An act to add Part 54.8 (commencing with Section 88920) to Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Part 54.8 (commencing with Section 88920) is added to Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

PART 54.8. CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE GUIDED PATHWAYS GRANT PROGRAM

88920. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) Students are more likely to graduate on time if they identify a major early on, have a clear outline of the courses required for completion, and are provided consistent ongoing guidance and support throughout their program of study.

(2) California has made investments to improve student outcomes at community colleges by providing student intake and guidance services, requiring colleges to focus on closing achievement gaps, improving basic skills instruction and placements, providing enhanced student services for remedial students, and streamlining and simplifying the transfer process to four-year universities.

(3) Providing community colleges with strategic, one-time state investments and technical assistance will enable colleges to integrate existing student-success programs and provide students with predictable course schedules and frequent feedback and support services to ensure that they can complete academic programs more efficiently.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that each community college integrate existing student-success programs and implement an institutionwide approach to student success programs.
success based on the college’s guided pathways model, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Clarifying pathways to student end goals by simplifying student choices with program maps, and establishing transfer pathways with four-year universities.

(2) Helping students choose and enter a pathway by creating stronger bridges from high school to community college, changing remediation instruction to better integrate the student’s program of study, and supporting students as they explore academic and career options.

(3) Helping students stay on a pathway by embedding advising, academic, and other forms of support in the pathway, including monitoring student progress, and intervening when they are off track.

(4) Supporting student learning by establishing program-level learning outcomes aligned with student goals for transfer or employment, integrating applied learning experiences within a pathway, and incorporating effective teaching practices throughout the pathway.

88921. (a) There is hereby established the California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program under the administration of the chancellor’s office. Grants awarded to community colleges pursuant to this part are intended to ensure integration of existing student-success programs and services and to build capacity at community colleges to develop clearly structured, coherent guided pathways programs.

(b) The chancellor’s office shall distribute grants, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to community colleges that satisfy the requirements of this part and any
programmatic criteria, administrative guidelines, and other requirements developed by the chancellor’s office to implement this part.

(c) For purposes of this part, “chancellor’s office” means the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

88922. (a) From the funds provided for this part, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges shall allocate:

(1) Up to 10 percent of the total amount of these funds for statewide assistance and programmatic support to implement this part.

(2) All remaining funds shall be allocated as grants to participating community colleges.

(b) (1) The chancellor’s office shall award grants to participating community colleges from the funds described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) as follows:

(A) Twenty percent of these funds shall be awarded equally among all participating colleges.

(B) Thirty-five percent of these funds shall be awarded based on the percentage of full-time equivalent students at each participating college.

(C) Forty-five percent of these funds shall be awarded based on the percentage of students at each participating college that satisfy the requirements to receive federal Pell Grants and the requirements in Section 68130.5.

(2) The chancellor’s office may include additional measures or adjust the allocation percentages in subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of paragraph (1) to accomplish the purposes of this part pursuant to the process in paragraph (3).
(3) The chancellor’s office shall notify and receive concurrence from the Department of Finance before including additional measures or adjusting the allocation percentages pursuant to paragraph (2) and providing these funds to participating community colleges. The department shall consult with the Legislative Analyst’s Office before determining whether to concur. The Director of Finance shall notify the Joint Legislative Budget Committee if the department intends to concur.

(c) Before the chancellor’s office may award grant funds to a participating community college, the college shall demonstrate its commitment to implement a guided pathways framework by completing all of the following:

(1) Submitting a letter to the chancellor’s office signed by, and expressing the commitment of, the president of the governing board of the community college district, the chief executive officer of the college, and the president of the college’s academic senate to adopt a guided pathways model.

(2) Notifying the chancellor’s office that the college has attended an Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative workshop for guided pathways. The chancellor’s office shall ensure that community college representatives have sufficient access to an Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative workshop for guided pathways.

(3) Establishing and submitting to the chancellor’s office a plan outlining the college’s commitment to implement a guided pathways program and integrate existing student-success programs, including, but not limited to, the Basic Skills Initiative, the Student Success and Support Program established in Article 1 (commencing with Section 78210) of Chapter 2 of Part 48, student equity plans adopted pursuant to Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 78220) of Chapter 2 of Part 48, the Adult Education
Block Grant Program established in Article 9 (commencing with Section 84900) of Chapter 5 of Part 50, and the Strong Workforce Program established in Part 54.5 (commencing with Section 88820).

(d) If the chancellor’s office determines that a participating community college has not sufficiently met the requirements of subdivision (c), the college may access available technical assistance opportunities and revise and resubmit the documentation required pursuant to subdivision (c) after receiving its grant funds.

(e) To the extent feasible, the chancellor’s office shall utilize the structure and processes in place for the California Guided Pathways Project, including, but not limited to, the project’s application, participation agreement, professional development, and technical assistance models.

(f) (1) The chancellor’s office shall report to the Director of Finance and the Legislature, pursuant to Section 9795 of the Government Code, as follows:

(A) By July 1, 2018, report on the allocation of funds pursuant to this part.

(B) By July 1, 2019, provide a summary of the plans received by the chancellor pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (c).

(C) By each July 1 from 2020 to 2022, inclusive, provide an updated summary of each community college’s progress toward implementing its plan established pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (c).

(2) Each of the reports in paragraph (1) shall include recommendations on any statutory or regulatory changes necessary to improve the ability of community colleges to implement their locally developed guided pathways programs.
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

Bill No.
as introduced, ______.

General Subject: California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under theadministration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, asone of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. The board appointsachief executive officer known as the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

This bill would establish the California Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program under the administration of the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, which would require the chancellor’s office to distribute grants,upon appropriation by the Legislature, to community colleges, who meet certainrequirements, to integrate existing student-success programs and implement clearlystructured, coherent guided pathways programs. The bill would require the chancellor to makesspecified annual reports to the Director of Finance and the Legislature regarding theCalifornia Community College Guided Pathways Grant Program and include in these reports recommendationson any statutory or regulatory changes necessary to improve the ability of community colleges to implement their guided pathways programs.