PART ONE: Solicitation of Interest

The purpose is to determine which districts are interested in participating in a competitive application process (i.e. RFA 15-048) for an 18 month grant award of $750,000 to serve as the fiscal agent for the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program Implementation Support Grant. The grant will be approved by the Board of Governors at a later date. Certifications of Intent are due by 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 16, 2015. The form may be mailed or emailed. Postmarks will not be accepted. If the Chancellor’s Office does not receive more than one qualified applicant under Part One of this RFA, it reserves the right to award the grant to a single qualified applicant.
PART TWO: Actual RFA Process

The Chancellor’s Office will conduct a standard competitive process for the award of the above-noted grant. The participants in this process will be limited to the community college districts that responded in the requested manner to Part One.

Project Duration

The grant which will be awarded upon completion of the RFA process is for the term of 18 months (January 30, 2016 through July 30, 2017).

The grant recipient will be required to complete quarterly progress reports and a final report at the end of the grant term.

Purposes/Use of the Funds

The Chancellor's Office is requesting applications from community college districts to act as the fiscal agent for the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program Implementation Support Grant. The fiscal agent will work closely with the Chancellor's Office to provide professional development trainings and workshops to the 15 Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program Colleges.

Project Background

On September 28, 2014, California Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 850 (Block) authorizing the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with the representatives of the California State University and University of California, to establish a statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program at no more than 15 California Community Colleges.

At the March and May 2015 board meetings, the Board of Governors gave final approval for 15 colleges to participate in the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program (12 colleges were approved at the March meeting and three additional colleges were approved at the May meeting).

SB 850 Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program

Senate Bill 850, Block, authorizes the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, in consultation with the representatives of the California State University and the University of California, to establish a statewide baccalaureate degree pilot program at no more than 15 California Community Colleges.

Senate Bill 850 (Block) can be found at the following link:
http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB850

SB 81 Postsecondary Education Budget

On June 24, 2015, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill 81 which states in Sec. 39 (a):
The sum of six million dollars ($6,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges for allocation to community college districts to support the implementation of the baccalaureate degree pilot program established pursuant to Chapter 747 of the Statutes of 2014. These funds may be used to support professional development activities.

Senate Bill 81 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) can be found at the following link: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB81

Need

The grantee will need to have the ability and capacity to provide a system-wide approach to supporting the 15 pilot colleges with professional development opportunities to help successfully implement the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program.

Objectives

The grant recipient will be the fiscal agent and will be required to align objectives and outcomes to provide system-wide support to the 15 pilot colleges to implement the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program. Please describe how you will address each of the following objectives.

Objectives of the implementation support grant:

a. Collaborate with the Chancellor’s Office throughout the duration of the grant period to provide professional development to the 15 pilot colleges.

b. Assist the Chancellor's Office with the selection of an evaluator who will assess the success of the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program.

c. Collaborate with the Chancellor’s Office to fund a research project regarding matters that impact the implementation of the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program.

d. Collaborate with the Chancellor’s Office to host trainings/workshops and meetings/summits on new developments that will assist with implementing the 15 pilot programs.

A complete list of specifications for this RFA will be detailed in the grant application packet. Please fill out the Certification of Intent to Participate form on the next page and return it to the Chancellor’s Office by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 16, 2015. The form may be mailed or emailed. Postmarks will not be accepted. A confirmation email will be sent once the form is received by the Chancellor’s Office.

These forms are also available at: http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/AcademicAffairs/CurriculumandInstructionUnit/Curriculum/BaccalaureateDegreePilotProgram.aspx
Certification of Intent to Participate in a Competitive Application Process for the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program Implementation Support Grant

I hereby certify that the _____________________________ Community College District, intends to be an applicant in the competitive application process (i.e. Request for Application, “RFA”) to select a fiscal agent for the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program Implementation Support Grant.

Information relevant to fiscal agent responsibilities is detailed on the proceeding pages.

I understand that the RFA will be limited to the districts that certify this form with the required signatures and return it to the Chancellor’s Office by Friday, October 16, 2015. I also understand that if only one qualified district submits the certification, that entity may be awarded the grant without any further competitive process.

The following district staff members must sign this form:

___________________________________  ________________
District Chancellor/President          Date

___________________________________  ________________
District Chief Business Officer       Date

District Contact:

___________________________________
Name

___________________________________
Title

___________________________________
Email Address

___________________________________
Phone Number

Return this form by email or mail to:

Njeri Griffin, Project Monitor
Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program
California Community Colleges
Chancellor’s Office
1102 Q Street, Suite 4550
Sacramento, CA 95811

OR

Email: BDP-RFA15-048@cccco.edu

This form must be received by the Chancellor’s Office no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 16, 2015.