

THE VISION

The State of California will have a regional structure that supports the California Community Colleges in effectively delivering community college education and training programs, economic and workforce development services, and related functions. The proposed approach optimizes the state's goals of 1) workforce preparation that meets labor market demands, and 2) community economic vitality by addressing future workforce and economic development needs.

To that end, California Community Colleges will bring together their combined workforce training assets within a region through enhanced coordination of course offerings, services to employers, resource development efforts, and partnerships with business and industry. Guided by data that identifies occupations and industries that are economically critical within the region, colleges will equip students, job seekers, and incumbent workers with the skills required for jobs providing sustainable wages and career pathways. In addition to improving regional effectiveness, this approach will increase regional and statewide collaboration, address sector needs, and strategically deploy resources.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND/NEED:

This document represents the collective work of multiple stakeholders throughout California's Central Region which began in 2008 at the Central Region Consortium's annual planning session. The goal was to examine existing partnerships and informal systems that increase effectiveness in the delivery of EWD and CTE programs throughout our region. What resulted was the identification of eight priorities that would take the region to the next level of collaboration and maximize efficiencies of all stakeholders. Eight central region priorities emerged: 1) Regional Branding, 2) Resource Repository, 3) Training and Mentoring, 4) Partnership Development, 5) Data Access, 6) Common Shared Curriculum, 7) Communication, and 8) Oversight and Accountability.

Stakeholders proposed a regional structure that works effectively to advance Central California's economic growth and global competitiveness through industry-linked education. As we collectively focus on meeting

the needs of critical industry sectors, training, and services, our efforts will contribute to individual economic self-sufficiency, continuous workforce improvement, technology deployment and business development.

The fourteen community colleges that comprise the Central Region Consortium will support a regional infrastructure with the primary goals: 1) to maximize collaboration and 2) to increase resource allocation among the community colleges, K-Adult and industry partnerships that reside in the Central Region.

Existing CTE Regional Community Collaboratives and the Central Region Consortium will plan activities and produce measurable outcomes that address these eight regional priorities. Multiple strategies will be employed to respond to program needs.

EIGHT CENTRAL REGION PRIORITIES:

1) Regional Branding

Objective: Marketing of services to regional stakeholders, business and industry through a dynamic message agreed to and approved by all stakeholder community colleges.

2) Resource Repository

Objective: All colleges will have access to an electronic regional resource repository that includes, but is not limited to: curriculum, training, instructional resources, best practices, Standard Operating Procedures, regional resource directories for resource assistance, regional and statewide professional development opportunities, industry conferences, and more.

3) Training and Mentoring

Objective: Expand professional development practices by supporting a comprehensive training, mentoring and coaching program for community college leaders, program staff and faculty to improve professional practice.

4) Partnership Development

Objective: Support a comprehensive partnership development strategy that assists stakeholder colleges to enhance existing and develop new partnership arrangements with business, industry, government and non-profit partners. This may result in a Regional Advisory Committee by industry

sector as requested by the region's employers. Stakeholders of this committee will include, but not be limited to, the CCCC's CTE and EWD Project Monitors, designated lead CTE and EWD administrators representing the 14 community colleges in the Central Region, researchers and grant writers, CDE partners, leaders from each of the region's critical industry sectors, the project's fiscal agent and designated project director and coordinator. (Due to the size of the region, the Regional Advisory Committee may take a sub-regional approach).

Objective: Develop strategies for improved internal community college system through development of campus based partnership models. (RECOMMEND WORDSMITHING this one.)

5) Data Access

Objective: Coordinate accurate, just-in-time research approaches that enhance industry sector analysis, program development and evaluation, and workforce trends by region and sub-region. Support effective data-driven decision making processes throughout the region.

6) Common Shared Curriculum

Objective: Lead the state in the development of region-wide curriculum sharing system through an approved clearinghouse in order to "fast-track" the curriculum approval process to meet the needs of students.

Objective: Development of parallel curriculum for EWD and CTE responsive to the needs of business and industry through the offering of short-term training, certificates, and degree programs.

Objective: Create and enhance specific career pathways at stakeholder colleges.

7) Communication

Objective: Facilitate systematic, ongoing communications and relationship building between regional community colleges, K-Adult educators, CTE practitioners, EWD practitioners and industry partners.

8) Oversight and Accountability

Objective: Enhance regional strategic planning among CTE and EWD stakeholders on an ongoing basis to provide guidance to the region's economic development (EWD) programs and career technical education (CTE) programs to improve the delivery of services throughout the regional level.

CENTRAL REGION CONSORTIUM - October 2010

Objective: Work together to reach a collaborative agreement among participating stakeholder colleges that supports the goals and activities of the region's EWD and CTE work plan.

Objective: Establish an Accountability Advisory Committee that meets on a regular basis to review and oversee all aspects of the project. Stakeholders of this committee will include, but not be limited to, the CCCCO's CTE and EWD Project Monitors, designated lead CTE and EWD administrators representing the 14 community colleges in the Central Region, researchers and grant writers, CDE partners, leaders from each of the region's critical industry sectors.

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