STATE OF CALIFORNIA   **BRICE W. HARRIS, CHANCELLOR**

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DATE:	January 21, 2016	AA 16-03
		VIA E-MAIL
TO:	Chief Executive Officers	
	Chief Instructional Officers	
	Chief Student Services Officers	
	Chief Business Officers	
	Academic Senate Presidents	
FROM:	Pamela D. Walker, Ed.D.	
	Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs	
SUBJECT:	**Request for Application (RFA) for New Grant Awards in the California Community Colleges Basic Skill and Student Outcomes Transformation Program**	

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) in response to the issue of student success in basic skills instruction is pleased to announce the creation of the *Community Colleges Basic Skills and Student Outcomes Transformation Program*. In 2015-16, the program provides $60,000,000 in Proposition 98 funds to improve the progression rate of basic skills students from remedial education to college level instruction. Attached is a Request for Application (RFA) to fund grants using innovative evidence based practices and principles.

The purpose of these grants is to enable colleges receiving an award to implement or expand innovations and redesign in the areas of assessment, student services, and instruction.

Fundamental to this grant program is the legal requirement that proposals be evidence-based. Therefore, applicants must select from the following principles and practices. Applicants may select *other* principles and practices so long as the application provides evidence that substantiates the claim of effectiveness. The principles and practices are:

(1) Adopt placement tests or other student assessment indicators and related policies that may include multiple measures of student performance, including grades in high school courses, especially overall grade point average, results from the common assessment system, and input from counselors.

> ** Note that any placement tests and multiple measures used must comply with Education Code Section 78213; title 5, sections 51024-55534 governing assessment under the Student Success and Support Program; and the Standards, Policies, and Procedures for the Evaluation of Assessment Instruments Used in California Community Colleges. Any multiple measures employed should be appropriately validated to ensure benefits for students in accordance with title 5, sections 55512 and 55522.*

(2) Increase the placement of students directly in gateway English and mathematics courses that are transferable to the University of California or the California State University and career pathways, with remedial instruction integrated as appropriate for underprepared students.

(3) Align content in remedial courses with the students' programs of academic or vocational study to target students' actual needs and increase relevance. This method is intended to encourage the development of remedial instruction focused on a student's identified academic need informed by the student's intended course of study.

(4) Contextualize remedial instruction in foundational skills for the industry cluster, pathways, or both, in which students seeks to advance.

(5) Provide proactive student support services that are integrated with the instruction.

> *Note: Any services proposed and provided under the Basic Skills and Student Outcomes Transformation Program should be coordinated with and not duplicative of other services and programs, including Student Equity, the Student Success and Support Program, CAFYES, CalWORKS, EOPS/CARE, DSPS, and other student services-related programs.*

(6) Develop two- and three-course sequences, as appropriate, for completion of a college-level English or mathematics course, or both, for underprepared students, by utilizing technology, where appropriate, to enhance the adoption of the high impact practices specified in methods (1) to (5), inclusive.

(7) Implement other effective basic skills course strategies and practices not specified in methods (1) to (5), inclusive; subject to the college providing evidence that substantiates the practice is effective.

The Chancellor's Office encourages innovation within these categories, and also the implementation of promising, evidence-based interventions not yet introduced in California.

These grant funds can be expended on a wide variety of activities including but not limited to the following: instructional redesign, program alignment with other higher education and secondary education partners, student support in instructional activities, faculty release time, professional development, summer stipends, acquisition of equipment and technology, and travel costs.

Deadline for the Application:	**Friday, March 25, 2016, at 5:00 PM**
Last day to submit clarifying questions	**Friday, February 19, 2016 at 5:00 PM**

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office will announce the selected grant projects on March 29, 2016.

To assist colleges with selecting the strategies for inclusion in their funding applications, the Chancellor's Office's Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative is sponsoring four (4) regional workshops in February and early March. Each workshop will feature practitioners and other experts who will provide information on the evidence-based principles and practices and be available to answer questions. (Attendance at the Application Technical Assistance Conferences is voluntary and will not be considered during scoring of applications.)

The goal is for attendees to leave these highly interactive workshops with a set of high-impact strategies to incorporate in their college's funding application. (Once grants are awarded, the Chancellor's Office intends to provide additional trainings and support to colleges on *implementing* their plans.)

Who Should Attend?
Each campus is highly encouraged to send a *team* of representatives, which could include the following: CEO, CIO, CSSO, CBO, faculty representatives (from instruction and counseling), classified staff representative, CTE dean, institutional researcher, and coordinators from basic skills, SSSP, and student equity.

Workshop Details

All workshops will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration is required through Eventbrite. There is a $50 per-person registration fee for attending. (Registration includes lunch as well as morning and afternoon refreshments.) Participants are responsible for parking and travel costs.

Thursday, February 11

Clovis Community College (Herndon Campus)
Registration link: https://iepiworkshopnocal.eventbrite.com

Tuesday, February 16

Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa
Registration link: https://iepiworkshopsocal.eventbrite.com

Monday, February 22

Hilton Oakland Airport
Registration link: https://iepiworkshopoakland.eventbrite.com

In addition, there will be a fourth workshop in the Inland Empire area on either March 1 or March 2 (exact location and date TBA).
Registration Link: https://iepiworkshopinland.eventbrite.com

Please contact Eric Nelson by telephone at 916-327-2987 or by email at enelson@cccco.edu should you have any questions regarding the RFA.

cc: Brice W. Harris, Chancellor
        Erik Skinner, Deputy Chancellor