CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
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DATE: April 18, 2016

TO: Chief Student Services Officers
               Chief Instructional Officers
               Chief Business Officers
               Chief Information Systems Officers
               SSSP Coordinators
               Student Equity Coordinators
               Assessment Directors
               Counselors

FROM: Theresa Tena
               Vice Chancellor, Institutional Effectiveness

               Pamela D. Walker
               Vice Chancellor, Educational Resources

SUBJECT: **Adoption/Implementation Schedule for the Common Assessment Initiative**

The Chancellor's Office is pleased to announce that the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) is preparing to implement the new assessment instruments for English, math, and English as a Second Language (ESL), beginning Fall 2016 for spring placement. The CAI, under the direction of the Chancellor's Office, has been several years in the making with strong collaboration from the community colleges. This project will transform the assessment process for the system, ensure appropriate placement of students and facilitate increased retention and completion rates for the colleges.

Attached is the CAI Assessment System (CCCAssess) College Adoption/Implementation Schedule. Please review it for your college's placement on the schedule. Pilot colleges and their sister institutions will be early adopters of CCCAssess. Due to the sunset of COMPASS tests in November 2016, colleges using these instruments have also been prioritized for implementation. Early adoptions by other colleges may be accommodated based on available capacity. To request and earlier option date, please contact Jennifer Coleman at jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org or at 530-879-4165. Full implementation of CCCAssess will be completed by Fall 2018.

Title 5, section 55518, requires Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) funding to be contingent on the colleges' use of CCCAssess, if an assessment test is used for placement. It is important for colleges to prepare for implementation of these assessment instruments or they risk losing their SSSP funding. CAI is offering regional professional development workshops to assist colleges in preparation for implementation. To stay abreast of updates and future procession development opportunities, please sign up for the listserv and newsletter on the CCCAssess website.

As a reminder, the approval process for assessment instruments used by the colleges has been temporarily suspended, allowing colleges to transition to the new CCCAssess, as well as to accommodate the sunset of COMPASS. The suspension does not relieve colleges of the responsibility of validating all assessment instruments, including multiple measures, in accordance with title 5, section 55522, as well as addressing any bias and disproportionate impact on particular groups of students.

For questions regarding CCCAssess, please contact Jennifer Coleman at jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org or at 530-879-4165. Assessment questions should be directed to Chris Graillat, with the Chancellor's Office, at cgraillat@cccco.edu or 916-322-7988.

cc: Erik Skinner, Acting Chancellor