UC Core funding before the next Governor contemplates taking a position. As future estimates for the state budget look grim, the Subcommittee may wish to consider how the state can best support UC Core operations. While an aspirational compact that helps underwrite the growth in Core costs would be the best outcome for UC, the state may not be in a position to afford such a promise. But the state does have the one-time funding to create funding models that allow for graduate and predictable action by UC to make changes in enrollment and tuition needed to support UC Core operations if there is greater certainty about future funding.

Subcommittee staff also note that the UC typically leveraged the strength of non-Core operations of UC to help subsidize Core functions. Given challenges facing these other segments, this agenda explores if that dynamic can continue or if these other activities may need to compete from discretionary resources within the UC budget.

### Potential Questions:

1. Core funding is proposed to grow by 7.1 percent this year due to both the General Fund and tuition increases. Does UC have an estimate for the long run annual core funding increases that UC would need to maintain current services?
2. Given the protected state budget deficits in future years, how is the UC preparing for future years without a compact promise of additional state core funding?
3. How are the non-core components of the UC budget performing? Are these other activities generating resources for the Core activities or are they generating costs that must compete with Core activities for UC's discretionary resources?
4. Given the stable ratio of core support from both state and tuition, does the tuition stabilization policy depend on the predictability of multi-year compacts to remain in place for future years?

**Staff Recommendation:** Hold Open

**Issue 2: UC Enrollment**

The Subcommittee will discuss UC enrollment trends and future enrollment plans, and the Governor’s budget proposal to defer funding for the nonresident replacement plan.

**Panel**

- Alex Anaya Velazquez, Department of Finance
- Florence Bouvet, Legislative Analyst's Office
- Seija Virtanen, University of California Office of the President

**Background**

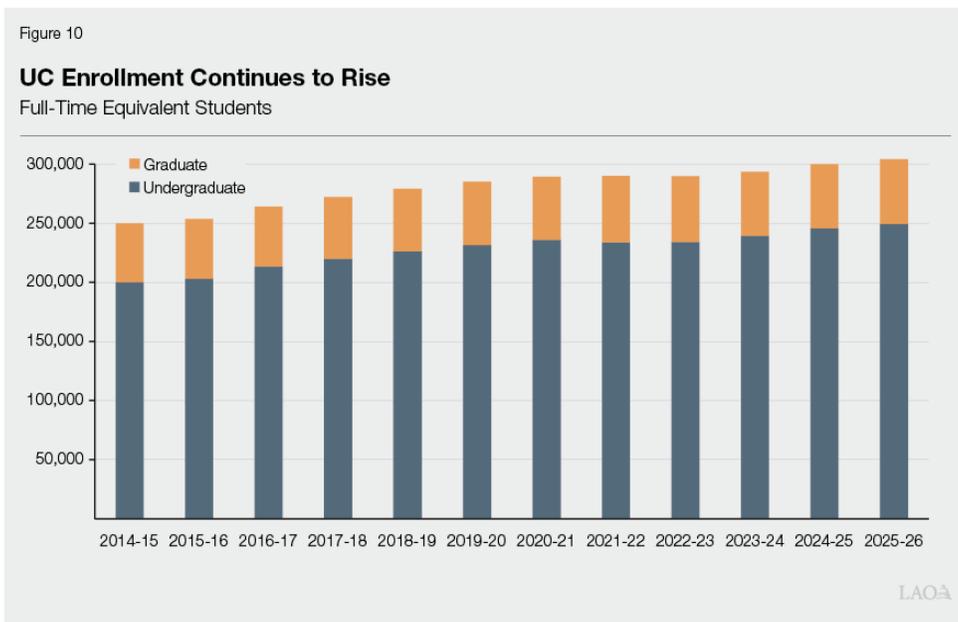
***The University of California Reported Record Enrollment in 2025***

On January 8, UC reported that in Fall of 2025 it had its highest enrollment in system history. The UC provided the following chart of information related to that news:

**Fall headcount enrollment**

	Fall 2025	Fall 2024	Year-over-year change (#)	Year-over-year change (%)
<b>TOTAL*</b>	301,093	299,407	1,686	0.6
<b>UNDERGRADUATE</b>	237,616	236,070	1,546	0.7
<b>CALIFORNIA RESIDENT</b>	200,532	198,736	1,796	0.9
<b>NONRESIDENT</b>	37,084	37,334	-250	-0.7
<b>GRADUATE</b>	63,421	63,219	202	0.3
<b>NEW UNDERGRADUATE CALIFORNIA RESIDENT**</b>	61,309	60,684	625	1.0
<b>FIRST-YEAR</b>	42,232	41,968	264	0.6
<b>TRANSFER</b>	19,077	18,716	361	1.9

**UC Enrollment Has Grown Over the Past Decade.** UC enrollment has increased every year but one (2022-23) over the past decade. Total enrollment has grown by nearly 47,000 students (18 percent), an increase equivalent to the current total enrollment of UC Los Angeles. Undergraduate enrollment has grown faster than graduate enrollment. From 2015-16 through 2024-25, undergraduate enrollment increased by 21 percent, whereas graduate enrollment increased by 8 percent. As a result, the share of undergraduates has grown slightly (from 80 percent to 82 percent of overall enrollment), as the share of graduate students has declined (from 20 percent to 18 percent). Undergraduate enrollment growth has varied somewhat across UC campuses. Over the last decade, UC Merced added the fewest number of undergraduates but grew at the fastest rate. UC Los Angeles grew at the slowest pace.



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Berkeley	29,310	30,574	30,853	31,348	30,799	31,814	32,479	33,078	33,070	33,122
Davis	29,557	30,212	30,876	31,115	31,293	31,770	31,632	31,856	32,342	31,695
Irvine	27,178	29,134	29,567	30,223	29,481	28,735	27,984	28,857	28,100	28,085
Los Angeles	30,680	30,813	31,382	31,349	31,437	31,919	32,214	32,735	32,974	32,900
Merced	6,815	7,375	7,881	8,151	8,276	8,321	8,343	8,372	8,372	8,243
Riverside	19,814	20,074	20,590	22,067	22,702	22,875	22,914	22,653	22,613	24,049
San Diego	28,127	28,587	30,285	30,794	31,842	32,784	32,495	33,093	34,186	34,609
Santa Barbara	21,580	22,196	23,080	23,354	23,202	23,097	23,460	23,238	23,185	23,092
Santa Cruz	16,962	17,577	17,792	17,517	17,207	17,864	17,502	17,812	17,940	18,194
<b>Total</b>	<b>264,426</b>	<b>273,179</b>	<b>280,380</b>	<b>285,216</b>	<b>285,862</b>	<b>294,662</b>	<b>294,309</b>	<b>295,573</b>	<b>299,407</b>	<b>301,093</b>

***UC Enrolls a Mix of California Resident and Nonresident Students.*** In 2024-25, of the approximately 300,000 FTE students enrolled at UC, 83 percent were California residents and 17 percent were nonresidents (domestic and international). Compared to the two other segments, UC enrolls a notably larger share of nonresident students. (In 2024-25, nonresidents comprised 5.4 percent of CSU FTE students and an estimated 3 percent of CCC FTE students.) Nonresident students comprise a larger share of graduate enrollment than undergraduate enrollment at UC. In 2024-25, 32 percent of UC graduate students were classified as nonresidents (of which 80 percent were international students), compared to 14 percent of UC undergraduates (of which 53 percent were international students).

***UC Enrolls a Mix of Freshmen and Transfer Students.*** Besides aiming to enroll a mix of resident and nonresident students, UC seeks to enroll a certain mix of new incoming freshmen and transfer students. Specifically, UC aims to enroll two resident freshmen for every one resident transfer student. In 2024-25, the average freshman-to-transfer ratio was somewhat higher than the target—at 2.2 systemwide. Most UC campuses did not meet the 2:1 ratio in 2024-25 despite a recent rebound in community college enrollment and resident transfer applications. The only campuses to meet the 2:1 target in 2024-25 were Los Angeles, San Diego, and Irvine.

***State Typically Sets Resident Enrollment Targets.*** Over the past two decades, the state's typical enrollment approach for UC has been to set systemwide resident enrollment targets. These targets have typically applied to total resident enrollment, giving UC flexibility to determine the mix of undergraduate and graduate students. Recently, the state has departed from this practice by setting enrollment growth targets only for undergraduates. The state also has departed from historical practice by setting enrollment growth targets not only for the budget year but also budget year plus one. The state made this change in an effort to better align its targets with UC's admissions cycle. UC completes its admissions cycle for the coming fall term before the state enacts the annual budget each June. Setting an enrollment growth target for budget year plus one allows the state to influence UC's planning for the next admissions cycle, prior to UC making its admission decisions. In the *2025-26 Budget Act*, the state set UC resident undergraduate enrollment targets for 2025-26 and 2026-27.

***State Typically Provides Associated Enrollment Growth Funding.*** If the state sets an enrollment growth target for UC in the budget year (sometimes the state leaves the target flat), the state has usually provided associated General Fund augmentations. Augmentations have been calculated using an agreed-upon per-student funding rate derived from the "marginal cost" formula. This formula estimates the cost to enroll each additional student and shares the cost between the state General Fund and student tuition revenue. In 2025-26, the total marginal cost per student is \$23,531, with a state share of \$12,885. Due to budget constraints, the state did not provide General Fund support for enrollment growth at UC in 2025-26.

**State Has Directed UC to Reduce Nonresident Undergraduate Enrollment.** The state has also acted to limit the number of nonresident undergraduates at high-demand UC campuses, with the intent to make more slots available for resident undergraduates. Specifically, the state has directed UC to reduce nonresident undergraduate enrollment at the Berkeley, Los Angeles, and San Diego campuses by a combined 902 FTE students each year and increase resident undergraduate enrollment by the same amount. The nonresident enrollment reduction plan began in 2022-23 and is intended to extend through 2026-27. By 2026-27, UC campuses are to have nonresident students comprise no more than 18 percent of their total undergraduate enrollment. (The 18 percent cap applies to all UC campuses, but only the Berkeley, Los Angeles, and San Diego campuses currently are above that cap.) To help the three campuses achieve this goal, the state has provided UC with ongoing General Fund augmentations of about \$30 million each year. These augmentations are intended to backfill the associated lost nonresident supplemental tuition revenue and cover the higher financial aid costs for resident students. The state deferred new incremental funding in 2025-26, but retained the expectation that UC continue to replace an additional 902 FTE nonresident students with resident students at the high demand campuses.

### **Governor's 2026-27 Budget**

The Governor also proposes \$61 million ongoing General Fund to complete implementation of a plan to replace some nonresident students with more resident students by a total of 902 FTE students at the Berkeley, Los Angeles, and San Diego campuses. Although the administration proposes to provide UC broad discretion over the additional 2026-27 ongoing funding, UC would be expected to cover the costs of enrollment growth within its base increase. The Governor's budget maintains the expectation that UC increase resident undergraduate enrollment by about 3,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) students (1.4 percent) in 2026-27.

### **LAO Comments**

**Recommend Funding Enrollment in 2026-27 at Original Target, Separately From Base Increase.** The Governor's budget maintains the original resident undergraduate enrollment target established in the *2025-26 Budget Act* for 2026-27, a level that UC expects to exceed by more than 3,000 students. Given the projected budget deficits and moderating demographic pressures, we recommend the Legislature maintain the original target set for 2026-27. We further recommend the Legislature fund enrollment growth separately from, and in addition to, any base increase to enhance transparency and accountability. For 2027-28, we recommend holding enrollment flat to help UC avoid the potential negative programmatic impacts of adding students without associated funding.

**Recommend Pausing the Nonresident Replacement Plan.** The Governor's budget provides \$61 million ongoing General Fund to replace a certain number of nonresident students with resident students at three high-demand campuses. We recommend an alternative that funds the same number of resident students while leaving the number of nonresidents flat. This alternative costs \$36 million less than the Governor's proposal. Given all three high-demand campuses have added resident students beyond replacing nonresidents the past few years, they appear to have associated physical capacity.

### Staff Comments

During the Great Recession, some UC campuses used out-of-state enrollment as a tool to increase revenues to offset budget reductions. This created a situation where the UC was requesting additional funding each year for Core operations, while offering fewer slots to California students. After the budget recovered, the Assembly fought to make investments in UC that prioritized increased in-State enrollment as its goal, which continues in the current budget.

Given projections of the State's future financial outlook and declining number of high school graduates, the Subcommittee could consider how the Assembly should view UC enrollment in the future. Californians benefit from having the access to UC provided by the current policies, but the State could consider how to harness out-of-state enrollment as a means to generate revenue for additional enrollment growth or to offset the costs for California students.

### Suggested Questions:

1. How many undergraduate FTE is UC planning to add for Fall 2026?
2. How is UC thinking about enrollment over the next few years, if General Fund support is lessened?
3. How can UC expand access at its most in-demand campuses?
4. What is the Administration and UC reaction to the LAO recommendation to pause the nonresident reduction plan, instead of deferring the funding?

**Staff Recommendation:** Hold Open

**Issue 3: Federal Fund Update**

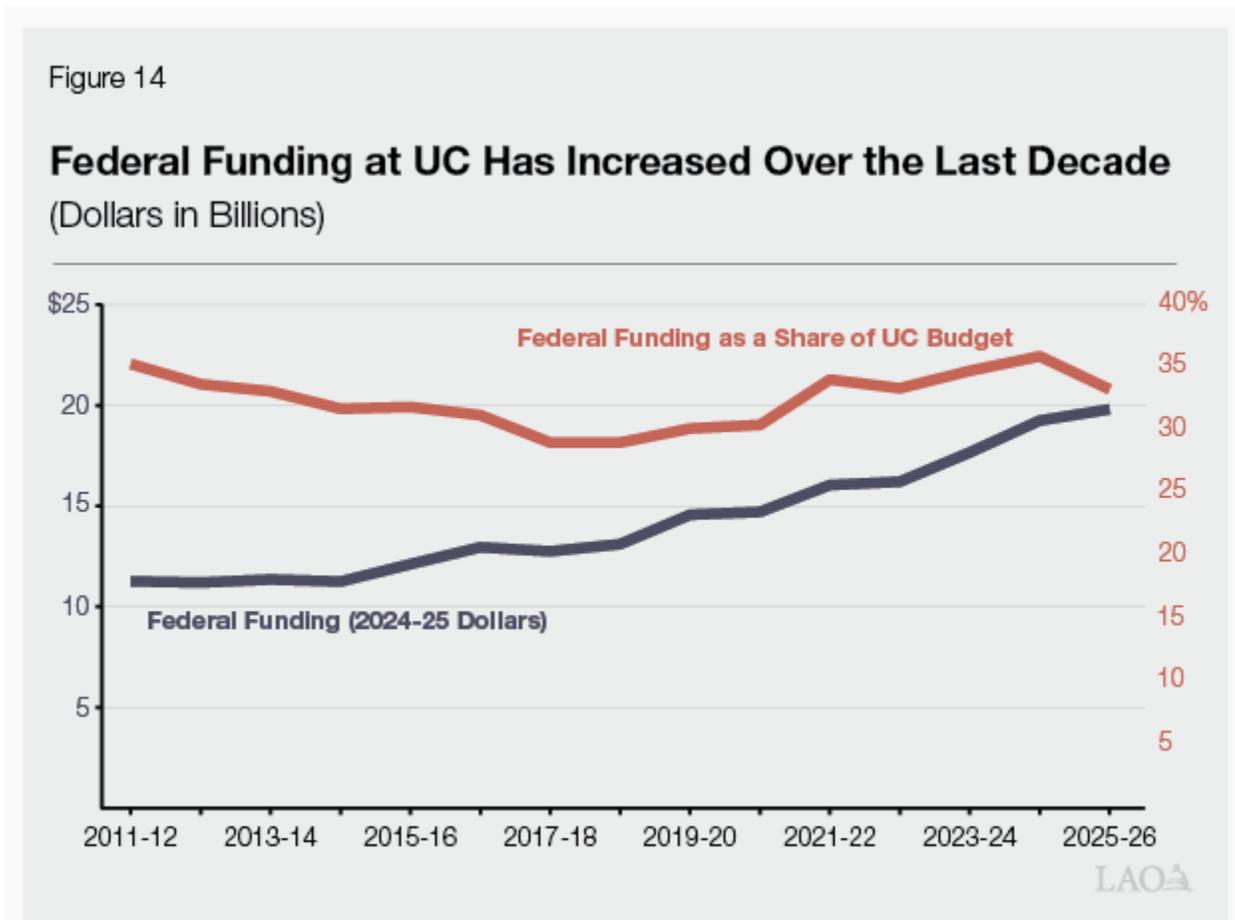
The Subcommittee will discuss the significant role federal funding plays in UC’s budget.

**Panel**

- Florence Bouvet, Legislative Analyst's Office
- Seija Virtanen, University of California Office of the President
- Alex Anaya Velazquez, Department of Finance

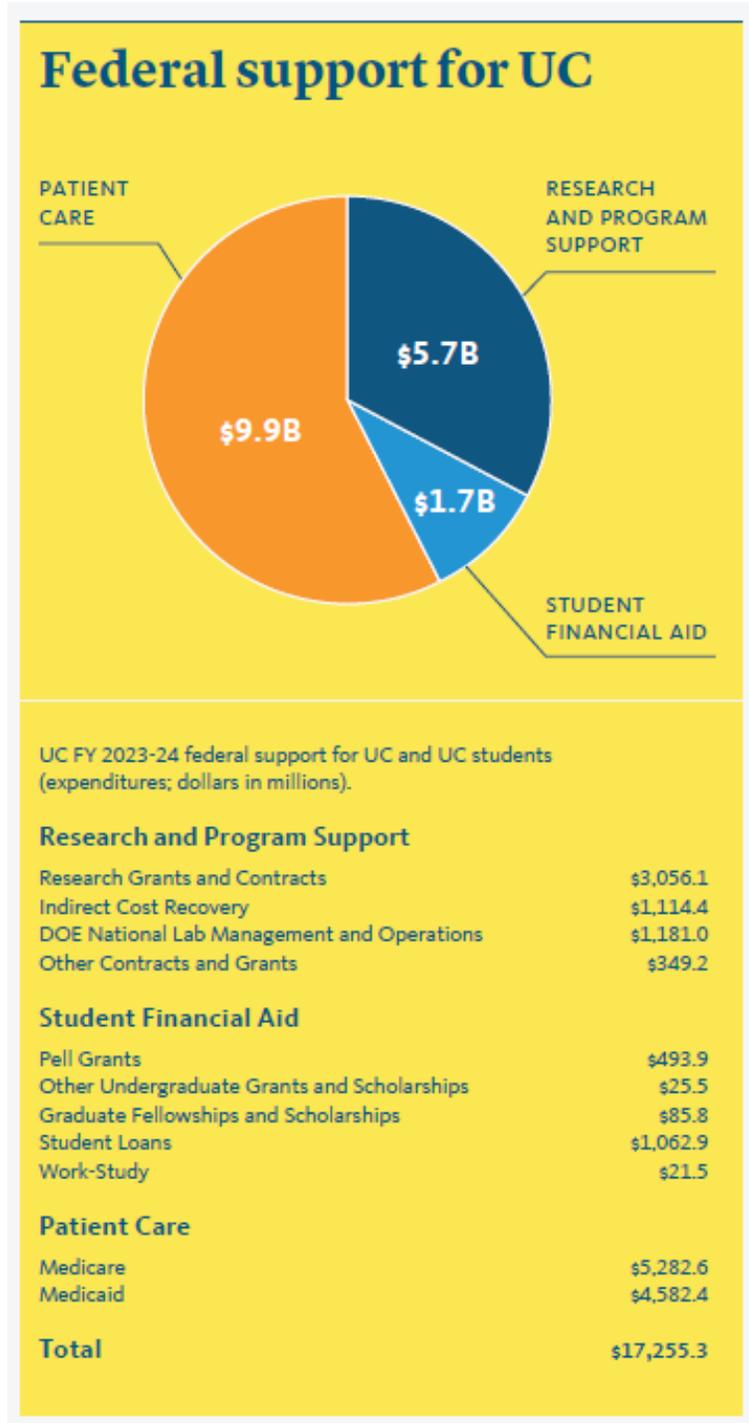
**Background**

UC has consistently relied on federal funding as a significant source of funding, as this chart from the LAO points out:



**Overall Use of Federal Funds at UC**

As this chart from UC illustrates, these funds are concentrated into three major categories: research, financial aid, and patient care.



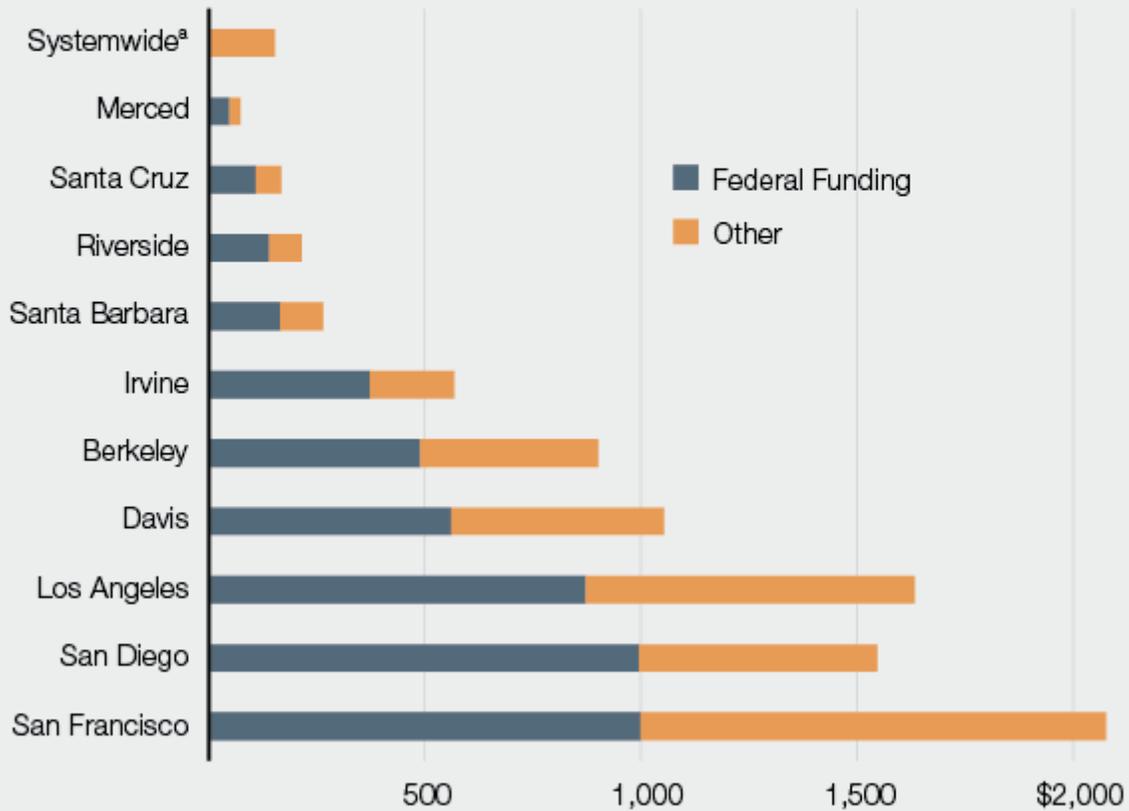
### Federal Funds are Half of All Research Funding.

While not the largest category of the UC budget, research is the component with the most federal participation:

Figure 17

### Federal Funding Comprises More Than Half of UC Research Funding

Grant and Contract Funding, 2024-25 (In Millions)



<sup>a</sup> Systemwide research programs and specialized multicampus initiatives managed by the UC Office of the President.

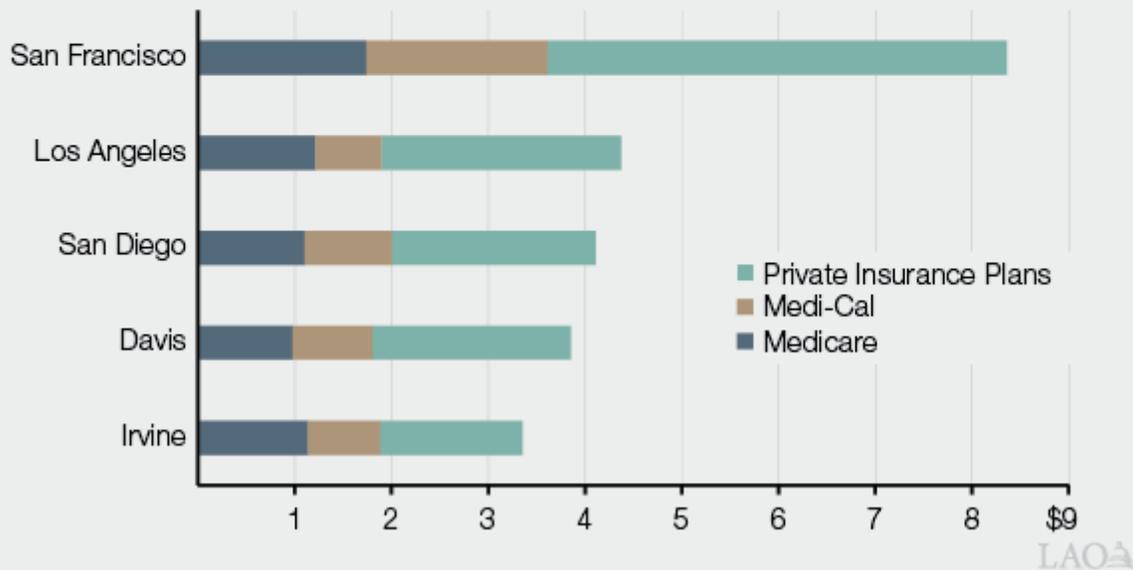


**Healthcare is the largest share of federal funds.**

The UC is California’s second largest Medi-Cal provider, with the five medical schools relying on both Medicare and Medi-Cal to reimburse patient care.

Figure 16

**Medicare and Medi-Cal Reimbursements Account for Nearly Half of Medical Centers’ Patient Care Revenue**  
2024-25 (In Billions)



**Staff Comments**

Typically, this Subcommittee focuses on the Core UC academic activities that are primarily related to undergraduate education, with some discussion about graduate and professional programs. As noted earlier in the agenda, these funds represent only 20 percent of the total UC budget. HR 1 and the actions by the Trump administration have impacted several facets of the UC’s operations. While the impact of financial aid changes will be minimal on the UC Core activities, the recent attempts to withhold and reduce research funding have caused widespread disruption that UC is already actively managing.

But the real risk to UC is its major role as a health care provider. Over the last two decades, UC has successfully built and grown its health care system alongside its other operations, which both helped increase health access across the state, but also help generate revenue for the UC's Core activities to supplement state investment. UC is now California's second largest Medi-Cal provider and receives almost twice as much revenue from Medi-Cal and Medicare (\$9.9 billion) than it does from state General Fund support for core activities (\$5.8 billion). Recent state budget actions, as well as expected disenrollments to Medi-Cal related to HR 1, are expected to eliminate health care coverage to millions of Californians in the coming months, which will put greater strain on this portion of UC's budget.

The Subcommittee should consider how UC expects to manage the pressures to its budget and the extent to which those impacts will limit the UC's ability to continue to support the Core activities in the near future.

**Suggested Questions:**

1. How has research funding at UC changed due to recent federal actions and policies? Do you anticipate further changes?
2. How is the UC preparing its teaching hospitals for expected reductions in state and federal health care spending?
3. Is the UC concerned that federal impacts on non-Core activities will compete for resources with the Core functions of the system?

**Staff Recommendation:** Hold Open.

**Issue 4: Title IX Update**

The Subcommittee will hear an update on Title IX issues and activities from the UC Office of President.

**Panel**

- Nicoli Richardson, University of California Office of the President

**Background**

In 1964, the United States passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibited discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex in employment, public accommodations, and federally funded programs. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination based on color, race, or national origin in programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance, this would include most colleges and universities in the state of California. In 1972, an additional law was put forward to prevent sex discrimination on collegiate campuses throughout the United States, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX). Both Title VI and Title IX go beyond ensuring students have access to sports and academic majors; it requires all higher education institutions to provide educational programs free from all forms of discrimination.

The prevention of discrimination is more than simply having a policy on how to address complaints. Prevention is creating a campus culture that addresses the root cause of discrimination before it becomes a complaint. The prevention of discrimination includes training where bystanders are empowered to intervene, a campus where students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to report incidents, and a culture, where those reports are met with support for all parties involved.

In 2024, the Assembly Higher Education Committee published a report containing a synopsis of the information gleaned from the briefings and a compilation of legislative proposals for how the State can partner with higher education institutions to prevent and address sex discrimination in all its forms on campuses throughout California. The report contained the following findings:

<b>California Community Colleges (CCC)</b>	<b>California State University</b>	<b>University of California</b>
<p>No systemwide policy that all 116 campuses and 72 districts follow.</p> <p>Title IX coordinators not on campus and very few have designated Title IX offices/coordinators.</p> <p>Additional appeals for faculty/staff.</p> <p>No mandated training on for students (forthcoming).</p> <p>No systemwide coordinator or office.</p> <p>Reports are requirement by regulations, but the Chancellor’s office said due to lack of guidance the reports are not up to date</p>	<p>Each campus has a Title IX office and coordinator.</p> <p>One major policy with five grievance procedures – depending on the respondent.</p> <p>Additional appeals for faculty/staff based on collective bargaining and California Education Code.</p> <p>Decision maker differs depending upon whether the respondent is a student or employee.</p> <p>Offers in-person and online training for students and employees.</p> <p>Each campus has a confidential advocate who has additional responsibilities beyond helping complainants access supportive measures.</p> <p>Campus-level data collected on sexual harassment trends but not provided at the systemwide level.</p>	<p>Each campus has a Title IX office and coordinator.</p> <p>One major policy with nine grievance procedures – depending on the respondent.</p> <p>Additional appeals for faculty and staff.</p> <p>Chancellor of the campus is the decision maker in all cases.</p> <p>Stand-alone confidential advocate office and respondent coordinators</p> <p>UC tracks campus and systemwide data to ascertain and address patterns of sex discrimination.</p>

The primary finding from the report was a lack of transparency as to how colleges and universities were responding to acts of discrimination. The report provided 18 recommendations of which 12 were signed into law through the accompanying bill package. The bills ranged from reporting requirements on sexual harassment incidents on campus to codifying the creation of Civil Rights offices at the CSU and UC. Among the bills was AB 2326 (Alvarez), which included

a requirement that the leadership of all three public higher education institutions present to the legislative budget subcommittees their efforts in addressing and preventing discrimination on campus.

### **UC Title IX Update**

At the February 17 Subcommittee hearing, the UC Office of the President provided the following update:

*The University of California (UC) does not tolerate discrimination or harassment in any form, including based on sex. Our goal is not merely to comply with state and federal law, but to go beyond those minimum requirements to prioritize the well-being of our community members. Fairness, safety, respect, and accountability are cornerstones of University's culture.*

*The University of California Office of the President has a dedicated Systemwide Office of Civil Rights (SOCR), which includes a Systemwide Title IX Office (STIXO). STIXO provides education, guidance, and investigative support to campus and location Title IX offices to ensure consistent implementation of UC's systemwide Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH) Policy and related investigation and adjudication frameworks. SOCR, inclusive of STIXO, also administers the systemwide case management database system used by campuses and locations to track SVSH reports locally and by STIXO to track such reports systemwide.*

*The STIXO develops the systemwide SVSH Policy. The SVSH Policy prohibits all forms of harassment based on sex and applies to all faculty, staff, students, and third parties (such as patients and visitors). Additionally, the accompanying investigation and adjudication frameworks set forth steps to ensure fair, timely resolution processes under the SVSH Policy.*

*In 2025, STIXO issued an updated SVSH Policy and investigation and adjudication frameworks to incorporate technical changes required by state law. Specifically, the SVSH Policy was updated to comply with SB 1491 (Eggman, 2024). Language was also added to both the SVSH Policy and the investigation and adjudication frameworks, where applicable, to comply with AB 1905 (Addis, 2024), AB 1575 (Irwin, 2024), and AB 2987 (Ortega, 2024).*

*Each UC campus or location has a dedicated Title IX Officer. The local Title IX Officers are responsible for coordinating responses to reports of sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence, that arise in the work, education, or patient care environment at their campus or location. In addition to investigatory services, campus and location Title IX offices are responsible for equitably facilitating appropriate support services, as needed, for individuals involved in SVSH matters, either as complainants or respondents. In addition to their responsive work, Title IX offices also proactively conduct or partner with other UC personnel to provide preventive SVSH and Title IX education and training.*

*Adequate support resources are key to creating a climate where individuals feel safe and supported. In addition to a Title IX office, each UC campus has a Center for Advocacy, Resources, and Education (CARE) office to provide survivor support services, including advocacy and healing services. Campuses also have Respondent Support Services Coordinators to assist individuals responding to Title IX allegations by providing information by helping to navigate resolution process and offer referral to campus and community resources for emotional or mental health support.*

*SOCR leadership regularly attend meetings with the campus CARE Directors and Respondent Support Services Coordinators hosted by the Student Policies and Governance office in Graduate, Undergraduate and Equity Affairs (GUEA), to obtain important student feedback, which information is used to inform UC best practices, education, and policy updates, as appropriate.*

*In June 2025, SOCR launched the Sexual Violence and Harassment, Anti-Discrimination, Prevention and Education (SHAPE) student training. SHAPE was developed by UCOP in consultation with campus and location representatives. All UC students are required to take the SHAPE training annually to ensure they understand how and where to go to report or seek help regarding sexual harassment, assault, or violence and that they fully understand their rights and responsibilities under the SVSH Policy. STIXO launched a similar internally-developed training first for employees and supervisors in fall 2023.*

**Staff Comment**

The Subcommittee considered this item last year and the report from UC represents the latest update from the system on Title IX compliance.

**Suggested Questions:**

1. How has Title IX compliance at UC changed in response to recent state legislation?
2. Do you have suggestions on how the Assembly can help support and monitor your important work?

**Staff Recommendation:** This is an oversight item.

**Issue 5: Basic Needs Funding**

The Subcommittee will discuss poverty, hunger, and homelessness trends amongst UC students.

**Panel**

- Alex Anaya Velazquez, Department of Finance
- Florence Bouvet, Legislative Analyst's Office
- Seija Virtanen, University of California Office of the President

**Background**

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been enhanced visibility of college students that are struggling with “basic needs”: food, housing, and behavioral health care. This included a \$40.8 million investment for Basic Needs, Rapid Rehousing, and Mental Health Services included in the Governor’s Proposal. In February, UC submitted a report required by the 2024 Budget Act to track how these funds were used and report to the Legislature.

The chart below illustrates how the funding was allocated across the system:

**Figure 1: Distribution of basic needs, rapid rehousing and mental health funds by campus, 2024–25**

Campus	Basic Needs	Rapid Rehousing	Mental Health	Total
Berkeley	\$1,589,000	\$499,000	\$2,610,000	\$4,698,000
Davis	\$1,675,000	\$374,000	\$2,606,000	\$4,655,000
Irvine	\$1,641,000	\$420,000	\$2,539,000	\$4,600,000
Los Angeles	\$1,540,000	\$429,000	\$2,758,000	\$4,727,000
Merced	\$944,000	\$215,000	\$1,258,000	\$2,417,000
Riverside	\$1,422,000	\$325,000	\$2,221,000	\$3,968,000
San Diego	\$1,596,000	\$429,000	\$2,507,000	\$4,532,000
San Francisco	\$685,000	\$178,000	\$642,000	\$1,505,000
Santa Barbara	\$1,446,000	\$439,000	\$2,015,000	\$3,900,000
Santa Cruz	\$1,259,000	\$392,000	\$1,644,000	\$3,295,000
UCDC	\$53,000	—	\$50,000	\$103,000
UCOP	\$450,000	—	\$450,000	\$900,000
Center for Economic Justice and Action (CEJA) <sup>1</sup>	\$1,500,000	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,800,000</b>	<b>\$3,700,000</b>	<b>\$21,300,000</b>	<b>\$40,800,000</b>

**Basic Needs**

This report found that over 77,000 students were served with this investment that year:

**Figure 2: Students served and student contacts for basic needs, 2024–25**

<b>Campus</b>	<b>Total Unique Students Served 2024–25</b>	<b>Total Student Contacts 2024–25</b>
Berkeley	7,651	33,673
Davis	13,249	96,570
Irvine	7,550	30,468
Los Angeles	9,310	16,641
Merced	3,633	15,147
Riverside	5,954	45,391
San Diego	9,406	48,829
San Francisco	2,450	43,896
Santa Barbara	11,304	81,572
Santa Cruz	7,278	51,644
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,785</b>	<b>463,831</b>

Some examples UC provided related to basic needs include:

- Meal kits with budget-friendly, nutritious recipes
- Strategic partnerships with other student service programs to provide support for students at greater risk of housing insecurity
- Life-skills learning opportunities, such as cooking classes and financial well-being workshops
- Basic needs centers that hold primary leases for on-campus housing that give housing programs more efficient access to beds
- Free food and hygiene vending machines
- Mobile food pantries, including fresh produce stands
- Virtual and in-person entry points to receive services
- CalFresh application events, with staff from the Department of Social Services present, wherein same-day EBT cards are available to eligible students
- Secure places for students to store food for the day • Social media outreach and engagement

**Linking UC Students to State Programs like CalFresh**

UC campuses are credited with approximately 61,185 CalFresh prescreens, either in person or via an online referral link, and approximately 12,764 CalFresh submitted applications. In 2024 25, nine UC campuses contracted with the Center for Healthy Communities (CHC) at California State University Chico to support CalFresh outreach. Out of those nine campuses, CHC estimates that 6,588 CalFresh applications likely were approved. A California Policy Lab analysis of 2022–23 data from CDSS and UC (the most recent data available) estimated approximately 58,000 UC undergraduate and graduate students were participating. The CDSS CalFresh Data Dashboard provides aggregated statewide data on students who were approved or denied CalFresh participation.

**Student Mental Health Prevention**

Across all UC prevention efforts, 212,136 students were served systemwide; of that total, an estimated 76,713 students were served directly with State funding. The UC provided the following chart on the total prevention efforts across the system.

<b>Campus</b>	<b>Prevention</b>	<b>Early Intervention</b>	<b>Treatment and Recovery Services</b>	<b>Off-Campus Referrals, Psychiatry</b>	<b>Off-Campus Referrals, Counseling</b>
Berkeley	8,500	4,568	11,750	489	1,847
Davis	69,174	5,856	18,201	189	1,021
Irvine	30,000	25,000	7,661	883	4,369
Los Angeles	10,000	10,000	8,675	456	691
Merced	2,569	613	2,180	N/A	56
Riverside	34,081	21,150	3,519	N/A	820
San Diego	46,167	869	4,652	1,928	1,817
San Francisco	2,853	849	1,070	113	379
Santa Barbara	N/A	N/A	97	748	2,025
Santa Cruz	8,000	10,000	8,183	317	2,102
UCDC	792	792	30	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>212,136</b>	<b>79,697</b>	<b>66,018</b>	<b>5,123</b>	<b>15,127</b>

**Staff Comment**

Basic Needs funding has become an important component of the UC budget and critical support for the system’s most economically vulnerable students. The current funding and structure of the program has been in place for three fiscal years, allowing this funding to become a dependable resource for campuses to provide these critical services.

The Subcommittee may wish to revisit if this approach should be revisited given the expected impact or federal policy and economic challenges. The State expects 665,000 Californians will lose eligibility for CalFresh in 2027 due to new work requirements for CalFresh, compounding the impact of hunger from higher food prices. The Subcommittee may wish to consider how this program is positioned to respond to evolving needs that must be met for these students to be able to learn.

**Suggested Questions:**

1. Has the utilization of Basic Needs changed in any meaningful way since the report period ended last summer?
2. How is UC expecting to adjust its approach to Basic Needs given the imposition of work requirements for CalFresh recipients?
3. To what extent are campuses investing in the basic needs and mental health services beyond what is provided in this investment?
4. Is there any approach the Legislature could take in allocating this funding to be responsive to unforeseen increases in student needs?

**Staff Recommendation:** Hold Open

**Issue 6: Common Course Numbering**

The Subcommittee will receive an update on UC’s role in Common Course numbering.

**Panel**

- Han Mi Yoon-Wu, University of California Office of the President
- Alex Anaya Velazquez, Department of Finance
- Florence Bouvet, Legislative Analyst's Office

**Background**

Education Code Sections 66725-66725.5 [Assembly Bill No. 1111 (Berman)] require implementation of a student-facing common course numbering (CCN) system across the California Community Colleges on or before July 1, 2027. The CCN system creates comparable courses and then assigns them the same course number across all California community colleges in order to “streamline transfer from two- to four-year postsecondary educational institutions and reduce excess credit accumulation.”

The Budget Act of 2021 allocated \$10,000,000 to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to establish a workgroup to support the development of that system. The CCC workgroup recommended the development of a common course numbering template for transferable general education courses that represent common but not identical courses with the goal of having the courses universally accepted across the community college, UC and CSU systems.

CCN implementation relies on faculty expertise and decision-making, as this work is primarily curricular in nature and articulation policies are within faculty purview. The University of California Academic Senate is an active participant in this work alongside the senates of the community colleges and CSU senate.

**Staff Comment**

After years of discussion, Common Course Numbering is now moving forward across the three California higher education systems. While the bulk of the work and all of the funding were provided to the Community College system, the UC system plays a critical role as a partner for this initiative to succeed.

**Suggested Questions:**

1. What benefits does the UC foresee from the implementation of Common Course Numbering?
2. What support, guidance or resources does UC need to insure that the Common Course Number system moves forward as intended?

**Staff Recommendation:** Hold Open