

Guided Pathways Framework 5/16/17



Dear Colleagues,

The governor's revised budget proposal provides us with an opportunity to improve student outcomes through adoption of the Guided Pathways framework. Research shows that students are more likely to complete on time if they identify a career goal early on, have a clear outline of the courses required, and receive consistent guidance and support along the way. We need to structure our colleges to more effectively support students through this progression.

In recent years, California has invested in many of these strategies for community college students. For example, we expanded student intake and guidance services, required colleges to focus on closing achievement gaps, streamlined the transfer process, and funded efforts to improve basic skills, assessment, and placement. Despite these investments, we have struggled to coordinate and integrate support services and to use funding strategically to bring programs to scale, meaning the impact on student success has been limited. This is what the governor's \$150 million Guided Pathways budget proposal addresses. These funds would be provided to colleges over a five-year period, supporting robust planning and implementation activities to fully leverage recent state investments in student success and ensure that campus instructional and support programs are effectively integrated to help students succeed.

The Administration this week put forth some additional details of Guided Pathways grant trailer bill language to do the following:

- (1) clarify the Guided Pathways framework,
- (2) clarify the funds will be primarily used for release time, technical support, professional development, and technology solutions,
- (3) ensures the Chancellor's Office has sufficient authority to require a grant application with programmatic criteria and both qualitative and quantitative indicators, and
- (4) requires the Chancellor's Office to report annually on the status of implementing the grant.

While it is still subject to amendments until the budget is finalized, the latest version of the governor's proposed trailer bill language on Guided Pathways can be found at: http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Trailer_Bill_Language/documents/307CCCGuidedPathways_000.pdf

The Guided Pathways framework will assist colleges in improving student achievement outcomes by focusing efforts throughout the system on effective practices and interventions and integrating planning across all divisions. My office is working with partners throughout the system to develop the most effective way to organize the grant process, provide tools for successful implementation and look at regulatory changes that support successful implementation. Part of that work includes development of communication tools designed to foster a clear and common understanding of our guided pathways framework. For now, I am sharing with you a very high-level

background piece and graphic that you may find useful in communicating the concept of guided pathways to a general audience. Additional videos and web-based tools will also be provided once completed.

Some resources you may find helpful include:

- The California Guided Pathways
<https://www.caguidedpathways.org/>
- IEPI Guided Pathways Workshop
<http://iepi.cccco.edu/news/detail?ID=18>
<http://iepi.cccco.edu/Portals/0/uploads/Pathways%20Workshop/Pathways%20OC%20Binder%20FINAL.pdf>
- An overview by the Community College Research Center
<http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/publications/what-we-know-about-guided-pathways-packet.html>
- Case studies of Guided Pathways at Miami Dade and Georgia State
<https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/Implementing-Guided-Pathways-Miami-Dade.pdf>
http://www.sr.ithaka.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SR_Case_Study_Building_Pathway_Student_Success_042315_0.pdf

I look forward to working with all of you as we seize this moment and this opportunity to help more of our students to earn industry-recognized credentials and secure jobs that improve their lives and communities. I will share additional information on Guided Pathways as the remaining details are finalized in the state budget process.

Sincerely,

Eloy Ortiz Oakley
Chancellor
California Community Colleges