

**CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE**

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October 4, 2016

**TO:** Chief Executive Officers  
Chief Business Officers  
Chief Instructional Officers  
Chief Student Services Officers

**FROM:** Debra Connick  
Vice Chancellor, Technology, Research and Information Systems

Pamela D. Walker, Ed.D.  
Vice Chancellor, Educational Services

**SUBJECT: UPDATE OF ASSESSMENTS**

The Chancellor's Office Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) has been working diligently to develop CCCAssess, the system's common assessment tool. CAI had aimed for a fall 2016 limited pilot college implementation with a staggered rollout schedule for the remaining colleges. This limited release plan was adjusted when we were informed that ACT would sunset Compass November 30, 2016. The 30-plus colleges using Compass were then scheduled to adopt CCCAssess in fall 2016.

Despite all efforts, the CAI was not able to implement the fall 2016 rollout. The additional efforts needed to prepare CCCAssess for deployment are of the highest priority for the Chancellor's Office, the CAI project team, and other partners involved in the project. We are confident that CCCAssess will fulfill the need of a system-wide superior assessment for our students. The Chancellor's Office is working with CAI to develop a new timeline. More information will be forthcoming.

With the sunset of Compass and the availability of CCCAssess delayed, the Chancellor's Office explored extending the use of Compass for the colleges; however, this was not a viable option. Colleges currently using Compass to place students must transition to a new assessment process.

To support the efforts of Compass colleges required to make these changes, the Chancellor's Office will be offering technical assistance, which will be provided through a webinar, regional workshops, and/or the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) mini-Partnership Resource Team process. The IEPI mini-PRT technical assistance seed grant stipulates up to \$75,000 may be available for eligible colleges.

The following options are available to colleges:

1. **Adopt a Chancellor's Office Approved Assessment Test** – Colleges may adopt a second-party publisher test or a locally managed assessment test currently in use by another college. Colleges may contact other institutions to inquire about their locally developed assessment process, including cut scores, to facilitate implementation of the alternative test. A current list of [approved tests](#) is located on the Chancellor's Office website, under the Student Services Division, Assessment webpage. The Chancellor's Office required approval of assessment test instruments is currently suspended until spring 2017. In light of the delay in implementation of CCCAssess, this suspension of required approval has been extended until the roll-out of CCCAssess.
2. **Engage in Assessment Agreements between Colleges** – Colleges may collaborate with their sister colleges to accept their assessment results. Colleges may also wish to enter into agreements to offer assessment services to incoming students on behalf of other institutions.
3. **Use of more than one measure** –
  - a. **Multiple Measures Assessment Project (MMAP)** – The Multiple Measures Assessment Project (MMAP) is a collaborative effort led by the RP Group and Educational Results Partnerships' Cal-PASS Plus system, with support from the Chancellor's Office. Sixty colleges currently participate in this pilot project under the CAI. More information can be found at the [MMAP website](#).
  - b. **Other Multiple Measures** – Guided self-placement or other measures consistent with title 5, section 55502(i) "...include, but are not limited to , interviews, holistic scoring processes, attitude surveys, vocational or career aptitude and interest inventories, high school or college transcripts, specialized certificates or licenses, education and employment histories, and military training and experience."
  - c. **Early Assessment Program (EAP) Results** – In a [memo](#) issued in July 2015, the Chancellor's Office notified the colleges that they may use EAP results to assess and place students. Many community colleges already accept EAP test results as a waiver for their adopted assessment for the placement of students into courses. The Chancellor's Office maintains [a list of colleges that use EAP](#). If your college is considering allowing EAP test results, you may contact Chris Graillat, SSSP Specialist at [cgraillat@cccco.edu](mailto:cgraillat@cccco.edu), to obtain the necessary administrative forms. The Chancellor's Office recommends consulting with local colleges that are using EAP scores to ensure appropriate placement of students.
  - d. **Results from SAT and ACT Tests** – The July 2015 memo also indicated that colleges may use SAT and ACT results to assist in the assessment and placement of students. These tests are not required to be approved by the Chancellor's Office.

For additional guidance on the use of multiple measures in assessment and placement, please refer to [recent memos](#) from the Chancellor's Office. Information also is available at <http://cccassess.org/>. To request information on a mini-PRT or a mini-PRT visit please contact IEPI Project Director – Matthew Lee ([matthew@mcleconsulting.com](mailto:matthew@mcleconsulting.com)), for general assessment issues contact Chris Graillat at [cgraillat@cccco.edu](mailto:cgraillat@cccco.edu) and for CAI questions contact Jennifer Coleman [jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org](mailto:jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org). questions.

## WEBINAR INFORMATION

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

The Chancellor's Office will conduct a webinar on October 11, 2016, to highlight current use of options available to the colleges. The CCC Confer participant information is as follows:

Meeting Title: CCCCCO Assessment Updates

Meeting Type: Webinars

Meeting Link: <https://www.cccconfer.org/GoToMeeting?SeriesID=9c2b0af3-7682-48cf-96fe-e505e2db3abb>

Meeting Passcode: 277859

Start Time 10/11/2016 10:00 am

End Time 10/12/2016 12:00 pm

How to Connect with Your Mobile Device:

Dial your telephone conference line: 1-913-312-3202\*/\*Toll free number available: 1-888-886-3951

Participant Passcode: 277859

Participant Conference Feature

\*6 - Mute/unmute your line

FOR ASSISTANCE

CCC Confer Client Services - Monday - Friday between 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Phone: 1-760-744-1150 ext 1537 or 1554

Email: [clientservices@cccconfer.org](mailto:clientservices@cccconfer.org)

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING ASSESSMENT

### California Education Code section 78213:

No district or college may use any assessment instrument for the purposes of this article without the authorization of the board of governors.

### California Education Code section 78213.d:

For purposes of this section, "assessment" means the process of gathering information about a student regarding the student's study skills, English language proficiency, computational skills, aptitudes, goals, learning skills, career aspirations, academic performance, and need for special services. Assessment methods may include, but not necessarily be limited to, interviews, standardized tests, attitude surveys, vocational or career aptitude and interest inventories, high school or postsecondary transcripts, specialized certificates or licenses, educational histories, and other measures of performance.

### California Code of Regulations, title 5, Division 6, Chapter 6, Subchapter 6, Article 3, section 55502(i):

(i) "Multiple measures" are a required component of a district's assessment system and refer to the use of more than one assessment measure in order to assess the student. Other measures that may comprise multiple measures include, but are not limited to, interviews, holistic scoring processes, attitude surveys, vocational or career aptitude and interest inventories, high school or college transcripts, specialized certificates or licenses, education and employment histories, and military training and experience.

### California Code of Regulations, title 5, Division 6, Chapter 6, Subchapter 6, Article 3, section 55522(a):

(a) The Chancellor shall establish and update, at least annually, a list of approved assessment tests for use in placing students in English, mathematics, or English as a Second Language (ESL) courses and guidelines for their use by community college districts. When using an English, mathematics, or ESL assessment test for placement, it must be used with one or more other measures to comprise multiple measures.