Department of Finance reports lower-than-expected state revenues

On a monthly basis, the state Department of Finance releases a bulletin that reports on the status of revenues coming into the state's General Fund. These bulletins help provide insight into the state of the California budget and can be an indicator of what Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposed budget will look like come January. In the most recent report released Oct. 17, the Department of Finance reported that General Fund revenues for the month of September were $2.8 billion below budget, driven by lower proceeds from personal income taxes. Cash receipts fell 14.7 percent lower than the 2022–23 Budget Act forecast, bringing year-to-date revenues in the first quarter of
the fiscal year down by $4.8 billion from the adopted state budget.

The shortfall has ramifications for TK-14 education funding — with Proposition 98 in Test 1, education funding is likely down $1.8 billion year-to-date. If this pattern continues through the fiscal year, the TK-12 share of Proposition 98 funding could take a hit in the range of $6 billion. However, unlike previous downturns, this may be softened by the $9.5 billion available in the statewide Proposition 98 reserve. CSBA will continue to keep members updated as revenue trends develop heading into the 2023–24 budget cycle.

Register for CSBA webinar on school safety

Join CSBA and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for “Saved by the Bell: Emergency response in California public schools” on Monday, Oct. 24 at 10:30 a.m. While no one enjoys thinking about worst-case scenarios, planning for potential disasters is an essential part of school safety. In this webinar, emergency response specialists and communications professionals discuss the three "Rs" — readiness, recovery and response — so your local educational agency is better prepared to respond to natural disasters, school shooter incidents, cyberattacks and other security threats. Register today »

Career technical education graduation requirement update

Existing legislation contains a provision allowing for one career technical education (CTE) course to count toward the California high school graduation requirement, granting CTE the same status as classes in the visual and performing arts and foreign languages. That provision, established for the 2012–13 school year, was set to expire at the end of the current 2022–23 school year, but that is no longer case. Education omnibus trailer bill legislation signed Sept. 27 has extended the provision by four years, meaning one CTE course can be counted toward the high school graduation requirement through at least June 30, 2027.

This change was not captured in CSBA's most recent policy update on Sept. 15, which predated by two weeks the signing of the education trailer bill and the extension of the CTE high school graduation requirement provision. CSBA is presently revising policy 6146.1 in GAMUT and notifying GAMUT Policy and GAMUT Policy Plus users of the revisions to ensure members reference the new policy rather than the Sept.
Governor announces end of COVID-19 state of emergency effective Feb. 28, 2023

At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gov. Gavin Newsom issued a state of emergency proclamation that allowed the state flexibility around various legal requirements to be able to address COVID-19. **On Oct. 17, he announced that he would be rescinding the state of emergency proclamation issued in March of 2020, effective Feb. 28, 2023.**

One impact of this action is on Assembly Bill 361, which amended the Brown Act to **allow virtual board meetings during a proclaimed state of emergency.** Without a proclaimed state of emergency, boards may not use AB 361 for virtual meetings. However, **there is another virtual meeting option available. The Legislature recently enacted AB 2449, which also amended the Brown Act to allow virtual meetings.** This option is not dependent on a proclamation of a state of emergency and does not sunset until Jan. 1, 2026. CSBA's Legal Department will provide more in-depth information about AB 2449 in the November edition of *California School News.*

Take your advocacy to the next level: Register for the 2023 Coast2Coast event

Join CSBA and the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) for the **second annual Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy Trip to Washington, D.C.,** where attendees will shine a light on the issues affecting the state's 6 million K-12 students. California governance team members — district and county board members and superintendents — can make an impact in our nation’s capital by attending this three-day event. On day one, attendees will review education policies specific to California, attend an "insiders" briefing on the latest politics affecting federal educational policy, and participate in a **networking opportunity with prominent D.C. figures** and fellow educators. The training is followed by **two days of meetings on Capitol Hill to advocate directly with California congressional representatives, White House officials, key federal agency leaders and other top policy makers.** Learn more and register »

Commission on Teacher Credentialing makes progress
on key initiatives

A packed agenda at the Oct. 12–14 California Commission on Teacher Credentialing meeting saw the adoption of two milestone markers on the road to replacing the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) and establishing a new credential for PK-3 teachers. The commission adopted the Literacy Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) and Program Standards for Multiple Subject, Single Subject (MS/SS), Education: Specialist (Mild to Moderate Support Needs and Extensive Support Needs) and the proposed PK-3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Instruction credentials pursuant to Senate Bill 488, which will eliminate the RICA.

Another item years in the making, the preparation program preconditions, program standards and TPEs for the PK-3 ECE Specialist Instruction Credential were adopted. This work is responsive both to the direction provided by the state’s Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and to the need for additional ECE teachers to support the statewide universal transitional kindergarten implementation. CTC staff also presented the first annual report of teacher misassignments, which was approved for transmission to the Legislature. Read the full meeting recap on the CSBA blog »

Keep your classroom air safe with R-Zero disinfection

CSBA has partnered with R-Zero, a pioneering biosafety company dedicated to reducing the spread of infectious disease, to help ensure the safest, most hygienic spaces possible for students and staff. R-Zero’s hospital-grade UV-C disinfection system, Arc, is proven (via independent third-party lab testing) to destroy 99.99 percent of surface and airborne pathogens — including coronavirus, seasonal flu, staph and norovirus — in the average classroom in less than seven minutes. A sustainable and eco-friendly disinfection solution, UV-C reduces chemical consumption and exposure. Arc is eligible for CARES Act, ESSER I and II funds and is currently enabling safety and restoring trust across more than 50 schools in California. Learn more »

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

Virtual events
MIG Course 4: Human Resources/Collective Bargaining
Nov. 2-3 | Register

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration
Nov. 8-9 | Register

MIG Course 5: Community Relations & Advocacy/Governance Integration
Nov. 15-16 | Register

In-person events

CSBA Annual Education Conference and Trade Show
Dec. 1-3 | San Diego | Register

View complete calendar