

Talking Points

Why the focus on regions and on jobs and the economy?

- While colleges currently allocate considerable resources to serve and grow local economies, working from the perspective of a single college or district is no longer sufficient to address the magnitude of the problems created by the economic downturn.
- Regions are mobilizing around jobs and the economy. Community colleges need to do the same in order to remain vital partners in the workforce mission. Colleges must collaboratively respond and innovate in order to meet the needs of regional labor markets.
- Employers who compete in the marketplace, must also partner to create a shared talent pool. Colleges are being asked to respond on three fronts:
 - a soft skills gap,
 - a basic skills gap (including digital literacy), and
 - an applied skills gap.Employers and colleges who partner regionally will be better able to prepare a competitive workforce.
- If businesses can collaborate, so can the California community colleges.

Why now?

- Key administrative changes were made by the legislature during the 2012 session for the EWD and CTE Pathway programs [SB1402 and SB1070 (formerly SB70)] , including,
 - Targeting workforce incentive funds towards priority and emergent sectors important to California's regional economies.
 - Staffing key talent roles that serve industry and colleges, including sector navigators and regional consortia chairs, to facilitate in-region and multi-region coordination.
 - Mobilizing community college training capacity and developing regional collaboration around sectors.
 - Applying common metrics and accountability measures that promote student success and meet industry's need for skilled workers.



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- Providing technical assistance and flexible mini-grants to support faculty collaboration and update curriculum for industry needs.
- Colleges and regions need to work together to address the skills gap.
 - The skills gap is a national problem that has left business without a crucial pipeline of the skilled workers they need in a rapidly changing economy.
 - Federal economists estimate that 2+ million jobs go unfilled today as a result of training, skills and education gaps.
 - While hard work is still important, postsecondary education is required and frequent retraining is necessary to stay current. Research indicates that an estimated 1.5 million job vacancies in the country consist of jobs that require more than a high school diploma but less than a bachelor's degree.
 - The future competitiveness of the state, the ability for businesses to thrive, and students to become productive workers requires strategic investment in California's community colleges to address the skills gap.

Who are the key players?

- Seven state agencies, including the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), have partnered to coordinate and leverage resources in support of regional economies and workforce development. Partners include the California Workforce Investment Board (CWIB), Employment Training Panel (ETP), Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS), Employment Development Department (EDD), California Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA), and the California Department of Education (CDE).
- Federal and foundation funding increasingly emphasizes the importance of consortia, sectors, regions, and collaboration. "Authentic partnerships" - among colleges, with industry and economic development agencies, between tiers of education, and with labor and other partners - will strengthen the competitive advantage of California for grants and other resources. The Doing What Matters for Jobs and Economy framework facilitates strengthened connections amongst colleges, whether by sectors, by economic regions, or by collaborative communities.



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What's not affected?

- Funding for Perkins 1C grants and CTE apportionment are not affected by this initiative.
- The state and local curriculum and program approval processes remain the same.

What is affected?

- SB1070 funds will diminish to roughly half in 2014-15 and to zero in 2015-16. The legislature, in reauthorizing SB1070, required greater evidence of student progression as well as alignment with regional economies. These factors will affect activities and outcomes for SB1070 funds.
- The reauthorization of SB1402 funds called for EWD programming to inform and mobilize community college apportionment-supported training capacity and to develop regional collaboration around sectors. This will impact the administration of these funds.
- The role of Perkins 1B-funded Regional Consortia, 'advisories' and 'collaboratives' is affected by the realignment necessary to achieve the above legislative directives.

What can we expect?

- Competitive grants will be awarded as part of the Doing What Matters for Jobs and Economy framework. The following RFAs will be released sequentially.
 - January 2013: Sector Navigator; Regional Consortia
 - February 2013: Centers of Excellence; Regional Centers/Deputy Sector Navigators
 - March 2013: SB1070 programming; Technical Assistance
 - May–Summer 2013: Grant awards made
 - July 2013: Earliest grant start date



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- CEOs have agreed to facilitate conversations with other CEOs in their region to discuss Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy, sectors, funding opportunities, regional collaboration, and responsiveness to workforce needs.

15 Economic Regions	7 Macro-Regions
Northern Inland	Doug Houston
Northern Coastal	
Greater Sacramento	
SF/Peninsula	Helen Benjamin via Bay10
East Bay	
Silicon Valley	
North Bay	
Santa Cruz/Monterey	
Central Valley	Deborah Blue via CVHEC
Mother Lode	
South Central Coast	Dianne Van Hook
San Diego/Imperial	Sunny Cooke via SDICCCA
Inland Empire/Desert	Joel Kinnamon
LA County	Bill Scroggins for LA
Orange County	
	Andrew Jones for OC

- The Chancellor's Office is working to support colleges and their regions with tools that facilitate regional collaboration. The CCCCO Division of Workforce & Economic Development (WEDD) is working with the RP Group (institutional research), WestEd (institutional research), CalPASS (K-12 data system), CCCCO MIS, and representatives from the community colleges to inform the development of data collection and decision-support tools. More information will be provided over the next year under the "Launchboard" project.



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- More information can be found at www.doingwhatmatters.cccco.edu by using the website to subscribe to the eUpdates/eAlerts or Twitter.
- In addition, there are many other venues to have input or express concerns:
 - Contact the current Regional Consortia Chair. See the roster at <http://doingwhatmatters.cccco.edu/ContactUs.aspx>.
 - Contact CCCCO Vice Chancellor Van Ton-Quinlivan (vtquinlivan@cccco.edu) and her leadership team who are available to answer questions or provide information.



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