

An act to add Part 54.5 (commencing with Section 88820) to Division
7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.

SECURED
COPY

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Part 54.5 (commencing with Section 88820) is added to Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

PART 54.5. STRONG WORKFORCE PROGRAM

88820. This part shall be known, and may be cited as, the Strong Workforce Program.

88821. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) California's economic competitiveness is fueled, in part, by the strength of its regional economies and its skilled workforce.

(2) Upward social and economic mobility helps keep the state's economy diversified and vibrant.

(3) The attainment of industry valued "middle skill credentials" serves as a gateway for a large and diverse number of careers in the state's economy.

(4) California's local educational agencies, community college districts, interested public four-year universities, local workforce development boards, economic development and industry leaders, and local civic representatives should collaboratively work together to inform the offerings of courses, programs, pathways, and workforce development opportunities that enable students to access the current and future job market and further social and economic mobility.

(b) The Strong Workforce Program is hereby established for the purpose of expanding the availability of quality community college career technical education

and workforce development courses, programs, pathways, credentials, certificates, and degrees.

(c) To facilitate program coordination and alignment with other workforce training, education, and employment services in the state, the Strong Workforce Program shall operate in a manner that complies with the California Strategic Workforce Development Plan, required pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128), and expand upon existing Career Technical Education Regional Consortia infrastructure.

(d) To avoid duplication of effort, activities funded under the Strong Workforce Program shall be informed by, aligned with, and expand upon the activities of existing workforce and education regional partnerships, including those partnership activities that pertain to regional planning efforts established pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128), ad6p0 0 p1 0r 1 29MC1c5i81 0 0 1 5N9 38portu

middle skill and career technical education courses, programs, pathways, credentials, certificates, and degrees. No later than June 30, 2017, the chancellor's office shall develop and implement policies and guidance pursuant to this subdivision and bring before the Board of Go

SECURED
COPY

(a) “Career pathways” means an identified series of positions, work experiences, or educational benchmarks or credentials that offer occupational and financial advancement within a specified career field or related fields over time.

(b) “Career technical education credential” means a workforce certificate, degree, or industry-recognized credential.

(c) “Career Technical Education Regional Consortia” means the administrative grouping of community colleges by the Division of Workforce and Economic Development of the chancellor’s office for the purpose of coordination and joint planning within regions, as defined in subdivision (j).

(d) “Chancellor’s office” means the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.

(e) “Collaborative” means a collaborative group of community college districts, local educational agencies, interested campuses of the California State University and University of California, civic representatives, workforce development boards, representatives from the labor community, and economic development and industry sector leaders.

(f) “Industry” or “industry sectors” means trade associations or those firms that produce similar products or provide similar services using somewhat similar business processes.

(g) “Middle-skill credential” means a certificate, associate’s degree, or industry recognized credential that is less than a bachelor’s degree but more than a high school diploma and facilitates student success with workforce outcomes.

(h) “Plan” means the regional plan established under this part.

(i) “Program” means the Strong Workforce Program established under this part.

(j) “Region” means a geographic area of the state defined by economic and labor market factors containing at least one industry cluster and the cities, counties, or community college districts, or all of them, in the industry cluster’s geographic area. To the extent possible, for the purposes of this part, collaborative regions should align with federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) regional planning unit boundaries specified in the California Strategic Workforce and Development Plan and expand upon existing Career Technical Education Regional Consortia infrastructures.

(k) “Strong Workforce Task Force” means the Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation and a Strong Economy commissioned by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.

88823. (a) Commencing July 1, 2017, as a condition of receipt of funds from this program for a fiscal year, the members of a regional collaborative shall have approved a plan that has been updated for that fiscal year.

(b) The plan pursuant to subdivision (a) shall include all of the following requirements:

(1) The names of the entities participating in the collaborative, including the name of the collaborative’s fiscal agent.

(2) The governance model for the collaborative. Decisions governing, or relating to, the distribution of fiscal resources shall be determined exclusively by the community college districts participating in the collaborative.

(3) An analysis of regional labor market needs informed by a federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) economic analysis and other sources as applicable. This analysis shall also include wage data for each industry sector or labor market need identified.

(4) An inventory of regionally prioritized and locally prioritized projects and programs that close relevant labor market and employment gaps.

(5) Measurable regional goals that align with the performance accountability measures of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128).

(6) For regionally prioritized projects and programs, a work plan, spending plan, and budget.

(7) A description of the alignment of work plans, spending plans, and other education and w

that has not met its goals. The chancellor's office is encouraged to provide technical assistance pursuant to this subdivision through the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative.

(e) To avoid duplication of effort, plans developed pursuant to this section shall be informed by, aligned with, and expand upon regional plans and planning efforts established pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128).

(f) Community college districts participating in a regional collaborative shall utilize their region's plan to inform local campus planning efforts to implement career technical education courses, programs, and pathways and integrate available local, regional, state, and nonpublic resources to ensure that students will achieve successful workforce outcomes.

(g) Community college districts shall meet with the members of their collaborative not less than annually to inform on the delivery of career technical education and workforce development courses, programs, and pathways within the region.

(h) Each region's plan shall be for the primary purpose of informing the development of strategies related to career technical education and workforce development courses, programs, and pathways. Each region's plan shall reflect strategies to efficiently and effectively utilize any available public and private resources, including funds for the Career Technical Education Pathways Program established in Part 52 (commencing with Section 88530), in a manner that better aligns career technical education courses, programs, and pathways with the needs of their regional economies.

88824. (a) This section only applies for the 2016–17 fiscal year.

(b) To promote the success of community college students and the career technical education programs that serve them, up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated for the program in the annual Budget Act may be allocated by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to a community college district for statewide activities to improve and administer the program, including the facilitation of system, program, and data alignment at the state and regional levels. The chancellor's office shall consult with the California Workforce Development Board on the development of all statewide activities that would be implemented by the selected district to facilitate broader workforce and education system alignment. Statewide coordination activities funded out of this allocation may include, but are not limited to, the following activities:

(1) State-level coordination with the Employment Development Department for the development of labor market analyses pertaining to economic and industry trends and jobs projections for the purpose of supporting common regional planning efforts and the alignment of career technical education program offerings with regional labor market dynamics.

(2) Research, evaluation, and joint technical assistance with state-level partners, including the California Workforce Development Board and the State Department of Education, on the use of effective local and regional policies, best practices, and model partnerships.

(3) Development and prototyping of innovative policies, practices, and coordinated services with local workforce and education partners.

(4) Participation of community college districts in existing regional coalitions and planning efforts.

(5) State agency coordination in cross-training local program staff.

(6) Development and maintenance of a state-level cross-system data reporting mechanism with partners formed pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128), including the Employment Development Department, for the purpose of monitoring workforce program outcomes and performance accountability.

(7) Leveraging allocated funds with state partners not described in paragraph (6) through interagency agreements, memorandums of understanding, or other appropriate mechanisms.

(c) The chancellor's office shall recommend to the Department of Finance the allocation of funds available for each career technical education regional collaborative no later than August 30, 2016. The department shall approve the allocation plan before the release of funding. Each regional collaborative, in consultation with local colleges, community college districts, and the chancellor's office, shall select a fiscal agent who shall directly receive funds apportioned for the collaborative in accordance with this section. The chancellor's office shall consider, for purposes of allocating funds for the collaborative, local unemploel cle18-sy.e 1 35collaborati

(1) Be a member of a collaborative.

(2) Participate in regional planning efforts established pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) and other efforts to align workforce, employment, and education services.

(3) Work with other members of the collaborative to create and submit a plan to the chancellor by January 31, 2017, for inclusion in the submissions of regional plans for purposes of the program and the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128).

(4) Provide accessible performance and labor-market data that can be used by community college districts and their regional partners to support the implementation of the program and describe related efforts to align regional workforce and education programming with regional labor market needs, including, but not limited to, regional planning efforts established pursuant to the federal Workforce Inno

(C) Address recommendations from the Strong Workforce Task Force, which include the provision of student services related to career exploration, job readiness and job placement, and work-based learning.

(e) Funds appropriated to community college districts for the program shall supplement, not supplant, existing funding of community college career technical education programs. This subdivision shall not be interpreted to mean that a participating community college district is prohibited from eliminating or altering existing programs, but that the total offering of career technical education and workforce development by the district must not be reduced.

(f) A regional collaborative shall allocate funds only to community college districts.

88825. (a) This section applies commencing with the 2017–18 fiscal year.

(b) To promote the success of community college students and the career technical education programs that serve them, up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated for the program may be allocated by the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges to a community college district for statewide activities to improve and administer the program, including the facilitation of system, program, and data alignment at the state and regional levels. The chancellor's office shall consult with the California Workforce Development Board on the development of all statewide activities that would be implemented by the selected district to facilitate broader workforce and education system alignment. Statewide coordination activities funded out of this allocation may include, b

(1) State-level coordination with the Employment Development Department for the development of labor market analyses pertaining to economic and industry trends and jobs projections for the purpose of supporting common regional planning efforts and the alignment of career technical education program offerings with regional labor market dynamics.

(2) Research, evaluation, and joint technical assistance with state-level partners, including the California Workforce Development Board and the State Department of Education, on the use of effective local and regional policies, best practices, and model partnerships.

(3) Development and prototyping of innovative policies, practices, and coordinated services with local workforce and education partners.

(4) Participation of community college districts in existing regional coalitions and planning efforts.

(5) State agency coordination in cross training local program staff.

(6) Development and maintenance of a state-level cross-system data reporting mechanism with partners formed pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128), including the Employment Development Department, for the purpose of monitoring workforce program outcomes and performance accountability.

(7) Leveraging allocated funds with state partners not described in paragraph (6) through interagency agreements, memorandums of understanding, or other appropriate mechanisms.

(c) Funds apportioned for the program shall go directly to the fiscal agents of regional collaboratives for the purpose of funding regionally prioritized projects and programs and locally prioritized projects and programs that meet the needs of regional economies, as identified in regional plans.

(d) The allocation of funds to a regional collaborative shall be based on a schedule determined by the chancellor's office and is effective for the four years of each plan cycle. Within the four-year plan cycle, this schedule may be altered to reflect changes in the statewide allocation for the program as appropriated in the annual Budget Act.

(e) The chancellor's office shall recommend to the Department of Finance the allocation of funds available for each regional collaborative no later than August 30 of each year. The department shall approve the allocation plan before the release of funding.

(f) For each four-year plan cycle, the chancellor's office shall determine the amount of funds to be allocated to each regional collaborative based on the following factors in each region:

- (1) The unemployment rate.
- (2) The proportion of career technical education full-time equivalent students.
- (3) The proportion of projected job openings.
- (4) The proportion of successful workforce outcomes as evidenced by the performance accountability measures of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128).

(g) A regional collaborative shall allocate funds in accordance with its plan and only to community college districts. Decisions governing, or relating to, the distribution

of fiscal resources shall be determined exclusively by the community college districts participating in the collaborative.

(h) As a condition of receipt of funds under this section, a participating community college or its district must comply with all of the following:

(1) Be a member of a collaborative.

(2) Participate in regional planning efforts formed pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Public Law 113-128) and other efforts that align workforce, employment, and education services.

(3)

general public to evaluate progress in closing equity gaps in program access and completion, and earnings of underserved demographic groups.

(b) The chancellor's office shall post on its Internet Web site, for ease of access, all regional plans and their subsequent progress plans, and solicit feedback from collaboratives on recommendations they have for overall program improvement.

(c) (1) Commencing in 2018, the chancellor's office shall submit a report on the program to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January 1 of each year. This report shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(A) Data summarizing outcome accountability performance measures collected by the chancellor's office pursuant to subdivision (a).

(B) A summary of recommendations for program improvement collected by the chancellor's office pursuant to subdivision (b).

(C) Recommendations for future allocations to regional collaboratives based upon program outcomes, including, at a minimum, the number of certificates granted to, and wage increases of, students who have completed a career technical education program.

(2) A report to be submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.

as introduced, _____.

General Subject: Strong Workforce Program.

Existing law establishes the California Community Colq1 0 0 1 72 59.48 cm5.424 0 0 k <_.

SECURED
COPY

college district for purposes of administering and improving the program, as provided. The bill would require the chancellor's office, among other things, to (1) implement performance accountability outcome measures for the program, (2) post on its Internet Web site regional plans required under the program, along with updates to those plans, and solicit feedback from collaboratives on recommendations for improving the program, and (3) report, commencing in 2018, to the Legislature by January 1 of each year data summarizing the performance accountability outcome measures, a summary of the recommendations received from collaboratives, and recommendations for future allocations to regional collaboratives, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.