The California State University (CSU) consistently provides an outstanding return on federal investments in its students, institutions and research. With 23 campuses and nearly 437,000 students, the CSU is the largest bachelor and graduate degree university in the world, providing access - and success - for unprecedented numbers of low income students. Each year, 100,000 new CSU graduates enter the workforce across all economic sectors.

The following policy priorities for 2014 will help the system advance even further in student access, preparation and completion.

**Improving College Access through Aid to Students:** The CSU remains one of the nation’s best bargains. Significant state and institutional grant aid helps our neediest students. Federal financial aid programs remain critical to CSU students from low-income families, including over 186,000 who rely upon need-based Pell Grants. Nearly 40,000 Pell recipients receive CSU bachelor’s degrees each year.

Policy Priorities:
- Support cost of living increases in the maximum Pell grant, and retain any program surplus for future years
- Invest in the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) and Work-Study
- Prioritize resources for institutions serving the greatest number of students with need

**Preparing Students for College:** The CSU has, over the last decade, prepared more of California’s teachers than all other institutions combined. Building on this critical role of educating educators, the university is on the cutting edge of collaborating with P-12 schools to improve student readiness and to measure the performance of CSU-trained teachers. The federal government is a vital partner in these efforts.

Policy Priorities:
- Provide robust funding for effective pipeline programs like GEAR UP and TRIO and expand pre-K investments
- Maintain the strong federal partnership with colleges and universities to transform the preparation of America’s teachers and school leaders
Fostering Degree Completion for California’s Diverse Population: The CSU provides 57% of all bachelor’s degrees granted to California’s Hispanic students and 46% granted to African American students – and is a leader in transitioning veterans to the civilian workforce. Federal capacity building programs and targeted grants help bridge the completion gap.

Policy Priorities:
- Maintain strong support for Hispanic-serving and other minority-serving institutions
- Address the needs of America’s veterans on campus and smooth their transition to the civilian workforce

Educating Students for Tomorrow’s Workforce: 100,000 annual graduates drive California’s economy in the information technology, life sciences, agriculture, business, education, public administration, entertainment and multimedia industries.

Policy Priorities:
- Support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, including funding for the National Science Foundation’s Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation and Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship programs
- Invest in the US Department of Agriculture’s Hispanic-serving Institutions National Program

Solving Societal Problems through Applied Research: In laboratories, at field sites and through programs at the CSU, students, faculty and collaborating scientists advance California’s capacity to address key issues of significance to our state and nation.

Policy Priorities:
- Maximize opportunities for comprehensive universities to compete for federal resources, including in STEM programs found in the America COMPETES Act
- Invest in Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities (HSACU) and non-land-grant colleges of agriculture (NLGCA) programs

Promoting State and Private Support for Public Universities: State funding for public institutions of higher education is critical to keeping tuition affordable. Federal incentives can help boost state and private support for and partnerships with public universities.

Policy Priorities:
- Encourage state investment in public higher education through funding incentives and, wherever applicable, state “maintenance of effort” provisions
- Advocate policies that promote philanthropy and a positive climate for university advancement, such as extending the tax deduction for charitable contributions

CSU Campuses

| Bakersfield | Fullerton | Northridge | San José |
| Channel Islands | Humboldt | Pomona | San Luis Obispo |
| Chico | Long Beach | Sacramento | San Marcos |
| Dominguez Hills | Los Angeles | San Bernardino | Sonoma |
| East Bay | Maritime Academy | San Diego | Stanislaus |
| Fresno | Monterey Bay | San Francisco | |