





# The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: March 4, 2013

SUBJECT: Impact and Lessons Learned: Economic and Workforce Development Grant Program		Item Number: 3.1	
		Attachment: No	
CATEGORY:	Workforce and Economic Development	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	 Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice Chancellor	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	 Brice W. Harris, Chancellor	Action	
		Information	X

**ISSUE:** This item seeks to inform the Board of Governors on the impact of the Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) program prior to its re-authorization in 2013 under Senate Bill 1402 (Lieu). This topic is an informational item and responds to Member Ramos’ request to hear the results of and lessons learned from past grants.

**RECOMMENDATION:** This item is presented to the Board for information and discussion.

**BACKGROUND:** The EWD Program was codified in statute in 1991. By this action, the Legislature formalized earlier efforts, dating from 1986, to coordinate statewide technical training and programs for small business and economic development (*Ed. Code, §88500 et seq.*).

In 1996, economic development became part of the statutory mission of the California Community Colleges (*Ed. Code, §66010.4(a)(3)*). It was the intent of the Legislature that the program’s capacity and mission be maximized to provide critical support for continuous workforce improvement and economic development in a manner that is adaptive and responsive to the changing needs of regional economies.

In 2012, the Legislature passed and the governor signed Senate Bill 1402 (Lieu) (Stats. 2012, Ch. 361) (*Ed Code §§88600, et seq.*), which expressed the Legislature’s intent to recast and revise the EWD program, reauthorizing the program for the period beginning January 1, 2013, through to January 1, 2018.

EWD funds are issued through a competitive grant process. Some grants support a rapid response

to industry needs whereas others build longer-term capacity in the field to work with employers.

In fiscal year 2012-13, the EWD program received funding in the amount of \$22.9 million, roughly half of pre-recession levels.

**ANALYSIS:** The EWD program helps students, incumbent workers, business partners, and industry develop skilled competencies in critical industry sectors. EWD programs also grow local jobs by improving local business competitiveness. The strength of the program stems from the continued support of industries and organizations that see the value in economic and workforce development

For 2011-12 the impact of the EWD funding included:

- 929 people received jobs
- 9,475 jobs retained
- 2,388 businesses served
- 7,409 industry certifications
- 710 internships
- 77 apprenticeships