



February 28, 2019

Assembly Member Miguel Santiago
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0053

**RE: AB 2 (Santiago) Community Colleges: CA Community Promise
AAP-CA Position: Support**

Dear Assembly Member Santiago:

The American Academy of Pediatrics, California (AAP-CA) representing over 5,000 California pediatricians strongly supports your proposed legislation AB 2. This bill would extend waivers for some or all community college fees under the California College Promise program from the current one academic year to two years for specific students, including those who have completed and submitted a California Dream Act application.

According to the Georgetown Public Policy Institute, 65% of jobs will require some post-secondary education by 2020, yet that education remains out of reach for many students. The California Promise Grant program provides flexible resources for community colleges to waive enrollment fees for specific students enrolled full-time in their first academic year, including those who have completed and submitted a California Dream Act application. AB 2 (Santiago) would extend that fee waiver from one year to two years, giving those students an even greater chance of success and of becoming an asset to themselves, their family, and their community.

AB 2 will help aspiring students reach their dreams and better their communities. Thank you for your public service and leadership on behalf of the health and well-being of the children, youth, and families of California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mona Patel".

Mona Patel, MD
Co-Chair State Government Affairs Committee
American Academy of Pediatrics, California

Cc: Kris Calvin; AAP-CA Leadership; Lydia Bourne
Senior Policy Analyst Keenia Tappin, MD