



Statement Regarding Governor Newsom's  
Council for Postsecondary Education

*Kristen Soares, President, Association of Independent California Colleges & Universities*

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On behalf of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), I applaud Governor Gavin Newsom for establishing his Council for Postsecondary Education. We thank Gov. Newsom for his visionary leadership and his commitment to expanding access to higher education in California. Already, we have seen him make significant and important funding commitments to education.

AICCU looks forward to being an active participant of the Governor's Council for Postsecondary Education and working with him and the education leaders of this state to shape a bold future of higher education for students across the state. Access to a quality education is critical to the success and upward mobility of all Californians. With the growing need for a baccalaureate degree, we must act boldly to create new opportunities for our diverse population to be able to succeed in tomorrow's world.

I and the leadership of the Independent California Colleges and Universities are committed to the goals of the Council and look forward to working with the Governor and all stakeholders.

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**About AICCU**

The Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU) is comprised of 84 independent, nonprofit colleges and universities, which make up the Independent California Colleges and Universities (ICCU) sector. The ICCU sector plays a pivotal role in the development of the state's model higher education offerings and in making California a symbol of innovation across the globe. Within California, ICCU institutions award 20 percent of all undergraduate degrees and over 50 percent of graduate degrees, making them the largest preparers of California's advanced workforce.