



TO: Chief Student Services Officers

FROM: Rhonda Mohr
Vice Chancellor, Educational Services

RE: Senate Bill (SB) 972: Suicide Prevention Hotline on Student ID Cards

BACKGROUND

The California community colleges serve more than 2.1 million students, enrolling one out of every four Californians aged 18-24. For many students, the campus represents their best—and perhaps only—access point for mental health services. Moreover, many students will need mental health support: young adults of transition age are at heightened risk for mental health challenges. In response to this need, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 972](#) requires public institutions of higher education to provide the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline on student identification cards.

ACTION REQUIRED

Colleges are required to have printed on either side of the student identification card the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255). Colleges that have a supply of unissued, noncompliant identification cards as of January 1, 2019, can issue the noncompliant identification cards until that supply is depleted. The Chancellor's Office encourages colleges to also include the [Crisis Text Line](#) number (741741) on student identification cards, along with the phrase "courage" in the instructions to students, which is used as an identifier in order to generate statewide usage reports regarding the number of California community college students seeking help.

For more information regarding the Crisis Text Line and for helpful resources, please visit the [California Community Colleges Health & Wellness](#) website. If you have questions regarding this information, please contact Nicole Alexander at nalexander@cccco.edu.