Upcoming State Funding Opportunities

California Career Pathways Trust
(AB 86 2013-14 Education Omnibus Trailer Bill, Section 48, Statutes of 2013)

Provides $250 million in one-time competitive grant funding to school districts, county superintendents of schools, charter schools and community colleges to establish K-14 career pathways programs.

By far the largest infusion of new funding for workforce training that the State has seen in a long time, the California Career Pathways Trust (CCPT) will support career pathway development through grants to partnerships of business entities and local educational agencies (LEAs), community college districts, or consortia thereof. The CCPT is an outgrowth of SB 594 (sponsored by Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg), and we can expect that many elements of that bill will be incorporated into the CCPT.

Grants can be used to:

1) Fund specialists in work-based learning to convene, connect, measure or broker efforts to establish/enhance a locally defined career pathways program that connects school districts, COEs, charter schools, and community colleges with business entities.

2) Establish regional collaborative relationships and partnerships with business entities, community organizations, and local institutions of postsecondary education.

3) Develop standards based academics with career-relevant, sequenced curriculum following industry themed pathways that are aligned to high need, high growth, or emerging regional economic sectors.

4) Provide articulated pathways to postsecondary education.

Grants should leverage the following:

- Existing structures, requirements, and resources of the Carl D. Perkins, California Partnership Academies, and ROCPs, including staff knowledge, community relationships and course development.
- Matching resources and in-kind contributions from public/private sources.
- California Community College (CCC) Economic & Workforce Development Program.
- Participation in the local CCC Skills Panel.

Priority for funds will be given to programs serving students in school districts with high dropout rates and school or college districts with unemployment rates higher than the state average in order to support workforce development and high school completion in those areas.

The CDE is currently drafting the RFP. Although we do not know the timing of the release, it is likely to come out in February 2014 with award decisions made in April.

The implementation period will run through fiscal year 2015-2016 with outcome measures reported to the Department of Finance no later than December 1, 2016.
Adult Education Planning Grants
(AB 86 2013-14 Education Omnibus Trailer Bill, Section 86 – pages 78-79)

Provides $25 million for two-year planning and implementation grants to regional consortia of community colleges, school districts, and other regional providers for the purpose of developing regional plans to better serve the educational needs of adults.

Requires the Chancellor of the CCC and the CDE to jointly provide 2-year planning and implementation grants to regional consortia of community college districts and school districts for the purposes of developing regional plans for adult education.

- Eligibility shall be limited to consortia consisting of at least one community college district and at least one school district within the boundaries of the community college district, either of which may serve as the consortium's fiscal agent, as determined by the applicant consortium.
- If a community college district chooses not to participate in a consortium, a neighboring community college district may form a consortium with school districts within the boundaries of the nonparticipating community college district.
- Consortia may include other entities providing adult education courses, including, but not necessarily limited to, correctional facilities, other local public entities, and community-based organizations.

Grant funds shall be used by each regional consortium to create and implement a plan to better provide adults in its region with all of the following:

- Elementary and secondary basic skills, including classes required for a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate.
- Classes and courses for immigrants eligible for educational services in citizenship and English as a second language, and workforce preparation classes in basic skills.
- Education programs for adults with disabilities.
- Short-term career technical education programs with high employment potential.
- Programs for apprentices.

Each regional consortium’s plan shall include, at a minimum:

1) An evaluation of current levels and types of adult education programs within its region, including education for adults in correctional facilities; credit, noncredit, and enhanced noncredit adult education coursework; and programs funded through Title II of the federal Workforce Investment Act, known as the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (Public Law 105-220).
2) An evaluation of current needs for adult education programs within its region.
3) Plans for parties that make up the consortium to integrate their existing programs and create seamless transitions into postsecondary education or the workforce.
4) Plans to address the gaps identified pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2).
5) Plans to employ approaches proven to accelerate a student's progress toward his or her academic or career goals, such as contextualized basic skills and career technical education, and other joint programming strategies between adult education and career technical education.
6) Plans to collaborate in the provision of ongoing professional development opportunities for faculty and other staff to help them achieve greater program integration and improve student outcomes.
7) Plans to leverage existing regional structures, including, but not necessarily limited to, local workforce investment areas.

The Chancellor and CDE shall submit a joint report relating to the program to the Legislature and the Governor by March 1, 2014.

**SB 1070: Career Technical Education Pathways Program**

In 2005, the California State Legislature provided $20 million to fund the Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways and Workforce Development Program. The intent was to promote partnerships between the K-12 system and local community colleges for the purpose of improving career technical education in California. Additional funding was allocated in subsequent years for a total investment of approximately $140 million over four years. SB 70 expired at the end of 2012 and has been replaced by SB 1070, which extends funding for the CTE Pathways and Workforce Development Program through June 2015. $48 million has been allocated for the program in 2012-13, with $20-24 million projected to be budgeted for the 2014-15.

SB 1070 establishes the following funding priorities:

1. Aligning high school and post-secondary CTE pathways.
2. Increasing industry-recognized certification in high-need sectors.
3. Supporting partnership academies with sustainable higher education and regional industry partnerships.
4. Increasing articulation opportunities in middle and high school.
5. Providing professional development to improve career-oriented academic and technical education.
6. Establishing valid, reliable, and stable measures of college and career readiness.
7. Supporting district-wide Linked Learning programs.

SB 1070 funds are being administered jointly by the California Department of Education and the California Community Colleges System.

For FY 2013-14, SB 1070 funds will be distributed as follows:

- $15,360,000 California Department of Education
- $15,000,000 Regional Grants
- $6,000,000 Community Colleges Deputy Sector Navigators
- $4,000,000 Career Advancement Academies
- $3,000,000 Linked Learning
- $4,640,000 Technical Assistance (Professional Development, Work-Based Learning, etc.)