In January 2020, the California State University Board of Trustees approved a resolution that included the creation of a CSU Steering Committee on Academic Preparation and Quantitative Reasoning. The committee has been charged with developing and monitoring indicators and metrics to assess the impact of a proposed quantitative reasoning admissions requirement.

Since the Academic Senate of the CSU—the official faculty voice in the CSU in matters of curriculum—convened a Quantitative Reasoning Task Force in 2016, the CSU has consulted with a wide range of stakeholders representing a diverse group of educational, government and community partners on the topic of student academic preparation.

In August 2020, the CSU convened the first meeting of the CSU Steering Committee on Academic Preparation and Quantitative Reasoning chaired by then-CSU Executive Vice Chancellor Loren Blanchard. At this meeting, members defined possible measures for success for the committee’s activities. To date, additional discussion topics have included teacher preparedness, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on PK-12 students and updates on Graduation Initiative 2025. The committee also has discussed the identification and collaboration of an independent research firm to conduct a qualitative analysis of the planned implementation and potential impact of the CSU’s proposed quantitative reasoning requirement.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

• CSU Trustees—Chair and Vice Chair, Educational Policy Committee
• State Superintendent of Public Instruction
• Higher Education Advisor, Governor’s Office
• President, State Board of Education
• Chair, CSU Academic Senate
• Chief Academic Officer, California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
• CSU Student
• Public School Superintendent
• Community-based Education Group

The Steering Committee is supported by CSU Office of the Chancellor administrators and staff.

To ensure that all California students have the access and opportunity to earn a high-quality degree that prepares them for their future, the California State University has proposed expanding its “a-g” admission requirements to include one additional course in quantitative reasoning in high school. This level of academic preparation is essential for success in college, the workforce and in life. It is also key to closing racial and gender disparities, especially in the high-demand, high-paying STEM fields. The CSU Board of Trustees, working in collaboration with a steering committee of internal and external stakeholders, is considering next steps. The proposed requirement would be applicable for fall 2027.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs
401 Golden Shore, Long Beach, CA 90802
www.calstate.edu/qr

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