

College Budget Principles 2018/2019

College Mission: Cañada College provides our community with a learning-centered environment, ensuring that students from diverse backgrounds have the opportunity to achieve their educational goals by providing transfer, career/technical, and basic skills programs, and lifelong learning. The college cultivates in its students the ability to think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, reason quantitatively to make analytical judgments, and understand and appreciate different points of view within a diverse community.

Purpose of budget principles: Identification of college budget principles provide the values and guidance for budget development. These principles provide common understanding of the core values serving as the foundation for budget development.

College budget principles:

1. **College goals drive the budgeting process:** The College Educational Master Plan (EMP) goals drive allocation of all resources and guide potential new investments. EMP goals are: (1) Student Completion/Success; (2) Community Connections; (3) Organizational Development.
2. **Use data in decision making:** College resources are used to support attainment of metrics such as District goals, college outcomes, and state achievement benchmarks. Resource requests are supported by data to illustrate need and effectiveness.
3. **Consider inputs and outcomes of proposed budget decisions:** Resource allocations seek to optimally distribute funds. This means budget requests should consider both the cost and the benefit of the program or service.
4. **Regularly assess spending patterns and budgeting practices, and make adjustments when needed:** The budget development process does not rely on incremental changes. Instead, the budget process will involve critical review of past spending and future needs. Budget adjustments are made based on supporting strategic goals and impact to students.
5. **Consider long-term perspective:** Consistent application of budget principles can impact student success, but will take multiple years. Budget planning will include multi-year projections with the goal of fully funding and realigning resources to support high-priority needs.
6. **Transparency in information and processes:** Valid and timely information about the budget and budgeting processes should be available to the college through a variety of mediums including governance committees, college-wide dissemination, and division/department distribution.