



California
Community
Colleges

Online Community
College District

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California Community Colleges Launches Innovation Challenge to Reimagine Online Learning

Contest will solicit creative proposals for ways digital education can better meet the needs of working adults

Sacramento, Calif. – California Community Colleges (CCC) Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley launched an open innovation challenge Tuesday, urging a diverse cross-section of CCC stakeholders to put forward creative proposals for meeting the unique needs of working adults.

California is building a new kind digital college that will focus on accessibility for working adults, demand-driven programming and successful outcomes. The college will provide working adults with the skills they need to get better paying jobs and connect them with hiring managers who are looking for qualified applicants. The innovation challenge is part of a concerted effort to build the new college from the ground up around the needs of its users. It builds on dozens of interviews with working adults and hiring managers, as well as expert interviews, focus groups with prospective users, and hundreds of survey responses.

As part of a larger project, in partnership with global design firm IDEO, this innovation challenge will explore on solutions for working adults who face obstacles to fulfilling their potential, with a particular focus on three groups: working parents; communities of color; and people who have been involved with the criminal justice system.

The challenge will be open to all faculty and current or prospective students from within the CCC community, as well as local entrepreneurs, hiring managers, and other innovators. They will utilize IDEO's online collaboration platform, building on each other's ideas as we strive to tear down these systemic barriers.

"We've been engaging with a wide range of stakeholders throughout this planning process, and I couldn't be more excited to hear directly from our community as we continue to develop this unique and innovative digital college," said Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley.

Submissions will be accepted through February 22nd, at which point the leadership team and an advisory panel of working learners will begin a rigorous evaluation period. On March 14th, the Top Ideas will be announced and plans for further development of winning proposals will be revealed.

To learn more about the challenge and how to participate, please visit: [Reimagine Online College](#).

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About The California Community Colleges

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, composed of 73 districts and 115 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. California community colleges provide career education and workforce training; guaranteed transfer to four-year universities; degree and certificate pathways; and basic skills education in English and math. As the state's engine for social and economic mobility, the California Community Colleges supports [the Vision for Success](#), a strategic plan designed to improve student success outcomes, increase transfer rates and eliminate achievement gaps. For more information, please visit the [California Community Colleges website](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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