



The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
 DATE: September 9-10, 2013

SUBJECT: Adult Education Transition Grant		Item Number: 5.1	
		Attachment: No	
CATEGORY:	Adult Education	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 presents information on the planning and implementation grants to regional consortia of community college districts and K-12 school districts for the purpose of developing regional plans to serve the educational needs of California’s adults.

BACKGROUND: A team of California Community College Chancellor’s Office and California Department of Education representatives are tasked with implementing an operational structure that will result in regional consortia developing plans to better serve the educational needs of California’s adults.

RECOMMENDEATION: This item is presented for information and discussion.

ANALYSIS: As outlined in Assembly Bill 86, there is \$25 million to provide two-year planning and implementation grants to regional consortia of community college districts and school districts for the purpose of developing these regional plans. The purpose of the adult education consortia planning is to better align community college districts and school districts within their region to provide adult education in the following areas:

- Elementary and secondary basic skills, including classes required for a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate;
- Classes and courses for immigrants eligible for education services in citizenship and English as a second language and workforce preparation classes in basic skills;
- Education programs for adults with disabilities;
- Short-term career technical education programs with high employment potential; and
- programs for apprentices.

Regional consortia must consist of a community college district and a K-12 school district. Other adult education providers such as community based organizations, libraries, and correctional facilities may be included in the consortia. The local consortium will determine the fiscal agent.

The regional consortia plan must include:

- Evaluation of levels, types, and needs of adult education programs within the region and a plan to address the gaps;
- Plans to integrate programs to create seamless transitions for students into postsecondary education or the workforce;
- Plans to employ approaches that accelerate a student's progress toward an academic or career goal. Examples include contextualized basic skills, career technical education, joint programming strategies, and modularized curriculum;
- Plans to collaborate with partners on provision of ongoing professional development for faculty and other staff; and
- Plans to leverage existing regional structures, including local workforce investment areas.

By March 1, 2014 the Chancellor's Office and the California Department of Education will submit a joint report to the California Legislature and Governor Brown. The report will include the status of developing the adult education regional consortia across the state including the identification of unserved geographic areas or emerging gaps in program delivery and the status and allocation of grant awards. By March 1, 2015, the Chancellor's Office and the California Department of Education will submit a joint report that includes the plans developed by the adult education regional consortia and recommendation for additional improvements in the delivery system.

As this is a new initiative that will affect all of the community colleges and school districts that have adult education programs, effective and transparent communication about the process and involvement of key stakeholders is essential to ensure a successful program.

The Chancellor's Office and the California Department of Education met to develop an operational structure that will guide the planning process. The development and implementation will be led by

a cabinet made up of representatives from the Chancellor's Office and the California Department of Education which will advise a workgroup made up staff and field representatives from each organization and a national policy expert. The workgroup will establish a Stakeholders Sounding Board that is made up of adult education advocates, field representatives, associations, and other constituents. The Stakeholders Sounding Board will provide structured feedback to the planning group. Additionally, the workgroup will identify panels of experts that may include the legislative analyst, adult education researchers, professional development providers, national experts, and other experts who will provide guidance to the workgroup.

The workgroup will provide up-to-date information on adult education regional planning in a variety of ways including:

- Establishing a website dedicated to the adult education planning process that will be the central information point regarding the initiative with postings of:
 - frequently asked questions
 - related documents
 - meeting agendas and meeting minutes from workgroup or cabinet as necessary
 - timeline for program implementation on website and with regular updates
- Regional town hall meetings
- Informational webinars
- Field surveys
- eNewsletters/listservs

The workgroup will ultimately release a request for proposal that will be developed based on information gathered throughout the planning process. The request for proposal will require a response from the field that includes consortia work plans and identification of fiscal agents. Funds will be distributed to the regional consortia based upon the response.

The implementation of the collaborative and transparent operational structure and communication plan is critical to achieving the goal of developing an integrated system of regional consortia to improve California's adult education system set out by Assembly Bill 86.