

California

January

- The legislative session reconvenes on January 6. Begin [identifying and tracking bills](#) that may impact you or your students.
- Identify your state representative and state senator [here](#). View their biography and identify any commonalities in their educational history to you or your students; your [representative](#) or [senator](#) likely grew up in and graduated from your district's school(s)!

February

- The deadline for new bill introductions is February 21. Pay close attention to education-related bills and begin taking note of their authors.
- Meet with elected officials in their local district offices.

March

- [Track bills](#) as they are referred to and heard by [policy committees](#) by conducting an Advanced Search > Author > Assembly Committee or Senate Committee. Submit letters or emails of support or opposition for relevant legislation to you and/or your students.
- Attend the GRAC [California Legislative Conference](#) in Sacramento! If you are unable to attend but want your students' voices and experiences to be advocated for at the Capitol, submit them [here](#).

April

- The legislature is on a spring recess starting April 10. Use this time to schedule in-person meetings with legislators in their home districts to share your perspective on current bills.
- Encourage students to engage in advocacy by helping them write letters or share their stories with legislative offices, or have them submit their stories [here](#), so that WACAC members can bring them along to district office visits!

May

- The "May Revision" of the state budget is released. Review the updated budget to see how education funding has been adjusted and advocate for its passage.

June

- Consider inviting [elected officials](#) to your school or campus for a visit to kick off the new school year. Extend invitations to events such as a college application or financial aid night, or simply arrange a campus visit for them to engage with students.

July

- The legislature is on summer recess starting July 18. This is an excellent time to conduct in-district meetings with your [legislator\(s\)](#) to discuss any bills that affect your students, so that your assembly member or senator has your advocacy in mind when they return to session.

August

- The legislature reconvenes on August 18. The final two weeks of the session are a crucial time to advocate for the final passage of bills. Stay informed on the [status of bills](#) as they head to the Governor's desk for signature or veto.
- Happy new school year! Encourage any eligible students you work with to [register to vote](#) if they haven't already done so.

September

- The legislative session adjourns on September 12. Follow the Governor's action on bills, as the final day for him to sign or veto bills is September 30. Additionally, follow the Governor's response to federal actions involving secondary and post-secondary education.

October

- October marks the beginning of [FAFSA](#) season! As you assist students, please consider [sharing their experiences](#) with local and [federal](#) legislators to illustrate how simplifying FAFSA and increasing financial aid can significantly benefit them.
- California allows voters to register up to 15 days in advance of Election Day, although same-day voter registration is permitted all the way through Election Day. [Complete your registration](#), if necessary, or [double-check that you are registered](#).

November

- Vote!
- Before the semester concludes, connect with a WACAC colleague and encourage their participation in advocacy initiatives for the upcoming year. Use this checklist to demonstrate the simplicity of getting involved.

December

- Prepare for the new legislative session to begin on January 5, 2026. Reach out to your newly elected or re-elected [representatives](#) and encourage them to support WACAC's [policy priorities](#) in the upcoming session.
- Register for the 2026 GRAC California Legislative Conference in Sacramento!

Nevada

January

- The legislative session is not in session this month, but will start on February 3. Use this time to [identify your state legislators](#) and prepare for the upcoming session. View their biography and identify any commonalities in their educational history to you or your students; your [assembly member](#) or [senator](#) likely grew up in and graduated from your district's school(s)!
- The Nevada legislative calendar and biennial session process is unique—familiarize yourself with the Nevada legislative process for odd-numbered years [here](#).

February

- The 83rd legislative session begins on February 3. Begin [tracking and reviewing new bills](#) as they are introduced.
- Contact your [assembly member](#) and [state senator](#) to introduce yourself and your role as a WACAC member.

March

- The deadline for bill introductions is March 24. Take time to review all new bills and contact legislators to express your support or concern.
- Identify key legislators on the Senate and Assembly Education Committees. Send them a professional email introducing yourself as a WACAC member and constituent, offering to be a resource on college access and success.

April

- Offer to host a local legislator at your school or campus for a tour and a Q&A with students and parents.

- Instead of traveling to Carson City to testify in person, feel free to prepare and submit a concise, written statement to a committee clerk. This is just as effective as in-person testimony and allows you to submit your thoughts on your own time.

May

- The legislative session is nearing its end on June 2. This is the final opportunity to advocate for key bills. Call your legislators' offices and ask for a status update on a bill you care about.
- Attend a "town hall" or community event hosted by a legislator in your area. These events are often more accessible and less formal than a meeting in Carson City.

June

- The 2025 legislative session adjourns on June 2. Use this month to review the session's outcomes and analyze which bills passed.
- Share your expertise—begin to prepare a one-page fact sheet with key statistics on your students or school to share with legislators in the future.

July

- The legislature is adjourned, but the interim period has begun.

August

- Interim committees are meeting to prepare for the next session. Follow their agendas and submit written testimony on topics that are relevant to college admission and counseling.
- Happy new school year! Encourage any eligible students you work with to [register to vote](#) if they haven't already done so.

September

- With interim meetings underway, you can begin to finalize your legislative priorities for the next session based on your advocacy throughout 2025.
- Prepare for the WACAC Nevada college fairs in October! Consider inviting your local or state officials to the Las Vegas or Reno college fair(s) to interact with your students and parents.

October

- October marks the beginning of [FAFSA](#) season! As you assist students, please consider sharing their experiences with local and federal legislators to illustrate how simplifying FAFSA and increasing financial aid can significantly benefit them.
- Nevada requires voters to register 28 days before Election Day, although same-day voter registration is permitted all the way through Election Day. [Complete your registration](#), if necessary, or [double-check that you are registered](#).

November

- Vote!
- Before the semester concludes, connect with a WACAC colleague and encourage their participation in advocacy initiatives for the upcoming year. Use this checklist to demonstrate the simplicity of getting involved.

December

- Strengthen relationships—send an end-of-year email to your legislators and their staff, thanking them for their service and reminding them of your willingness to be a resource in the new year.