



The DECT represents a commitment by the California Community Colleges to expand access to distance education to all students. Further, DECT provides a means for colleges to **promote faculty innovation** in the use of audio, video, and multi-media content in distance learning classes. The system's substantial support for DECT

is also a recognition that **distance learning is the fastest growing segment of CCC enrollment**. Funding has been authorized by the Chancellor's Office to aid California Community Colleges in improving their capacity to serve disabled student populations and, in some instances, the general public, by ensuring the accessibility of aural information. Services will be provided to colleges through a process whereby the grantee contracts with outside captioning vendors to provide assistance to any community college that elects to use these vendors as well as establish policies and procedures to reimburse colleges that contract these services directly with a captioning vendor not under contract.

Why do you need this funding?

- To ensure student access
- To support faculty innovation
- To support mission-critical technological advancement
- To comply with federal and state legal requirements

Types of videos that **DO NOT** qualify for DECT captioning services::

- Newly purchased videos - since federal and state regulations require that colleges only purchase accessible instructional materials, DECT funding should not be needed for this purpose.
 - Legacy videos in a college collection - the CCCCO provided funding to caption existing collections of videos over a decade ago, so current DECT funds cannot be used for this purpose.
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California Community Colleges' **Online Education Initiative** offers resources to help state schools make their online documents, videos, and files accessible to students with disabilities.

California Government Code §11546.7

On October 14, 2017 the California government passed **California Government Code §11546.7**.

The new law states that by July 1, 2019, state agencies and state entities must ensure their websites comply with "**WCAG 2.0 Level AA, or a subsequent version, and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.**"



Going the Distance for our students!