

DESCRIPTION	
Proposal Name	Los Angeles Workforce Education Research Center (LAWERC)
Industry Sector	Across All
Project Description	<p>Funding this project will regionalize a Workforce Education Research Center (WERC) (Ideally this should be across both LA and Orange counties; however, the center will likely start with the 18 Los Angeles County regional colleges). The primary objective of WERC is to bridge the gap between county economic/workforce demand data and the workforce supply in order to increase alignment and inform regional workforce education, practice, and policy; the required and preferred occupational competencies necessary for instructional course/program development; the county’s economic growth; and social justice issues that impact students and the workforce. Social justice issues could include educational attainment of populations in sub-regions of the county, wage parity, and negative impacts of sub-regional economic development such as gentrification.</p> <p>The LAWERC (pronounced L.A. Work) will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Research and publish labor market supply and demand data informed by industry sector/cluster analysis, along with the industry specific staffing patterns and human capital supply chains, in relation to workforce education in the region. Industry sector/cluster analysis will be informed by and co-researched with Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, and other county workforce stakeholders.2. Provide research to inform the identification of employers necessary for regional industry advisory groups in order to apprise colleges of necessary occupational skills, workforce education performance objectives, workforce education performance criterion, and potentially inform a regional model curriculum and program design for regional adoption, program development, or program modification.

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	3. Research and publish regional studies focused on the impact, relationship, correlation, etc. that local, regional, and statewide workforce education and other policies have on educational access, social mobility, socio-economic status, social justice/classism, student success, workplace success/persistence, etc.
State Date	March 2017
End Date	June 2018
Estimated Proposal Cost	\$600,000
Lead College/District	Citrus College (in the future potentially lead by the LAOCRC Regional Executive Director, <u> </u> -once hired)
Rational	
What need does this proposal address?	The project primarily focuses on informing and developing regional curriculum and the development of regional programs. Additionally, the project will inform policy and practice in workforce education through established relationships with the LAEDC, the Southern California Leadership Council, the LA Chamber of Commerce and others. LAWERC will facilitate the LAOCRC shifting from a reactive model of program approval to a proactive one. The current Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE) would continue; however, it will become a partner to the larger LAWERC where it assists to bridge the gap between demand and supply in the county. LAWERC will partner with the COE, LAEDC, colleges, DSNs, faculty, and regional WDBs to identify high demand, high growth, low supply occupations and occupational clusters in the region in order to develop robust occupational competencies and programs needed for county economic viability and class mobility of its residents. The project aims to decrease time of program development through the regionalization of program curriculum.
How does this proposal address the needs of your region's labor market?	The primary objective of the LAWERC is to bridge the gap between county workforce demand and supply data in order to increase alignment and inform regional workforce education, practice, and policy, the required and preferred occupational competencies necessary for instructional course/program development, the county's economic needs, and

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	social justice issues that impact students and the workforce.
How does this proposal address the identified needs?	<p>The COE and LAEDC will assist with identifying the scope of a LA county community college regional response to market demands (# of colleges, who/where) and the recommended existing regional resources to be leveraged. Regional model curriculum, occupational performance objectives, and/or competencies will be developed based upon the research of the LAWERC.</p> <p>LAWERC will partner with the LAOC COE, LAEDC, colleges, DSNs, faculty, and regional WDBs to identify high demand, high growth, low supply occupations and occupational clusters to inform the development of robust occupational competencies and programs needed for county economic growth and class mobility of its residents. Similar program approval paths would be developed for: high demand, high growth and strong supply (multiple colleges already have similar programs w/ curricular alignment) and low -demand occupations with low/zero supply or emergent occupations.</p>
How does this proposal address the priorities established by your region?	<p>There are currently 28 instructional programs among the LA County colleges where 10 or more colleges have a similar program. Most important is that often these programs each have very unique curriculum (objectives, units, courses, targeted credentials) yet are only 10-15 miles apart geographically. The region has set a goal to begin regionalizing key advisories and ultimately core curriculum under the LAWERC project in partnership with key colleges, key faculty, and DSNs. The goal is to regionalize 2-3 industry advisories during this project’s initial funded term in order to regionalize curriculum, occupational performance objectives, and competencies.</p>

Labor Market Information	
Occupations (Title and SOC codes)	Across All
Geography	Los Angeles County
College Programs (Title and TOP Codes)	Across All
Supporting Evidence (drop down list – Choose ONE below by putting an “X” in the relevant row)	
Living Wage Attachment	
LMI Library Reports Data	
Validated Employer Input	
Local Bi-Annual Program Review	
Regional Consortium Program Endorsement	
Regional Planning Process	X
Occupations Demand and Supply Info	
Upload document or enter supply/demand data	COE will complete this section if you are using LMI data provided by the Center.

Investment Plan

Briefly describe the investments you'll make and explain how these will result in improved performance in the metrics	The region has been successful approving regional curriculum and programming for the adoption of all community colleges in Los Angeles and Orange County. Additionally, the region has developed and regionally approved curriculum and programming for clusters of colleges. The creation of the LAWERC will formalize and scale this curriculum development process across multiple sectors based upon comprehensive workforce education research conducted in partnership with LAEDC, WDBs, and the community colleges in the region; providing the region with the foundation to move from a reactive to a proactive curriculum development model.
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Proposal Workplan

Risks – describe the risks most likely to prevent the successful completion of the project	Successful completion of this project is heavily dependent upon the hiring of talented workforce researchers; hiring skilled technical training curriculum developers; the release of key program faculty to assist in program development, attend and when possible co-chair regional advisories; college participation; DSN participation; and industry engagement. A breakdown in one of these areas will constrict the ability to deliver promised outcomes.
Workplan item (at least 1 required)	Research and publish labor market supply and demand data informed by industry sector/cluster analysis, along with the industry specific staffing patterns and human capital supply chains, in relation to workforce education, county workforce and economic priorities, and projected growth in the region.
Responsible Person	Lori Sanchez
Lead College or Partner	COE
Participating Colleges	ALL
Year – (2016-17; 2017-18; or Fall 2018)	2016-17; 2017-18

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Major Activities	Engage with county workforce partners to find common points for defining priority areas in the county. Provide occupation and skills analysis to colleges based on intelligence provided by economic research institutions.
Major Outcomes	At least one comprehensive research report published jointly with LAEDC, the LA Chamber of Commerce.
Workplan item (at least 1)	Research and inform the identification of employers necessary for regional industry advisory groups in order to apprise colleges of necessary occupational skills, workforce education performance objectives, workforce education performance criterion, and potentially inform a regional model curriculum and program design for regional adoption, program development, or program modification.
Responsible Person	Jim Lancaster (or Executive Director of LAOCRC once hired) and Lori Sanchez
Lead College or Partner	Citrus
Participating Colleges	All
Year – (2016-17; 2017-18; or Fall 2018)	2016-17; 2017-18
Major Activities	Using a comprehensive approach to identify areas for development and investment, use business data to identify area employers for development of regional or sub-regional advisory groups. Match business employer location to college program locations. Improved path from program completion to employment.
Major Outcomes	At least one regional or sub-regional employer advisory group is developed and utilized to develop a regional model curriculum/program.
Workplan items (at least 1)	Research and publish regional studies focused on the impact, relationship, correlation, etc. that local, regional, and statewide workforce education and workforce policies have on educational access, social mobility, socio-economic status, social justice/classism, student success, workplace success/persistence, etc.

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Responsible Person	Jim Lancaster, Lori Sanchez, Trish Ramos
Lead College or Partner	Citrus
Participating Colleges	All
Year – (2016-17; 2017-18; or Fall 2018)	2016-17; 2017-18
Major Activities	Conduct primary and secondary qualitative and quantitative research to address issues of socio-economic importance or focused on community college institutional issues such as enrollments, student services, or student success.
Major Outcomes	At least one research report published on a topic relevant to socio-economic or institutional issues

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Budget			
Institution:			
Use embedded Excel to detail the budget.		16-17	17-18 18-19
	1000 Instructional Salaries	17,000	53,000
	2000 Non-Instructional Salaries	10,000	30,000
	3000 Employee Benefits	5,000	15,000
	4000 Supplies and Materials	25,000	75,000
	5000 Other Operating Expenses and Services	75,000	225,000
	6000 Capital Outlay	17,000	53,000
	7000 Other Outgo		
	Total Program Costs	\$149,000	\$451,000
Description	The year one SW funds for this project are requested and budgeted through June 2018. The budget will be spent on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a portion of the salary and benefits for Lori Sanchez (serving as LAWERC research project director)• a portion of Jim Lancaster’s salary/benefits (serving as LAWERC program development project director and responsible administrator for the project)• data subscriptions and software purchases• computer and other office machine equipment purchases• contracts for data collection, program development, and research services• faculty stipends• conference/meeting events (location, speakers, food, communication)• marketing and communication efforts, such as printing and website• travel and mileage for Trish Ramos, Jim Lancaster, Lori Sanchez and other WERC staff• professional development		

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Year Requested – (2016-17;
2017-18; or Fall 2018)

2016-17 (year one SW funds, to be fully expended by June 2018)