



## Topics for Discussion at Strong Workforce Town Halls

In nine Regional College Conversations held across the state, community college professionals—including administrators, faculty, and staff—met to identify policies and practices that would bring stronger alignment between the California Community College system and regional workforce needs. Below is a subset of these ideas on which we would like your input. **At this Strong Workforce Town Hall, we ask that you build on these suggestions, offering your own ideas of how the community college system can more effectively meet the workforce needs of California's regional economies.**

### 1. Deepen Working Relationships with Employers/Industry to Close the Skills Gap

- a. Engage with employers/industry by sector (as opposed to one-on-one) to anticipate labor market trends, build career pathways, determine specializations, and validate skill competencies.
- b. Regionally coordinate employer advisory efforts and outreach among colleges (as opposed to individual colleges engaging employers separately) to increase the impact of employer involvement.
- c. Develop more work-based learning opportunities offered in partnership with Career Technical Education (CTE) in order to improve day-one readiness of students hired.

### 2. Provide Sufficient Funding for CTE Programs Needed in State and Regional Labor Markets

- a. Increase capacity of high-demand CTE programs by better recognizing program cost in the state funding formula, rather than applying a single reimbursement rate regardless of program cost.
- b. Streamline the process for private sector co-investment in high-cost/high-value programs across multiple colleges.

### 3. Provide Employers and Employees with More Timely and Relevant Education and Training

- a. Increase responsiveness of the CTE curriculum approval and modification process to keep pace with changes in the workplace and business cycles.
- b. Increase relevancy of instructional programs by incorporating foundational workplace and career skills into instructional programs and support services.
- c. Make it easier to work and complete training by increasing flexibility in program delivery and developing stackable credentials and credits.
- d. Increase the pool of qualified CTE instructors.
- e. Develop a sustained public awareness campaign promoting attainment of in-demand degrees, certificates, and industry-valued credentials.

*GOAL OF THE TASK FORCE ON WORKFORCE, JOB CREATION AND A STRONG ECONOMY:  
Increase individual and regional economic competitiveness by providing California's workforce with relevant skills and quality credentials that match employer needs and fuel a strong economy.*

*#strongworkforce*

*[www.doingwhatmatters.cccco.edu/StrongWorkforce.aspx](http://www.doingwhatmatters.cccco.edu/StrongWorkforce.aspx)*