

California community colleges to slash enrollment

By Carla Rivera, Los Angeles Times

Facing a state funding cut of up to 10 percent, California's community colleges will enroll 400,000 fewer students next fall and slash thousands of classes to contend with budget shortfalls that threaten to reshape their mission, officials said Wednesday.

The dire prognosis was in response to the breakdown in budget talks in Sacramento and the likelihood that the state's 112 community colleges will be asked to absorb an \$800-million funding reduction for the coming school year – double the amount suggested in Gov. Jerry Brown's current budget proposal.

As it now stands, the budget plan would raise community college student fees from \$26 to \$36 per unit. The fees may go even higher if a budget compromise is not reached.

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