

Who We Are

The California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE) is the state's largest and most comprehensive professional association dedicated to educator preparation. Representing teacher preparation programs across the University of California, California State University, California's Independent and Private Colleges and Universities, and Local Education Agencies, CCTE's membership includes deans, higher education faculty, PK–12 educators, district and county leaders, induction coordinators, policy advocates, graduate students, and education organizations. We are the California affiliate of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) and the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE), and we collaborate with key partner organizations and state agencies, such as the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC), the California Department of Education (CADOE), the California Association for Bilingual Teacher Education (CABTE), Independent Colleges and Universities - Education (ICCU - Ed), California Alliance for Inclusive Schooling (CAIS), and the California Association of Professors of Special Education (CAPSE/TED).

Our Purpose

CCTE is committed to increasing equity, justice, and excellence in the preparation and development of California's educator workforce by:

- Recruiting and retaining diverse teachers and leaders to reflect the state's student population.
- Supporting multilingual learners and students with disabilities through culturally responsive and sustaining practices.
- Bridging research and practice to improve teacher preparation and professional learning statewide.
- Engaging policymakers as partners in developing solutions to teacher shortages, bilingual education, and the systemic barriers faced by educators of color.

Policy Priorities and Efforts

CCTE works in active partnership with state and federal policymakers to strengthen educator preparation, advance educational equity, and respond proactively to California's evolving educational priorities and emerging workforce needs.

Our current advocacy efforts focus on:

- Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI): Building pathways to recruit and retain teachers of color, support multilingual educators, and create inclusive learning environments.
- Multilingual Educator Preparation: Advocating for federal and state investment in bilingual teacher residencies, Integrated Teacher Education Programs (ITEPs), and reduced barriers such as credentialing exam costs.



- Funding Equity for HSIs and Educator Preparation Programs: Addressing the loss of critical federal grants at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and advocating for equitable federal investment alongside HBCUs.
- **Policy Engagement**: Hosting legislative briefings at our Spring Policy Action Network (SPAN) Conference, collaborating with the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), and meeting regularly with Senator Alex Padilla's office and other legislators to share data, candidate stories, and program successes.
- Research-to-Practice Leadership: Publishing and convening on evidence-based strategies to prepare educators for California's diverse classrooms, and positioning teacher educators as expert advisors for legislative initiatives.

Why Policymakers Should Partner with CCTE

- **Trusted Expertise:** CCTE members are on the front lines of educator preparation and bring deep knowledge of both statewide and national challenges.
- **Statewide Reach:** Our network spans public and private universities, community colleges, school districts, and professional associations.
- **Policy Impact:** We provide research-based recommendations and grassroots perspectives to shape responsive, equity-driven policy.
- **Shared Commitment:** Our mission aligns with state and federal priorities to address teacher shortages, strengthen bilingual and special education, and ensure all students have access to excellent educators.

Contact

Learn more at www.ccte.org or contact:

Dr. Karen Escalante, President (2024–2026) California State University, San Bernardino

Email: karen.escalante@csusb.edu