



Agenda (Draft)

September 18-19, 2023

Washington, D.C.

(Speakers will be added as they are confirmed. Times are subject to shift slightly.)

Monday, September 18

Location: American Council on Education Conference Center, 1 Dupont Circle NW

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| 7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. | Registration and Breakfast |
| 8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. | Welcome and Introductions
Dr. Walter G. Bumphus, President and CEO, American Association of Community Colleges |
| 8:30 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. | Panel Discussion—Higher Education Politics and Policy
Vic Klatt, Penn Hill Group
Vince Sampson, Cooley LLP
Robin Juliano, Cornerstone Government Affairs
<i>Experienced higher education lobbyists will offer their perspectives on the current state of higher education policymaking and the political dynamics impacting it, as well as strategies that community college leaders can use to advocate for their institutions.</i> |
| 9:20 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | Break |
| 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Featured Speaker—James Kvaal
Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Education |

James Kvaal, the top higher education official in the Biden administration, will discuss the administration's current policy efforts and what the Department has planned for the remainder of the presidential term.

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Panel Discussion—Higher Education Policy Analysis

Sandy Baum, Center on Education Data and Policy & Income and Benefits Policy Center at the Urban Institute

Jason Delisle, Center on Education Data and Policy at the Urban Institute

Amy Laitinen, New America

Higher education policy experts will offer their perspectives on the proposals for and implementation of a number of hot button federal issues, including student debt and college financing, transparency and accountability in higher education, and broad higher education reform.

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Break

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

AACC Staff Briefing on Capitol Hill Visits

David Baime, Senior Vice President, Government Relations

Kathryn Gimborys, Manager, Government Relations

Alexis Gravely, Legislative Analyst, Government Relations

Jim Hermes, Associate Vice President, Government Relations

AACC staff will outline the community college legislative agenda to prepare attendees for their meetings with congressional members and staff.

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Break

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch and Featured Speaker—Matthew Green, Ph.D.

Professor and Department Chair, Department of Politics, Catholic University

Matthew Green, an expert on Congress, American elections, and political parties, will provide attendees with the broader context surrounding national politics ahead of a consequential 2024 election year.

1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Break

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Panel Discussion—Higher Education Media**
Katherine Knott, Inside Higher Ed
Chris Quintana, USA Today
Michael Stratford, POLITICO
Prominent journalists who cover higher education in Washington will discuss the major stories they've covered so far this year and what they'll be watching in the months ahead.

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Panel Discussion—Biden Administration**
Melanie Storey, Office of Federal Student Aid, U.S. Department of Education
Personnel from various offices in federal agencies will share information on policies and programs of interest to community college leaders.

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Networking Reception**
Cosmos Club, 2010 Massachusetts Avenue NW

Tuesday, September 19

Location: House Education and Workforce Subcommittee Hearing Room, 2261 Rayburn House Office Building

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast and Coffee**

8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Featured Speakers—Members of Congress**
Elected members of Congress will discuss their priorities for federal legislation impacting higher education, broadly and community colleges, specifically.

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **Panel Discussion—Congressional Staffers**
Amaris Benavidez, Democratic Staff of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce
Sara Garcia, Democratic Staff of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
Mary Christina Riley, Republican Staff of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce

Democratic and Republican staff from key congressional committees for higher education issues will provide insight into lawmakers' recent actions and future priorities.

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Featured Speaker—Leah Koestner

Principal Analyst, Congressional Budget Office

Leah Koestner, whose work focuses on the federal education budget, will provide analysis on various plans and proposals for higher education financing.

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Adjourn