



MANU RAJU

MANU RAJU IS A SENIOR CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT AT CNN, covering Capitol Hill and campaign politics. Raju is a veteran reporter in Washington, having previously served as a top Capitol Hill correspondent at *Politico* for seven years. Prior to his time at *Politico*, Raju reported for *The Hill* newspaper, *Congressional Quarterly* and *Inside Washington Publishers*. He has long been a frequent guest on political talk shows on TV and radio.

Raju spends most of his time in the halls of the Capitol, where he interviews lawmakers about the major issues of the day. He has interviewed major political figures on national television, including House Speaker Paul Ryan, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and Senator John McCain.

Raju has won multiple journalism awards for his reporting on the major battles consuming Washington and his coverage of campaign politics. In 2012, Raju was part

of a team of four reporters who won the White House Correspondents Association's prestigious Merriman Smith Award for Presidential Reporting Under Deadline Pressure for their coverage of the debt ceiling crisis.

Raju has developed a reputation as a reporter who can find out what politicians are privately discussing out of the public's view. He is well known for his sharp questioning of politicians, a skill he showcased in 2014 when he moderated debates in two of the biggest races in the country — for a key Senate seat in Colorado and as well as the hotly contested Colorado governor's race.

Raju got his start in media working at the student newspaper, *The Badger Herald*, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, his alma mater. His writing roots extend to his late grandfather, Gopalakrishna Adiga, a legendary poet from South India who wrote in the language of Kannada.

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FEBRUARY 8-11, 2026 | MARRIOTT MARQUIS | WASHINGTON, D.C.
FEATURED SPEAKER: **Manu Raju**

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Community College

2026

FEBRUARY 8-11

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT

AT THE
Marriott Marquis
WASHINGTON, DC

The premier community college advocacy event in Washington, D.C., bringing together more than 1,000 community college leaders.

The event shines a spotlight on the importance of our nation’s community colleges for Congress and the Administration. National Legislative Summit participants will hear from members of U.S. Congress, administration officials, leading political analysts, and other high profile speakers about the current climate in D.C., what to expect in year two of the Trump Administration, and legislative issues impacting community colleges.

Not only does 2026 bring us year two of the second Trump Administration, it also brings midterm elections into play with control of both the House and Senate up for grabs. The year will be marked by lawmakers shifting gears into campaign mode, and policy decisions will be greatly influenced by political calculations. It will be a critical year to strengthen relationships on both sides of the aisle to maintain strong support for our institutions regardless of who’s in charge.

Register online at **nls.acct.org**

SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS

- Learn about the broad array of issues confronting community colleges.
- Advocate on behalf of your college’s and your students’ interests.
- Hear directly from members of Congress, leading journalists, and analysts.
- Meet with members of Congress and their staffs to build and deepen relationships.
- Find out how to maintain these relationships year-round.
- Introduce students to federal policy and teach them the importance of civic engagement.
- Network and share knowledge with other college leaders from throughout the country.

We look forward to seeing you at the Marriott Marquis in 2026.

The 2026 Community College National Legislative Summit will be held at the Washington Marriott Marquis from Sunday, February 8 to Wednesday, February 11. Located in Washington, D.C.’s Penn Quarter, the Marquis is just steps away from museums, theaters, restaurants, and art galleries. The Marquis is situated less than a mile from the White House and 1.5 miles from the U.S. Capitol.

SUMMIT AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8	MONDAY FEBRUARY 9	TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10	WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 11
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Registration	7:00 AM – 2:30 PM Registration	7:00 AM – 2:30 PM Registration	8:30 AM – 10:30 AM General Session Breakfast*
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM New Trustee Academy**	8:00 AM – 9:45 AM Opening General Sessions	7:30 AM – 8:30 AM State Breakfast Meetings	Morning and Afternoon Visits to House, Senate, and Executive Branch Offices
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM Advocacy Leadership Academy**	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Roundtable Seminar for Community College Lawyers	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM General Session (tentative)	
	10:00 AM – 11:30 AM Community College Priorities Session	Morning Visits to House, Senate, and Executive Branch Offices	
	12:30 PM – 2:00 PM General Session Luncheon*	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Taste of D.C. (lunch on your own)	
	2:15 PM – 3:15 PM Policy & Concurrent Sessions	Afternoon Visits to House, Senate, and Executive Branch Offices	
	2:15 PM – 4:30 PM Student Focused Sessions	3:30 PM – 5:00 PM Community College Congressional Forum on Capitol Hill (tentative)	
	3:30 PM – 4:45 PM Policy & Concurrent Sessions	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Capital Awards and Entertainment Banquet*	
	5:30 PM – 6:30 PM National Capital Reception		

ALL MEETINGS TAKE PLACE AT THE MARRIOTT MARQUIS HOTEL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
MEETING TIMES AND SESSIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
*TICKETS OR PACKAGE REQUIRED // **ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

ACCOMMODATIONS

**Plus 14.5% occupancy tax (subject to change).*

HOTEL DEADLINE	ROOM RATES
January 15, 2026	Standard Rate: \$333

REGISTRATION – MEMBER PRICING* EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE DECEMBER 19, 2025

PACKAGES	EARLY BIRD	AFTER DEC. 19	STUDENT
	Registration package \$800	Registration package \$950	Registration package \$510
FEE ONLY	EARLY BIRD	AFTER DEC. 19	STUDENT
	Registration fee only \$575	Registration fee only \$725	Registration fee only \$290

PACKAGES INCLUDE TICKETS FOR THE MONDAY LUNCHEON, TUESDAY DINNER, AND WEDNESDAY CLOSING BREAKFAST.
* IF YOUR COLLEGE BOARD OR ORGANIZATION IS NOT A MEMBER OF ACCT OR AACC, PLEASE ADD \$200 TO REGISTRATION TOTAL.

ADDITIONAL TICKETS

PRE-SUMMIT ACTIVITY
Advocacy Leadership Academy (Sunday): \$175
This academy is designed to enhance trustees’, presidents’, and other community college leaders’ advocacy skills and knowledge of federal higher education policy. Registration includes lunch.
PRE-SUMMIT ACTIVITY
New Trustee Academy (Sunday): \$175
This all-day intensive workshop is designed to orient new trustees, their presidents, and professional board staff members. This is a unique opportunity to gain insight on the roles and responsibilities of being an effective trustee at your college. Registration includes lunch.
General Session Luncheon (Monday): \$70
Awards Dinner & Entertainment (Tuesday): \$105
Closing Breakfast (Wednesday): \$50

A REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL TICKETS FOR ATTENDEES AND GUESTS.