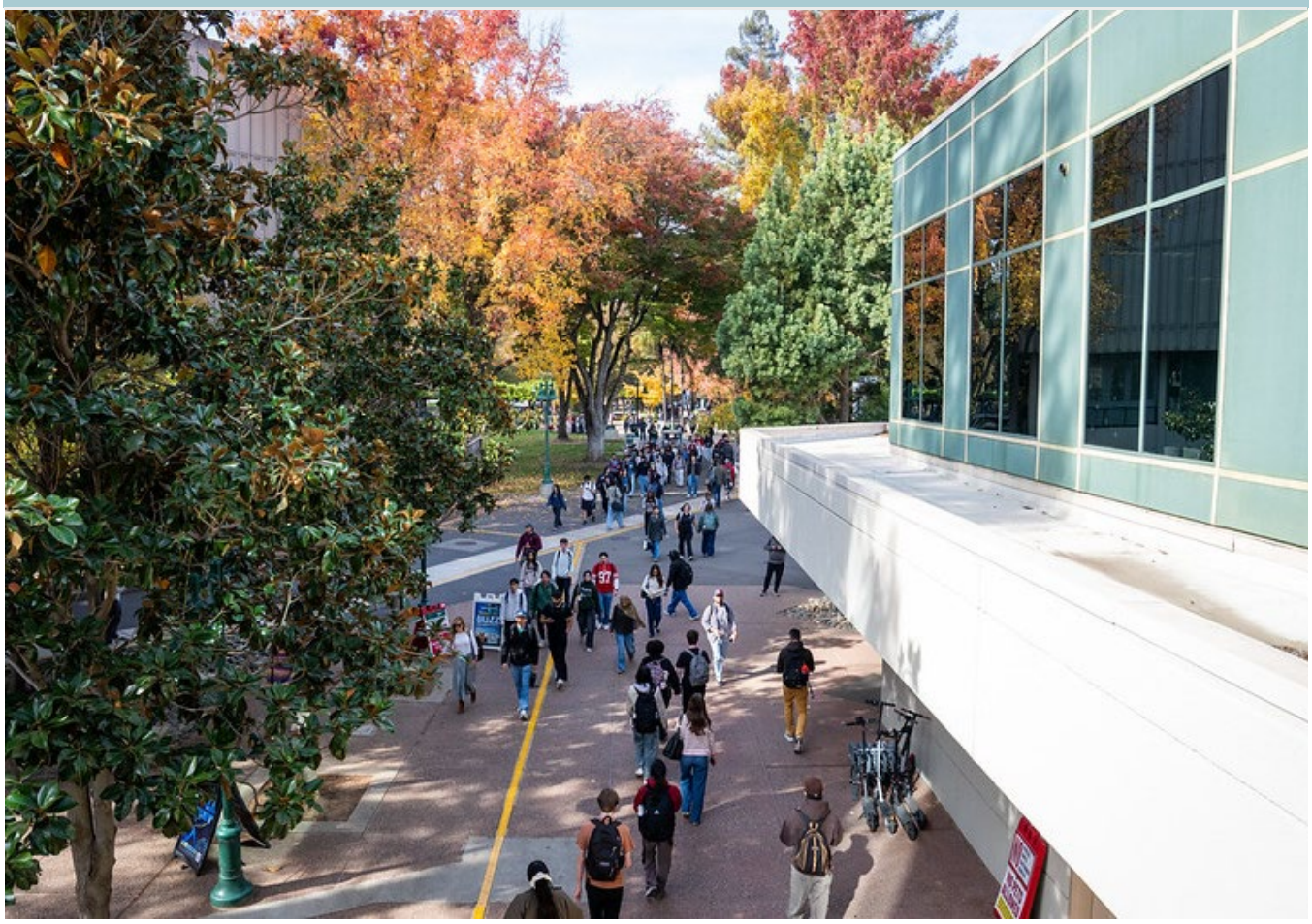
CSU The California State University

Executive Director, CSU Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Student Achievement Program

Leadership Profile

November 2026



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Executive Summary

The California State University invites nominations, expressions of interest, and applications for the position of **Executive Director, CSU Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Student Achievement Program (CSU ASAP)**, hosted at California State University, Sacramento.

The Executive Director serves as the senior leader of the statewide Central Office responsible for advancing one of the nation's most significant systemwide investments in Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) student success. Established through state legislation in 2022, CSU ASAP supports all 22 universities within the CSU system through strategic leadership, professional learning, capacity building, technical assistance, research, assessment, and the stewardship of approximately $8 million in annual state funding, including annual funding distributed directly to campuses through 2029-30.

Reporting to the Vice President for Inclusive Excellence and Chief Diversity Officer, the Executive Director provides strategic, fiscal, operational, and personnel leadership for the CSU ASAP Central Office and its statewide initiatives. The Executive Director leads a growing team and statewide network charged with helping campuses strengthen educational outcomes for AANHPI students through culturally responsive programs, research-informed practice, leadership development, and cross-campus collaboration. Working in close partnership with the CSU Chancellor's Office, California State University, Sacramento, campus leaders, policymakers, community organizations, and the CSU ASAP Advisory Committee, the Executive Director will guide the initiative through its next phase of growth and impact.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to shape the future of AANHPI student success at scale. CSU ASAP has established a strong statewide foundation that includes campus partnerships, systemwide professional learning, the AANHPI Middle Leadership Academy, statewide convenings, and emerging evidence of positive impact. The next Executive Director will build upon this momentum by strengthening accountability and assessment, refining funding and resource allocation strategies, expanding institutional capacity across the CSU system, and fostering greater visibility, collaboration, and impact among the system's 22 universities. At the same time, the successful candidate will help position CSU ASAP as a national leader in advancing AANHPI student success and institutional servingness.

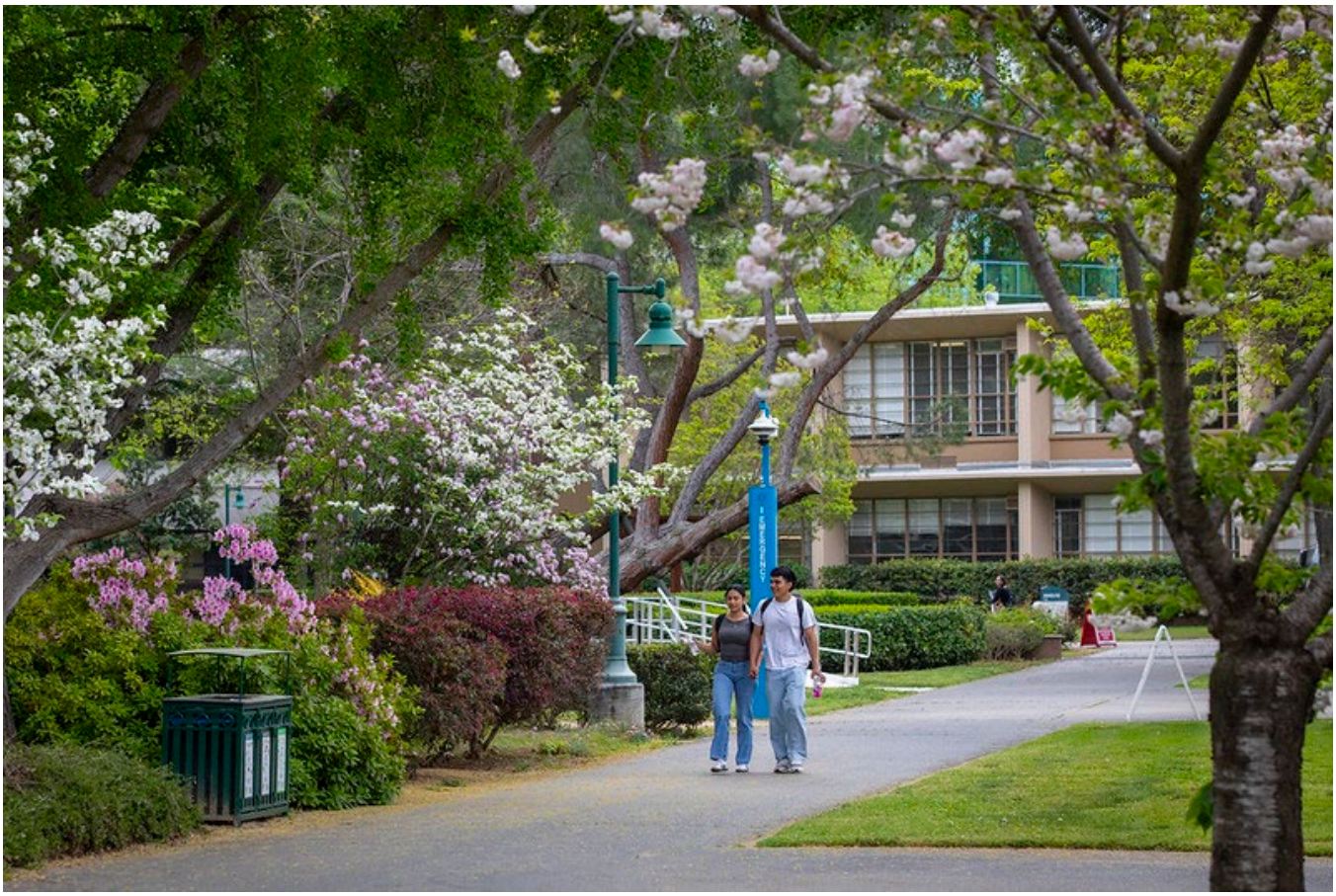
The Executive Director will be a visionary, collaborative, and politically astute leader who possesses deep knowledge of AANHPI student success, experience navigating complex higher education environments, and the ability to build trust across diverse constituencies. The successful candidate will combine strategic leadership with operational excellence, bringing the credibility, judgment, and relationship-building skills necessary to steward significant public investments, influence policy and practice, and advance meaningful outcomes for students across one of the most diverse public university systems in the nation.

The CSU seeks an accomplished, collaborative, and forward-thinking executive who is energized by the opportunity to translate a landmark statewide investment into lasting institutional change. The successful candidate will bring a demonstrated commitment to AANHPI student success, the ability to lead complex initiatives across institutions and sectors, and the strategic vision to strengthen accountability, cultivate partnerships, and elevate the impact of CSU ASAP throughout California and nationally. This opportunity will appeal to leaders from higher education, public policy, nonprofit organizations, philanthropy, and related sectors who have demonstrated the ability to advance educational opportunity, steward public resources, and build effective partnerships across diverse constituencies.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see Procedure for Candidacy at the end of this document.

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About The California State University



The California State University (CSU) is the nation's largest four-year public university system and one of California's most powerful engines of opportunity, workforce development, and social mobility. Across 22 universities stretching from Humboldt to San Diego, the CSU serves more than 470,000 students, employs more than 61,000 faculty and staff, and offers more than 4,000 degree programs aligned with the needs of California's communities and economy. The system confers more than 123,000 degrees each year, representing nearly half of all bachelor's degrees awarded in California, and its alumni community numbers more than 4.5 million worldwide.

The CSU's impact is inseparable from the students it serves. More than half of CSU students come from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds, nearly half of undergraduates receive Pell Grants, and more than one-quarter are the first in their families to attend college. Ninety-four percent of CSU students are California residents, and the great majority of graduates remain in the state, strengthening its workforce, communities, and civic life.

That scale creates an extraordinary opportunity for systemwide leadership in student success. The CSU educates one of the most diverse student populations in the nation, including large and internally diverse Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities. Through CSU ASAP, the system has made a sustained statewide investment in ensuring that access to a CSU education is accompanied by the culturally responsive support, institutional capacity, and conditions students need to thrive. The Central Office provides a platform for 22 universities to learn from one another, strengthen practice, and turn promising local approaches into systemwide impact.

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The Host Institution: California State University, Sacramento

California State University, Sacramento, known as Sacramento State or Sac State, is a comprehensive public university located in the heart of California's capital. Founded in 1947, Sacramento State serves more than 31,000 students. Its location just minutes from the State Capitol gives the University an unusual ability to connect higher education with public policy, government, philanthropy, community organizations, and the economic and civic life of one of the nation's most influential state capitals.

Sacramento State is distinguished by both the diversity of its students and an increasingly intentional commitment to what it means to serve them. The University is federally designated as both an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) and a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), is recognized by the State of California as a Black-Serving Institution (BSI), and in 2025 was designated by the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs as California's first AANHPI-Serving Institution. This combination of federal and state recognition reflects Sacramento State's growing leadership in translating institutional designation into intentional student support and measurable outcomes. Twenty-nine percent of its students are the first in their families to attend college. Sacramento State is also home to the nation's first Black Honors College and to Wileety Native American College, the first Native American college of its kind in California, alongside an array of centers and programs supporting the University's diverse student communities.

Sacramento State has particular roots in Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (AANHPI) student success. The University has held federal AANAPISI designation since 2011 and has developed research, resource centers, culturally responsive programming, and partnerships focused on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and other historically underserved students. This institutional experience, combined with Sacramento State's location in the state capital and relationships with the CSU Chancellor's Office, policymakers, statewide advocacy organizations, community partners, and other educational systems, provides a distinctive platform for CSU ASAP's statewide mission.

As the host institution for the CSU ASAP Central Office, Sacramento State provides the administrative and institutional home from which the office serves the entire CSU system. The relationship reflects an important distinction: CSU ASAP is housed at Sacramento State, but its mission, partnerships, and responsibilities extend across all 22 CSU universities. That positioning allows the Central Office to draw upon the resources of a major university while maintaining the statewide orientation and neutrality necessary to convene campuses, steward public investment, and advance AANHPI student success throughout California.

About CSU ASAP And The CSU ASAP Central Office

The California State University Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Student Achievement Program (CSU ASAP) is a statewide initiative advancing educational equity and student success for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) students across the California State University. Authorized by the California Legislature in 2022, CSU ASAP was created to strengthen culturally responsive services and educational experiences for low-income, underserved, and first-generation AANHPI students and other underserved student populations. The statewide Central Office is hosted at California State University, Sacramento, through a Memorandum of Understanding with the CSU Chancellor's Office and provides the infrastructure, coordination, and strategic leadership that connects this work across the system.

CSU ASAP represents one of the nation's most significant systemwide investments focused specifically on AANHPI student achievement. The program receives $8 million in ongoing annual state funding, with approximately $6.5 million distributed annually across the CSU through 2029-30 to support campus-based programs and services. The Central Office stewards this statewide investment while supporting campuses

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through technical assistance, professional learning, cross-campus collaboration, and the development and dissemination of promising practices.

At the heart of CSU ASAP is recognition that AANHPI students are not a monolithic population. The communities represented within the AANHPI umbrella encompass extraordinary differences in culture, migration histories, socioeconomic circumstances, educational experiences, and access to opportunity. CSU ASAP seeks to make those differences visible, challenge assumptions created by the model-minority myth, and ensure that students whose experiences can be obscured by aggregated data receive the attention and support necessary to thrive. This includes Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students, Southeast Asian students, South Asian students, and students who are low-income, first-generation, transfer, commuter, or otherwise historically underserved.

Since the establishment of the Central Office, CSU ASAP has built a growing statewide infrastructure that includes campus partnerships, an Advisory Committee, the AANHPI Middle Leadership Academy, systemwide professional learning, and a statewide summit connecting practitioners, scholars, students, community leaders, and partners. These efforts are designed not simply to create individual programs, but to strengthen the capacity of CSU universities to more intentionally understand, support, and serve their AANHPI student communities.

Early evidence suggests that this investment is making a difference. An independent 2026 evaluation by WestEd found that students participating in CSU ASAP-supported initiatives reported stronger perceptions of campus climate, belonging, and academic self-efficacy than nonparticipants, while also identifying important opportunities to strengthen consistency, staffing, data infrastructure, and assessment across campuses. These findings position CSU ASAP at an important inflection point: moving from successful launch and early implementation toward a more mature systemwide model grounded in evidence, accountability, sustainable institutional capacity, and measurable student outcomes.

The Central Office therefore serves as more than an administrator of statewide funding. It is a systemwide convener, capacity-builder, knowledge hub, and catalyst for institutional change, helping campuses translate a statewide commitment into locally responsive strategies while identifying approaches that can be learned from and scaled across the CSU. From its home in California's capital, CSU ASAP is also positioned to deepen partnerships with the Chancellor's Office, state policymakers, AANHPI community organizations, researchers, and higher education partners and to elevate the CSU's leadership in serving one of California's most diverse student populations.

As CSU ASAP enters its next chapter, the opportunity is to transform a substantial public investment and an emerging statewide network into enduring institutional change: strengthening evidence and accountability, expanding campus capacity, elevating the full diversity of AANHPI experiences, and establishing the CSU as a state and national model for AANHPI student success and servingness.



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Role of the Executive Director

Under the general direction of Dr. Michael V. Nguyen, Vice President for Inclusive Excellence and Chief Diversity Officer (VPIE), the Executive Director serves as the senior executive of the statewide Central Office that administers the California State University (CSU) Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Student Achievement Program (CSU ASAP). Established through a Memorandum of Understanding between Sacramento State and the CSU Chancellor's Office (CO), the Central Office is housed at Sacramento State within the Division of Student Affairs and Inclusive Excellence. Sacramento State serves as the administrative home and employer of Central Office personnel, while the CO provides broad system-level oversight. The Executive Director leads the office on behalf of the CSU system and serves all 22 CSU universities.

CSU ASAP receives approximately $8 million in ongoing annual state funding, with approximately $6.5 million distributed annually across the CSU through 2029-30. The Executive Director is responsible for the strategic, fiscal, operational, and personnel leadership of the Central Office and for the transparent, equitable, and accountable stewardship of this statewide investment. The position works in close partnership with the CO and Sacramento State leadership, including quarterly engagement with the CO, annual reporting of activities, budget, and program outcomes, and collaboration with the CSU ASAP Advisory Committee.

The Executive Director leads CSU ASAP into its next phase of development. Building on an established team that includes seven staff, statewide campus relationships, the AANHPI Middle Leadership Academy, statewide convenings, and emerging evidence of impact, the position sets a focused and sustainable strategy for strengthening campus capacity and improving student outcomes. The Executive Director establishes shared expectations, common measures, data and assessment frameworks, and differentiated technical assistance that allow campuses to respond to local AANHPI communities while advancing consistent systemwide goals.

The Executive Director directs the systemwide call for proposals and sub-grant process; oversees data gathering, assessment, and annual reporting; and leads professional learning, capacity building, and the identification and scaling of promising practices across the CSU. The position also represents CSU ASAP to the CO, campus leaders, policymakers, AANHPI-serving organizations, community partners, and other stakeholders, and leads long-term sustainability and continuity planning through the current MOU cycle and future statewide selection.

Essential Functions of the Position

Program Strategy, Funding, and Accountability (40%)

- Provide strategic and operational leadership for CSU ASAP across all 22 CSU universities, translating statewide goals into a focused multi-year roadmap, annual priorities, and measurable outcomes.
- Manage the CSU systemwide call for proposals and sub-grant process, including equity-centered policies, proposal criteria and review rubrics, allocation methodologies, award decisions, and timely distribution of programmatic funding.
- Partner with the CO and Sacramento State on budget oversight, funding decisions, compliance, risk management, and annual review of program activities and expenditures.
- Establish and continuously improve a systemwide evidence and accountability framework, including common measures, data definitions, disaggregated reporting, program assessment, and annual reports that connect program participation and investment to student experiences and outcomes.
- Convene and collaborate with the CSU ASAP Advisory Committee, incorporating its recommendations and stakeholder perspectives into program strategy and operations.

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- Lead program sustainability and continuity planning, including demonstrating the value of the Central Office through the current MOU cycle and pursuing appropriate state, federal, philanthropic, or other external support.

Central Office Leadership and Administration (30%)

- Recruit, hire, supervise, evaluate, coach, and develop Central Office managers and staff, creating a high-performing, collaborative, mission-aligned team and coordinating with the CO on designated or shared positions.
- Oversee the administrative, operational, and budget activities of the Central Office, ensuring compliance with applicable federal, state, CSU, CO, and Sacramento State policies, procedures, and reporting requirements.
- Work through Sacramento State financial and administrative systems to process allocations and transfers to campus programs and maintain accurate, timely fiscal and program records.
- Establish and maintain clear internal policies, procedures, project-management practices, communications, and documentation that support efficient and transparent Central Office operations.
- Build the capacity of the Central Office team to innovate, respond to campus needs, and sustain high-quality statewide service delivery.

Systemwide Engagement, Professional Learning, and External Relations (20%)

- Serve as a primary point of contact and strategic thought partner for the CO, campus leaders, CSU ASAP program teams, and external partners, providing proactive and consistent communication on program priorities, progress, challenges, and outcomes.
- Provide differentiated technical assistance and capacity-building support to campuses with varying levels of staffing, infrastructure, data capacity, and experience serving AANHPI students.
- Lead and strengthen systemwide professional learning and community-of-practice structures, including the AANHPI Middle Leadership Academy, statewide summit, network meetings, webinars, workshops, and other convenings that identify, share, and scale promising practices.
- Represent CSU ASAP in state and national higher education, policy, and community settings; cultivate relationships with legislators, government agencies, AANHPI-serving organizations, community partners, and other strategic stakeholders.
- Prepare and deliver formal reports, presentations, briefings, and strategic communications for CO leadership, Sacramento State leadership, campus partners, policymakers, and external audiences.

Additional Responsibilities (10%)

- Other duties as assigned.
- Serve on designated CSU System, Sacramento State, Student Affairs and Inclusive Excellence committees, work groups, and task forces.
- Travel statewide and nationally, as required, for meetings, convenings, conferences, and stakeholder engagement.

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Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership



The Executive Director will have the opportunity to lead one of the most ambitious and visible systemwide efforts focused on advancing Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander student success in public higher education. As CSU ASAP enters its next phase of development, the Executive Director will develop a strong foundation while positioning the initiative for greater statewide impact, accountability, sustainability, and influence. Drawing upon relationships across the California State University system, the Chancellor's Office, policymakers, and community and statewide partners, the Executive Director will advance a bold vision for student success while ensuring the initiative remains responsive to the diverse needs of CSU's campuses and students.

- **Strengthen CSU ASAP's Systemwide Impact and Credibility**

CSU ASAP has reached an important inflection point in its evolution. With a statewide infrastructure, dedicated funding, an established advisory structure, and growing campus engagement already in place, the next Executive Director will have the opportunity to guide and refine the initiative from an initial launch phase into a mature and enduring statewide enterprise. The Executive Director will cultivate trust and confidence among CSU campus leaders, students, faculty, staff, and external stakeholders while reinforcing CSU ASAP's role as a valued partner, convener, and resource for the entire CSU system. Particular attention will be given to ensuring that all campuses see themselves reflected in and supported by the work of the initiative and that CSU ASAP is widely recognized as a truly systemwide endeavor operating in service of all 22 universities.

- **Advance a Comprehensive Vision for AANHPI Student Success**

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The Executive Director will provide strategic leadership for CSU ASAP's statewide efforts to improve educational outcomes for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students across the CSU system. Working collaboratively with campus leaders and partners, the Executive Director will advance an understanding of AANHPI student success that recognizes the tremendous diversity within these communities and promotes the coordination and assessment of local efforts reflecting the needs of each campus population. The Executive Director will help elevate awareness of the unique experiences and barriers facing different AANHPI populations while fostering innovative, culturally responsive strategies that promote belonging, persistence, degree attainment, and post-graduation success. Through this work, the Executive Director will help shape statewide and national conversations regarding what it means to be an institution that meaningfully serves AANHPI students.

- **Steward Significant Public Investments and Expand Organizational Capacity**

With substantial annual state funding and significant resources available to invest across the CSU system, the Executive Director will provide thoughtful stewardship of public resources while advancing initiatives that generate meaningful and measurable impact for AANHPI students. A key priority will be strengthening confidence in CSU ASAP's funding strategy by establishing clear investment priorities, transparent allocation processes, and a framework for resource stewardship that demonstrates the value and impact of the initiative's investments.

The Executive Director will lead the deployment of resources in ways that advance systemwide goals while recognizing the distinct needs, capacities, and readiness levels of CSU's 22 campuses. Working collaboratively with campus leaders, the Chancellor's Office, community partners, and advisory groups, this leader will help ensure that funding decisions are guided by equity, evidence, transparency, and impact. The Executive Director will also have the opportunity to shape investments that support campus innovation and capacity building through grants, strategic initiatives, leadership development programs, research and assessment efforts, professional development opportunities, statewide convenings, and other initiatives designed to identify, test, and scale promising practices across the system.

At the same time, the Executive Director will continue strengthening CSU ASAP's organizational infrastructure, operational effectiveness, and long-term sustainability. Working closely with staff and partners, this leader will cultivate an environment that empowers staff expertise, supports professional growth, and encourages innovation, collaboration, and shared responsibility for achieving the initiative's mission. Through thoughtful stewardship of resources and a strong commitment to accountability, the Executive Director will help position CSU ASAP as a trusted systemwide partner and a national model for advancing AANHPI student success at scale.

- **Develop a Culture of Assessment, Accountability, and Evidence-Based Decision Making**

The Executive Director will have the opportunity to establish CSU ASAP as a leader in advancing evidence-based approaches to AANHPI student success. Building upon the initiative's existing work, the Executive Director will collaborate with campus and system partners to strengthen data-informed decision-making, improve data disaggregation practices, and develop meaningful measures of student success and institutional effectiveness. The Executive Director will help identify promising practices emerging across CSU campuses, assess impact, and share scalable strategies that can inform policy and practice throughout the system. The ability to connect investments and initiatives to measurable outcomes will be critical to demonstrating value and informing future growth opportunities.

- **Foster Meaningful Engagement Across a Diverse University System**

The Executive Director will engage regularly with presidents, vice presidents, faculty leaders, student affairs professionals, researchers, policymakers, community organizations, and students across California. The Executive Director will be highly visible throughout the CSU system and will build strong relationships through active engagement with campuses and stakeholders. Recognizing the significant differences among CSU institutions, the Executive Director will help create a framework that balances statewide priorities with local

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flexibility and innovation. Through listening, partnership, and collaboration, the Executive Director will strengthen CSU ASAP's capacity to support campuses while honoring the unique characteristics, strengths, and needs of each institution.

- **Navigate and Influence a Complex Public Higher Education Environment**

The Executive Director will operate at the intersection of higher education, public policy, advocacy, philanthropy, and community engagement. Working closely with the Chancellor's Office, legislative leaders, community partners, Sacramento State leadership, and CSU campus stakeholders, the Executive Director will navigate a highly visible and complex environment characterized by multiple priorities and perspectives. Political acumen, diplomacy, and the ability to build consensus across diverse constituencies will be essential. The Executive Director will serve as an influential advocate for AANHPI student success while effectively balancing institutional interests, legislative expectations, and systemwide priorities.

- **Position CSU ASAP for Long-Term Sustainability and National Leadership**

As California continues to strengthen its commitment to AANHPI-serving institutions and educational equity, CSU ASAP is uniquely positioned to emerge as a national model for advancing student success at scale. The Executive Director will have the opportunity to articulate a compelling vision for the future of the initiative, strengthen strategic partnerships, enhance external visibility, and position CSU ASAP for long-term sustainability. The Executive Director will help define the next chapter of CSU ASAP, ensuring that the initiative continues to evolve from a promising statewide investment into a durable and influential vehicle for advancing AANHPI student success across California. By aligning resources, relationships, assessment, and strategy, the Executive Director will help ensure that CSU ASAP remains a transformative force within the CSU system and a leading voice in advancing success for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students nationwide.



A particularly significant leadership opportunity comes as California implements Assembly Bill 2374, signed by Governor Gavin Newsom in September 2026, establishing the nation's first statewide designation framework for Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions. The designation framework takes effect on January 1, 2027, creating an important opportunity for CSU ASAP to partner with campuses as they develop strategies, strengthen student success initiatives, and demonstrate their commitment to serving AANHPI students. The Executive Director will be well positioned to help shape how institutions operationalize the designation, identify and disseminate promising practices, and elevate CSU as a national leader in defining what it means to effectively serve and support AANHPI students.

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Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

The next Executive Director will be a leader who combines strategic vision with operational discipline, someone who can continue to build institutional infrastructure from the ground up while maintaining the credibility to drive change across a 22- campus system. The successful Executive Director will bring deep professional grounding in AANHPI student success, a track record of working across complex governance environments, and the relational range to engage authentically at every level, from students and campus staff to university presidents and state legislators. The qualifications below define what that preparation looks like in practice.

Education & Experience

- Earned doctorate, or an equivalent combination of education and progressively responsible senior leadership experience in higher education.
- Five or more years of progressively responsible experience leading departments, programs, or offices in higher education with a focus on student services, student success, educational equity, or related areas, including fiscal responsibility for budget management and resource allocation.
- Three or more years of experience managing professional personnel, including hiring, coaching, evaluating, and developing employees.
- Demonstrated experience advancing student success and educational equity for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) students and/or other historically underserved student populations.
- Experience administering grants, sub-grants, or other publicly or externally funded programs, including responsibility for compliance, reporting, assessment, and stewardship of funds.
- Experience building and sustaining partnerships across complex, multi-stakeholder environments involving university leadership, system offices, academic institutions, government or community partners, and/or other external organizations.
- Experience developing, leading, or institutionalizing programs, offices, or organizational structures from strategy through implementation and continuous improvement.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Demonstrated knowledge of the cultural, historical, socioeconomic, and educational diversity within AANHPI communities and of systemic and institutional barriers that affect student access, belonging, retention, achievement, and degree attainment.
- Demonstrated ability to lead a diverse team and collaborate across a large, complex organization to plan, administer, assess, and continuously improve student achievement initiatives.
- Ability to engage senior leaders and strategic partners, build trust across constituencies with differing needs, and advance shared priorities in a complex governance environment.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the financial, human, administrative, and educational resources required to operate effective systemwide student success programming.
- Ability to work effectively with the CSU Chancellor's Office, Sacramento State leadership, auditors, campus partners, and other stakeholders on complex, high-visibility, or sensitive matters.
- Demonstrated skills in program evaluation, assessment, data-informed decision-making, and short- and long-range strategic planning, including the use of disaggregated data to assess outcomes and equity gaps.

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- Strong organizational and execution skills, including the ability to work independently, prioritize a complex portfolio, establish deadlines, and consistently deliver results.
- Demonstrated emotional intelligence, sound judgment, and political acumen.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including the ability to prepare and deliver reports, presentations, and strategic communications for senior and external audiences.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience working within or alongside the California State University system, including familiarity with CSU governance structures, systemwide policy processes, and the CSU student success framework.
- Experience administering multi-campus or systemwide programs, including building cross-institutional networks, communities of practice, professional learning, or peer-learning structures.
- Experience working with or navigating a Chancellor's Office or other system-level higher education governance body.
- Experience engaging state legislators, government agencies, advocacy organizations, community partners, or philanthropic partners to advance student success, policy, or funding priorities.
- Experience managing represented employees in a collective bargaining environment.



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Sacramento, CA



California's capital city and the center of one of the nation's most dynamic and rapidly growing metropolitan regions, Sacramento offers a distinctive blend of innovation, civic leadership, cultural diversity, and access to the outdoors. Known as the "City of Trees," Sacramento is located at the confluence of the Sacramento and American Rivers and serves as the political heart of the world's fifth-largest economy. The city is home to more than half a million residents, while the broader Sacramento region encompasses nearly 2.7 million people across Northern California.

Rich in history, Sacramento played a pivotal role in California's Gold Rush era and has evolved into a thriving modern capital city. Historic Old Sacramento, the State Capitol, and the city's many museums and cultural institutions reflect a deep connection to the past, while a growing innovation economy, expanding healthcare sector, and vibrant entrepreneurial community position the region for the future. Sacramento is also a destination for professional sports, arts, entertainment, and year-round community events.

The region is widely recognized as America's Farm-to-Fork Capital, reflecting its location at the center of one of the most productive agricultural areas in the world. Surrounded by fertile farmland, vineyards, orchards, and ranches, Sacramento enjoys unparalleled access to fresh food and locally sourced ingredients. This agricultural heritage fuels a nationally recognized culinary scene, dozens of farmers markets, and signature events such as the annual Farm-to-Fork Festival.

Residents enjoy a Mediterranean climate characterized by warm, dry summers and mild winters, along with easy access to a remarkable range of recreational opportunities. Lake Tahoe, Napa Valley, the Sierra Nevada mountains, the San Francisco Bay Area, and California's Pacific coastline are all within a short drive. Extensive bike trails, riverfront parks, and outdoor recreation areas contribute to the region's exceptional quality of life and make Sacramento an attractive place to live, work, and learn.

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Procedure for Candidacy

WittKieffer is assisting the California State University Chancellor's Office and California State University, Sacramento in this search. All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited.

Applications should include, as two separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile. Professional references are not requested at this time.

Review of materials has begun and will continue until an appointment has been made. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be submitted as soon as possible and no later than January 25, 2027.

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's candidate portal.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Jen Meyers Pickard, Ph.D., Alejandra Gillette-Teran, and Jenna Brumleve

ASAPExecDirector@wittkieffer.com

The target salary for this position is up to $200,000 annually, commensurate with education and experience.

Benefits Information:

California State University provides comprehensive benefits packages that include an array of health plans, vision coverage, retirement plan through CalPERS, and more. **Best-in-class Benefits**: Click here to learn more

California State University *values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity for all persons regardless of age, color, disability, ethnicity, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other status protected by law.*

California State University, Sacramento*, is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity in all areas. We consider qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, genetic information, medical condition, marital status, veteran status, or disability. Sacramento State hires only those individuals who are lawfully authorized to accept employment in the United States.*

Candidate selected will be required to provide proof of eligibility to work in the U.S.

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act and Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know Act Notification. For additional information, visit: https://www.csus.edu/campus-safety/policedepartment/

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