The California State University consistently provides an outstanding return on federal investments in its students, institutions, and research. With 23 campuses and approximately 460,000 students, the CSU is the largest bachelor and graduate degree university in the nation, 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.

Improve College Access through Aid to Students: The CSU remains one of the nation’s best bargains. Significant state and institutional grants help our neediest students. Federal financial aid programs remain critical to CSU students from low-income families, including over 214,000 who rely upon need-based Pell Grants. More than 45,000 Pell recipients earn CSU bachelor’s degrees each year.

- Provide cost of living increases in the maximum Pell grant; retain any surplus funds for future years or program improvements; restore year-round program; continue eligibility for part-time students
- Invest in Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) and Work-Study with focus on need
- Prioritize resources for institutions serving the greatest number of students with need

Prepare Students for College: The CSU is an innovative collaborator working to improve student readiness and to measure the performance of CSU-trained teachers. The federal government is a vital partner.

- Provide robust funding for effective pipeline programs like GEAR UP and TRIO and expand pre-K investments
- Maintain strong federal partnership with colleges and universities to transform the preparation of America’s teachers and school leaders

Foster Degree Completion for California's Diverse Population: The CSU provides more than half of all undergraduate degrees granted to California's Latino, African American and Native 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.

- Maintain strong support for Hispanic and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institutions
- Support the needs of America’s veterans on campus and smooth their transition to the civilian workforce
Educate Students for Tomorrow's Workforce: 100,000 annual CSU graduates drive California’s economy in the information technology, life sciences, agriculture, business, education, public administration, entertainment and multimedia industries. Targeted federal programs help propel their success.

- Support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields, including funding for NSF’s Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation and Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship programs
- Invest in USDA Hispanic-serving Institutions Education Grants Program

Solve 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. Federal investments are vital to continued progress.

- Maximize opportunities for comprehensive universities to compete for federal resources, including in STEM programs included in the America COMPETES Act
- Maintain strong NSF, NIH, Department of Energy and NIST funding
- Invest in Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities (HSACU) and non-land-grant colleges of agriculture (NLGCA) programs

Enhance Campus Infrastructure, Health and Safety: State-of-the-art facilities and innovative programs help make campuses vibrant and safe and secure for all.

- Fund Justice Department programs that provide grants to assist campuses with addressing sexual violence
- Support investments in infrastructure programs that provide campuses opportunities to partner with their communities, improve facilities, and promote strategic economic growth

Promote 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.

- Encourage state investment in public higher education through funding incentives
- Advocate policies that promote philanthropy and a positive climate for university advancement

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 | |