Proposal: Mt. SAC Participation in the **Benefits for Success CTE Academy**

Sponsor: Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI), application is open nationally

Participation Dates: April 2021-April 2022

Cost to Mt. SAC: $0

Grant income to Mt. SAC: $3,500

Letter of interest due: December 1, 2020

Full application due: December 18, 2020

Notification of Status: February 15, 2021

CTE Liaison Joshua Crist and Director, Career Education Dejah Swingle will assemble a cross-disciplinary CTE team to apply and participate in a 1-year hands-on learning and design project titled Benefits for Success CTE Academy. The project is open to community/technical college CTE programs nationwide. The SJI Student-Centered Design team will work with a group of colleges to support CTE students who are struggling due to COVID-19, and who need access to resources and supports to stay enrolled.

- Participating colleges will receive training in improvement science and will **design and test solutions** to address the barriers that students face in accessing these resources
- They will also receive a **specially designed toolkit, research support, and technical assistance** throughout the program
- They can use this opportunity to **further develop resilient practices** to support student success and respond in real time to COVID-related challenges

By the end of the Academy, participants will have gained:

- New and enhanced strategies to support student retention and completion goals
- A deeper understanding of the current student experience: obstacles that students encounter, their needs and motivations, and their ideas for improvement
- A stronger understanding of how students engage with benefits, resources, and supports
- Experience using applied behavioral science, improvement science, and human-centered design techniques
- Results from intervention testing to remove obstacles in student-facing processes
- The capacity to address similar challenges in the future and support more students in need

https://studentcentereddesign.org/cteacademy/