



The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
DATE: March 3-4, 2014

SUBJECT: Foundation for California Community Colleges Fiscal Sponsorships: Partnering for Success		Item Number: 3.2	
		Attachment: No	
CATEGORY:	Foundation for California Community Colleges	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	<i>Keetha Mills</i> Keetha Mills, President/CEO	Consent/Routine	
		First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	<i>Brice W. Harris</i> Brice W. Harris, Chancellor	Action	
		Information	X

ISSUE: This item will provide an overview of the Foundation’s fiscal sponsorship services and introduce several critical new fiscal sponsorship partners and their work—including the California College Guidance Initiative’s (CCGI) 2014 launch of California’s new and improved college planning portal, CaliforniaColleges.edu.

BACKGROUND: Since 2000, the Foundation has provided cost effective fiscal sponsorship services to government, education, and community-based programs, seeking programs that are aligned with our mission. The Foundation’s services allow partners to focus on program deliverables rather than back-office infrastructure support.

Traditionally, fiscal sponsorship involves an arrangement under which a group partners with an existing 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization with a compatible mission in order to solicit tax-deductible contributions or grants, for which the project would not be eligible to receive on its own. Fiscal sponsorship serves as an alternative for groups that do not want to invest in the time and resources necessary to ensure compliance with the extensive filing requirements, tax law, and other legal obligations associated with incorporation and tax exemption.

The Foundation’s services include fiscal, human resources, general administration, information technology, and marketing and communications, which can be customized to meet the needs of individual fiscal sponsor partners, providing the benefit of access to a cost effective solution for a robust infrastructure. Key partners are helping to further the Foundation’s student success and technology initiatives, which help to implement the System’s Student Success Recommendations, in close partnership with the California Community Colleges’ Chancellor’s Office.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information and discussion.

ANALYSIS:

About Fiscal Sponsorship Services

As a fiscal sponsor with official ties to the California Community College system, the Foundation provides a home and acts as a hub for a key group of organizations with alignment in mission. The Foundation provides customizable, hands-on guidance, support, and technical assistance to help fiscal sponsored partners navigate the development, submission, implementation and maintenance of programs that align with the Foundation's mission to "benefit, support, and enhance the California Community Colleges."

Since bringing on the first fiscal sponsored partner in 2000, the Foundation has worked to cultivate and strengthen its infrastructure support services, and has provided a variety of fiscal sponsorship services to 32 projects since inception, including 17 projects in 2013. A few of our key partnerships – which have expanded to include management service agreements with separately incorporated groups - include the Career Ladders Project, Umoja, Education Results Partnership (Cal-PASS Plus), and the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI).

Featured Program

CCGI joined the Foundation, in partnership with the Chancellor's Office, in 2013, and is a key partner in the Foundation's support of Student Success technology implementation efforts. CCGI works to ensure that all 6th-12th grade students in California have access to a systematic baseline of guidance and support as they plan, prepare, and figure out how to pay for college.

There are three key problems that CCGI works to address:

- 1) Students and families lack information about whether or not the coursework they are taking in high school meets the minimum eligibility requirements for a four year college or university, and lack tools to help them develop a post-secondary plan of action.
- 2) Counselors have no systematic way of tracking college preparation for their students and manage significant average caseloads of 945:1
- 3) Community College academic placement processes depend upon high stakes placement examinations. While there is agreement that high school transcripts should be used as part of that placement process, there is currently no systematic way that community colleges access K-12 transcript data for incoming students

CCGI works to address these issues by:

- Creating web and mobile applications that support the college planning process
- Partnering with K-12 districts, as well as community-based college access programs, to support adoption and utilization of those tools by students, families and counselors
- Collaborating with higher education partners both locally and at the systemwide offices, so that data in their system can help students to make a smoother transition from high school to college. CCGI partners with the California Community Colleges, California State University and the University of California

In 2014, CCGI has announced the launch of their newly re-engineered website www.CaliforniaColleges.edu to provide more seamless resources for college and career planning targeting 6th-12th grade students. This one-stop college and career planning tool includes:

- Information on public and independent higher education options both in California and nationwide
- Individualized student profiles that allow students to track their academic and college planning progress, store verified academic transcript data, and save all the documentation they need to complete the college application process
- Free SAT/ACT test prep
- Interactive tools to help students identify career interests, related degrees/majors, and the schools that offer those programs
- Access to a back-end case-management system for counselors that allows them to track student progress for both individual students and their total student caseload

CCGI currently works with El Monte Union High School District, Hacienda La Puente Unified, Pomona Unified, and Desert Sands Unified. Expansion plans for 2014-2015 are currently being finalized, to include Santa Ana Unified, Fresno Unified, and Sacramento City Unified as well as their partner community colleges. Data from CCGI's system is slated for use at Rio Hondo College for first year mathematics placement of entering first year students from El Monte Union High School District during their summer 2014 enrollment period.

Growing a Network of Support

The Foundation is very proud of the important work conducted by all of our fiscal sponsor partners. Looking forward, the Foundation continues to seek to grow a family of mission-aligned fiscally sponsored programs to support students, colleges, and the California Community College system.