

## Upcoming Review of System Data Practices

February 19, 2019



California Community Colleges  
Chancellor's Office

Colleagues,

As you are well aware, the *Vision for Success* adopted by the Board of Governors commits the system to “[fostering] the use of data, inquiry and evidence.” The implementation of the Student Centered Funding Formula has made it even more important that we are confident in the quality of our system’s data.

To help the system better understand data practices across the colleges, the Chancellor’s Office has engaged the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) to conduct a study of the collection, storage, and reporting of data used in the new funding formula. The study will review practices at a sample of colleges and districts. It will provide the Chancellor’s Office, colleges, and districts with a better understanding of common practices and make recommendations for protocols and audit procedures that could improve the accuracy and consistency of data. Further, it will be shared with the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst’s Office, and other legislative staff to inform deliberations around the budget and legislation, and it will be made available publicly. Given these multiple objectives, we have asked that the study be performed quickly; we expect that most of the work will be complete by May 1, 2019.

**If your college or district has been selected to be part of the study sample, you will receive an email from me shortly.** The sample was selected independently by FCMAT after considering college size, region, and whether a college is in a single-college district or a multi-college district. Following initial field work, reviews at additional colleges and districts may be necessary. Colleges and districts that are part of the sample will be asked to provide documentation related to data management and to make key personnel available for interviews over the coming months. If you do not receive a follow-up email from me, no further action is needed as this time.

Thank you in advance for your collaboration on this effort; we recognize the additional workload involved in participation in these kinds of reviews. We believe that the findings and recommendations will create significant value, allowing us to more effectively use data to support improvement in our system.

Sincerely,

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