

# EXTRA



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### STATE BUDGET CUTS

# Cabrillo sets course for future cuts

College will lose \$4 million in state money

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APTOS — The Cabrillo College Board of Trustees and administration started the long process toward addressing the ramifications of severe budget cuts Monday.

In January, Gov. Jerry Brown proposed cutting \$400 million from the statewide community college budget, in addition to many other cuts proposed to make up a projected \$25.4 billion shortfall.

Cabrillo's portion of that cut would be approximately \$4 million.

To help offset that reduction, there would be a \$10 per credit unit increase in student fees, bringing the total to \$36 per credit unit. That increase would provide \$1.1 million in additional revenue to Cabrillo, and \$110 million to the community college system as a whole.

Planning ahead, however, is hampered by the fact the budget is in flux.

"The state budget is very volatile," said Victoria Lewis, Cabrillo's vice president of administrative services. "We need to plan for several outcomes."

Every Cabrillo department will prepare three proposals for reducing costs, for best-case, mid-range and worst-case scenarios.

Under the best case scenario the 2011-2012 budget deficit at Cabrillo would be \$4.2 million and more than \$10 million in the worst case scenario, according to Lewis.

Even as more details of Brown's budget become clear, much is still uncertain. Part of the governor's plan involves asking voters in June to extend certain sales and income taxes for five more years. If the measure is not approved, the cuts to community colleges, and other services, could be much deeper.

## CABRILLO

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"June is going to be huge," said Paul Harvell, president of the Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers. "If we fail to postpone tax cuts, I don't even want to think what will happen to community colleges and the students."

According to a report compiled by the Budget Advocacy Action Center of the Community Colleges League of California, depending on the end result of various budget proposals, Cabrillo could lose between 1,274 and 3,465 students of its 16,000 students because of reduced funding.

"[T]here's no way to avoid the pain of budget cuts," California Community College Chancellor Jack Scott said in a

statement issued Monday. "However, if our community colleges sustain reductions of this magnitude, we anticipate up to 350,000 students will be turned away next year."

Cabrillo's 2010-2011 total budget is \$60 million, and the school's funding has decreased \$5.56 million since 2008-2009.

The goal is to have a preliminary 2011-2012 budget in front of the board for approval in June.