

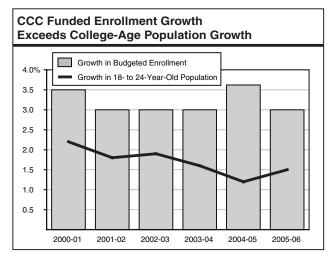
HIGHER EDUCATION: ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# Is Community College Enrollment Funding Keeping Pace With Demand?



# **Enrollment Funding Has Outpaced Population Growth**

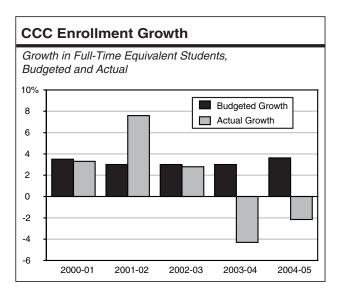
• Funding for student enrollment at the California Community Colleges (CCC) has grown faster than the college-age population in recent years.





#### **Enrollment Growth Funding Has Outpaced Enrollment Growth**

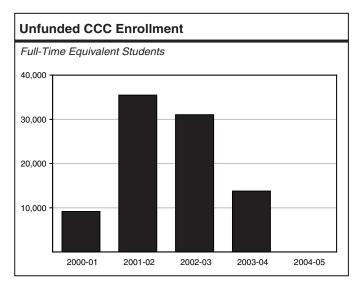
• In four of the past five years, CCC received more funding for enrollment growth than it used to enroll additional students. In the past two years, CCC enrollment has actually declined.





## No "Unfunded" Enrollment Remains

- Over the years, some community colleges occasionally enrolled more students than they were funded to serve. (Others occasionally enrolled fewer students than they were funded to serve.)
- In 2001-02, total unfunded enrollment statewide was about 35,500 full-time equivalent students (or about 3.5 percent of total enrollment).
- With enrollment growth funding exceeding new enrollment in recent years, unfunded enrollment was eliminated for all districts in 2004-05 according to the CCC Chancellor's Office





## **Current-Year Funding Expected to Cover All Enrollment**

• As shown in the first figure, its 2005-06 budget funds enrollment growth of 3 percent. This is about twice the expected rate of growth for the college-age population, and is projected to support all enrollment.

This is one of a series of issue briefs examining important questions about higher education funding in California. For more information on this topic, or to request other briefs from this series, contact the Legislative Analyst's Office Higher Education section at (916) 445-4656, or visit our website at **www.lao.ca.gov**.