Proposed changes to Title IX rules

In late June, the U.S. Department of Education released a draft version of changes to Title IX rules that would define the concept of “sex” to include gender identity and sexual orientation, as well as extend protections against discrimination on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics and pregnancy or related conditions. The regulation would overturn rules previously published by former Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos that focused on how schools respond to allegations of sexual harassment and assault and will codify safeguards for students, especially transgender students.

The proposed rule on Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was officially published in the Federal Register on July 12, 2022. Stakeholders may submit comments directly through the Federal Register portal on or before Sept. 12, 2022. It is likely that the Education Department will receive a significant number of comments on
CSBA's Leadership Institute focuses on governing in turbulent times

Preparedness and the ability to lead through challenges was a major theme among keynote and breakout sessions at CSBA's 2022 Leadership Institute. Local educational agency leaders from across the state converged in Los Angeles July 22–23 to connect on topics including mental health, crisis communications, community engagement, effective board meeting management and financing an equitable education. Keynote addresses covered hazard preparedness, implementing policies to support teachers and students, and facing difficult and daunting situations head-on.

“At CSBA, we emphasize the importance of continuous learning for governance teams in the same way that you stress the principle of continuous improvement for your students and staff,” said CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy during opening remarks. “I know that the responsibility of leadership can seem daunting at times, but it's never been more critical that school board members go beyond their comfort zone and lean into the challenges of the day. So, I thank you for leading by example.” District leaders appreciated the opportunity to collaborate, bond, network and learn in the intimate setting that Leadership Institute offered. Read the full recap »

Legislative update: Legislators return for final month of session

After a monthlong summer recess, the Legislature will reconvene on Aug. 1 with less than five weeks to dispense with its business before the constitutionally required adjournment of the 2021–22 Legislative Session. The first two weeks of August will find each house’s Appropriations committee taking up their suspense file — bills with a price tag of over $150,000 that are considered in bulk to evaluate their fiscal impact as a whole. Legislation that makes it through that process will be taken up for floor votes by the full Senate and Assembly before the session ends “sine die” at midnight on Aug. 31.

The majority of CSBA-sponsored legislation this year will be moving forward in the final weeks of session. Two measures reforming school board special elections and recalls to protect election integrity and improve the information provided to voters, Assembly Bill 2584 (Berman, D-Menlo Park) and Senate Bill 1061 (Laird, D-Santa Cruz), made it through their policy committees and will now proceed to Appropriations hearings in each house. Likewise, AB 2295 (Bloom, D-Santa Monica), a bill addressing the educator and housing shortages by removing bureaucratic hurdles and increasing
U.S. Department of Education issues new special education guidance

The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) have issued new guidance for schools to meet the needs of students with disabilities. In a series of documents, the Education Department is calling on schools to avoid disciplinary practices that target or primarily negatively impact students with disabilities and clarifying concerns about the balance between addressing student mental health concerns, school safety, and requirements and restrictions in federal law.

The following documents can be accessed online:

- A letter from Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona to the nation’s educators, school leaders, parents and students about the importance of supporting the needs of students with disabilities.
- A letter and fact sheet from OCR: “Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.”

Register now for fall trainings

CSBA is excited to offer more enriching professional development opportunities both in person and virtually this fall. Registration is open for upcoming trainings including the Executive Assistants Certification Program, The Brown Act, Masters in Governance and Masters in Governance for County Offices of Education.

The Executive Assistants Certification Program will have two cohorts, one beginning in August and one in September. The Brown Act training, an interactive session where members of the governance team can find out everything they need to know about this complex law, will also take place twice — on Aug. 26 and Oct. 20. The Masters in Governance program consists of five courses catered to school district or county office of education leaders covering topics such as school finance, community relations and advocacy, student learning and achievement and more, equipping local educational agencies with the knowledge and skills to build and support an effective governance structure. View trainings and register »
Streamlined superintendent hiring for districts and COEs

CSBA, in partnership with McPherson & Jacobson, L.L.C., offers the Executive Search Service to provide districts and county offices of education with a streamlined process to meet their executive hiring needs. From identifying possible candidates to the selection of a qualified superintendent, Executive Search Services offers an extensive and comprehensive process that guides the board through this critical time with ease and professionalism. Learn more »

Stay up to date with the latest news and resources on the CSBA blog.

Virtual events

Executive Assistants Certification Program
Aug. 5-Nov. 4 | Register

MIG Course 1: Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction
Aug. 23-24 | Register

The Brown Act
Aug. 26 | Register

Governance with an Equity Lens
Aug. 27-Oct. 22 | Register

MIG Course 2: Student Learning & Achievement/Policy & Judicial Review
Sept. 20-21 | Register

In-person events

California County Boards of Education (CCBE) Annual Conference
Sept. 9-11 | Monterey | Register

Executive Assistants Certification Program
Sept. 12-Nov. 7 | Santa Clara and Santa Cruz | Register
MIG 3: School Finance Part 1 & 2  
Sept. 23 | Rancho Cucamonga | Register

MIG 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining  
Sept. 24 | Rancho Cucamonga | Register

MIG COE COURSE 1 Foundations of Effective Governance/Setting Direction  
Sept. 24 | Santa Clara | Register

View complete calendar