

Student Equity and Achievement Program Memo
September 27, 2018

Finally --- an update to SEA – just like we thought: we have to do another 3-year equity plan due June 30 2019; we still have to report MIS data related to SSSP even though we won't be funded this way; we still have to comply with SSSP core services for assessment, orientation, counseling, referrals, ed plan but don't require an initial ed plan. The new cycle will require a prior year reporting due by January of the preceding year. Thus our report for this year, 2018-19, isn't due until January 1 of 2020.

An additional update was also sent saying we have until 6/30/20 to spend the new Promise AB 19 funds. Hallelujah!

Audrey

Colleagues,

I am long overdue to provide you with an update on the SEA Program (consolidation of SSSP, Student Equity, and Basic Skills). Attached is a copy of the final Budget Trailer Bill language that serves as the law for the new program. You will notice that the law also references other sections of Education Code, especially those having to do with SSSP, Equity Plans, implementation of AB 705, and Guided Pathways. I've also attached the note I sent out to you in May 2018 when we first got proposed language for the program. The final language is more refined and includes more detail. The bottom line of program consolidation is still there though, with an emphasis on providing support services to students.

Below are some notes from me that I hope you find helpful. Follow along from the top of the SEA Program Trailer Bill language if you are in to reading law/regulations like I am.

- Notice the wording in the first sentence that reads "...with an emphasis on eliminating achievement gaps...". The Governor and legislature did not want the any focus taken off the equity part of this combined program...in fact they are strengthening that language.
- Section (a)(2) is intent language. Although that part of the language doesn't require you to do anything, it sets the stage for the rest of the program: Guided Pathways, Completion of ed goals and course of study, and implementation of AB 705.
- Section (b) is the meat of the program. To receive funding districts must:
 - Maintain an Equity Plan. The last plan due to the Chancellor's Office was for 2015-16. Plans are required to be submitted every three years. Equity Plans will be due to the Chancellor's Office by June 30, 2019. We are working on a template that will address the requirements in the law and that will not be nearly as complicated to complete as the plan template we issued for 2015-16. We hope to have a draft of that plan ready in the next week or so to cover in our training workshops. After hearing feedback we will make some adjustments

and finalize the template so you can begin composing your plan. I will get the template to you all ASAP.

- Provide matriculation services outlined in sections of the SSSP law. We will be covering this in our training workshops. Basically these are assessment (AB 705), ed planning and counseling, orientation, and referral.
 - The law requires that you provide these services to students but we are not going to be using the MIS data that you report as counts for the services as a way of funding your program.
 - Until further notice you should still be reporting the services as you have been. We will work with our advisory workgroup to discuss the pros and cons for reporting and will have conclusions to those discussions ASAP.
- Provide all students with an education plan. The law is specific about what needs to be included in the plan. We are working with the advisory workgroup to develop guidelines on the required ed plan. For the time being you can continue to operate as you have been.
 - Initial ed plans are NOT required in law. Providing initial ed plans will be a local decision.
- You will be required to report to us by January 1, 2020 for 2018-19, and each January thereafter, on use of funds and an assessment of progress toward advancing your student equity goals from the Equity Plan.
- The Chancellor's office is required to submit a summary of the reports we receive from you by April 1, 2020 and each year thereafter.
- Funding for this year was the same as it was for 2017-18. The Chancellor's Office is pursuing authority to implement a new funding formula but we won't know the outcome of that until June of 2019. I will keep you posted, and will be transparent, about what I know going forward.

Also attached are the SEA Program expenditure guidelines that we issued in July. I wanted to again provide them to you in light of the final program language.

There are many as yet answered questions and we are gathering those as we receive them. If you have a question please send it to me. If I can't answer it I will add it to a list of things for discussion with our advisory workgroup.

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