

Note: This is just to provide information and context for the CSM Academic Senate discussion of AI in distance education

***+105.03 S26 Supporting Systemwide Academic Integrity and Infrastructure for Distance Education in the Age of Agentic Artificial Intelligence**

Whereas, Distance education serves a critical and equity-driven role in California Community Colleges, providing access to students who face barriers to in-person attendance due to work obligations, childcare responsibilities, geographic constraints;

Whereas, The rapid advancement and increasing accessibility of agentic artificial intelligence (AI) tools has created significant and growing challenges to academic integrity in distance education, including the circumvention of assessments, a rise in fraudulent enrollments, inconsistent institutional responses to suspected AI misuse, unresolved concerns regarding student data privacy on third-party proctoring and plagiarism-detection platforms, and the inadequacy of existing AI detection tools — challenges that disproportionately burden individual faculty and that no single college can effectively address in isolation;

Whereas, Transfer institutions²⁰ are increasingly considering requirements for proctored assessments as a condition of accepting distance education coursework for credit, creating urgency for California Community Colleges to establish supported, accessible, and consistent proctoring infrastructure²¹ that does not place undue burden on faculty or exclude non-local and rural students from equitable participation; and

Whereas, Universal testing centers at California Community Colleges would not only support the integrity and transferability of distance education courses, programs, and degrees, but would also expand access to on-site tutoring and academic support services for non-local students, thereby advancing both academic quality and student success outcomes systemwide.

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges urge the California Community College's Chancellor's Office and the California State Legislature to provide dedicated, ongoing funding for the establishment and operation of universal testing centers at all California Community Colleges, designed to support equitable access to proctored assessments for distance education students, including non-local and rural students, while preserving the flexibility and student-centered benefits of asynchronous instruction; and

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges work with the California Community College's Chancellor's Office, the California Virtual Campus, and other system partners to develop systemwide policies, resources, and guidance by Spring 2027 that address academic integrity in distance education in the age of agentic artificial intelligence (AI) — including standards for responding to AI misuse, strategies to prevent fraudulent enrollment, and recommendations for assessment design — in order to protect the value, credibility, and transferability of California Community College courses, programs, and degrees.