



## January 2026 Workforce & Economic Development Division Program Updates

### ❖ Workforce & Economic Development Division Resources

- [WEDD Program Updates and Newsletters](#)
- [WEDD Memos](#)
- [Grant Opportunities and Reporting Links](#)
- [NOVA Training Videos](#)

### ❖ Workforce & Economic Development Division Announcements

- **Funding Opportunity: Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) Implementation:**

Funding is available for each California Community College and each noncredit institution to receive \$50,000 to support local CPL implementation and priority outcomes.

- The Chief Instructional Officer for each institution wishing to receive funding must [submit this required certification survey by Jan. 15, 2026](#).
- For additional details, see the Credit for Prior Learning Funding (2025-26) memo to be posted at [WEDD Memos | California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office](#).
- For questions regarding this opportunity, please contact Samuel Lee at [slee@cccco.edu](mailto:slee@cccco.edu).

### ❖ California Adult Education Program (CAEP)

- **English Language Learner (ELL) Healthcare Pathways**
  - Round 3 ELL HP [Request for Application \(RFA\)](#) is now available on the [Chancellor's Office CAEP webpage](#) under the ELL Healthcare Pathways accordion.
    - **Bidder's Conference:** January 15, 2026, 10:00 -11:00 a.m.
      - [Registration Link](#)
    - **ELL HP Open Office Hours:** January 21, 2026, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
      - [Registration Link](#)
  - ELL HP technical assistance support has been launched. Visit the CAEP [caladulthood.org](http://caladulthood.org) [event webpage](#) to sign up for virtual office hours, webinars, and community practice upcoming events.

- **CAEP Technical Assistance Project (TAP) Events**
  - **January 14, 2026**
    - [\*\*2025-26 New CAEP Consortium Leads and Administrator Onboarding\*\*](#)
    - 10:00 a.m. - 1/14/2026
  - **February 19, 2026**
    - [\*\*ELL Healthcare Pathways Community of Practice - Feb 2026\*\*](#)
    - 1:00 p.m. - 2/19/2026
  
- **Please address any questions to [caep@cccco.edu](mailto:caep@cccco.edu).**

## ❖ **Apprenticeship**

- **California Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI)**
  - The Foundation for California Community Colleges and the LAUNCH Apprenticeship Network have been contracted by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to provide technical assistance to apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs. The Foundation will support general technical assistance needs and can be reached at [apprenticeshipsupportnetwork@foundationccc.org](mailto:apprenticeshipsupportnetwork@foundationccc.org), while LAUNCH will provide specialized support in areas such as employer engagement and program sponsorship at [justin@launchapprenticeship.org](mailto:justin@launchapprenticeship.org).
  
  - The Apprenticeship Team will continue to meet twice monthly on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Each focused session will provide a short overview of the topic, cover frequently asked questions, and open the floor for participant Q&A. General sessions remain open for any apprenticeship-related questions or technical assistance.
  
  - Apprenticeship toolkits are now available in the resources section of [our webpage](#).
  
  - The Chancellor's Office has released [streamlined guidance](#) on apprenticeship student and course coding. Carefully following this guidance will help ensure that our data is accurate as we advocate for ongoing funding.
  
  - The [CAI RFA](#) is now open until **January 30, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.** This program is intended to support the growth in non-traditional apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities. Please visit the [CAI webpage](#) to view the recorded bidders' conference and access additional resources, such as the [CAI Allowable Expenditures](#) and [CAI FAQ](#).
  
  - We are hosting an Apprenticeship Pathways Demonstration Project: Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) and Apprenticeship Webinar. This session will highlight ways institutions can use CPL to recognize the skills apprentices gain on the job and streamline their progression toward certificates and degrees.
    - This session will explore:

- What CPL looks like in practice
- How CPL connects to both noncredit and for-credit pathways
- Differences between CPL for traditional versus innovative apprenticeship models
- What's ahead for CPL and apprenticeship integration

**Date:** January 27, 2026

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**[Register Here](#)**

➤ The California Community College Chancellor's Office, Foundation for California Community Colleges, Rancho Santiago Community College District, and LAUNCH Apprenticeship Network are hosting **the Statewide Convening on Community College Apprenticeship Program Creation & Expansion, March 19–20, 2026, in Costa Mesa, CA**. This engaging, informative two-day convening is designed to support California Community College apprenticeship stakeholders at all levels of designing, implementing, and expanding Registered Apprenticeship Programs that meet the state's evolving workforce needs.

- Participants will have the opportunity to network with peers, hear about best and promising practices from subject-matter experts, use tools to support campus- and regional-level planning, and engage in conversations with employers.
- In addition to the organizers, participants will hear from Santiago Canyon College, Mapping Articulated Pathways (MAP), the Centers of Excellence, the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), and industry leaders. They will share actionable insights on:
  - Different program models
  - Campus-level decision making around capacity, curricula, and partnerships
  - Leveraging Credit for Prior Learning
  - Using labor market information (LMI)
  - Employer engagement

**Event Schedule:**

- **Day 1:** March 19, 2026, 10:00 am - 4:15 pm, with breakfast starting at 9:00 a.m.
- **Evening Reception:** March 19, 2026, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- **Day 2:** March 20, 2026, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., with breakfast starting at 7:30 a.m.
- **Event Location:** **[Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa](#)** in Costa Mesa, CA
- **[Register Now – No Cost!](#)**

- Please address any questions to **[apprenticeship@cccco.edu](mailto:apprenticeship@cccco.edu)**.

### ❖ **Economic and Workforce Development (EWD)**

- No new updates.
- **Please address any questions to Katie Gilks at [kgilks@cccoco.edu](mailto:kgilks@cccoco.edu) or Abigail Singleton at [asingleton@cccoco.edu](mailto:asingleton@cccoco.edu).**

### ❖ **High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) Partnerships Grants**

- **Announcements**
  - **Round 1** grantees have received a no-cost extension for their grants to end on **September 30, 2026** (the same end date as the **Round 2** grants).
- **Upcoming Dates**
  - **January 31, 2026:** 2025-26 Q2 fiscal reports (in NOVA) are due for Round 2 grantees.
- **Please address any questions to Cheri Fortin at [cfortin@cccoco.edu](mailto:cfortin@cccoco.edu) and Regina Malcolm at [rmalcolm@cccoco.edu](mailto:rmalcolm@cccoco.edu) .**

### ❖ **Strong Workforce Program (SWP)**

- Dr. Paige Mustain has been hired as a new WEDD Dean effective December 2, 2025. Dr. Mustain will oversee SWP, K12 SWP, EWD. Contact at [pmustain@cccoco.edu](mailto:pmustain@cccoco.edu).
- **AB 323 Direct Student Support**
  - Under AB 323, colleges may use SWP funds to provide direct financial support for paid WBL experiences, including apprenticeships, internships, externships, and student-run enterprises. These opportunities are intended to improve employability and employment outcomes for students enrolled in SWP. Colleges are encouraged to design programs that align with regional labor market needs and to prioritize equitable access for traditionally underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students.
  - **Guidance Memo released November 7, 2025.**
  - AB 323 applies to SWP only. K12 SWP is excluded.
- Fiscal Reporting due **February 15, 2026**
  - FY 2025-26 Allocation
    - Year 1 Q2
    - Activity Period: July 1, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2025
  - FY 2024-25 Allocation
    - Year 2 Q2
    - Activity Period: July 1, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2025

- FY 2022-23/FY 2023-24 Allocations
  - Project Plans with approved extensions
  - Activity Period: July 1, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2025
- Unallocated and unspent balances are reported to the Legislative Analyst Office and Department of Finance as requested. Please ensure all fiscal reporting is up to date in NOVA.
- **Please address any questions to [strongworkforcehelpdesk@cccco.edu](mailto:strongworkforcehelpdesk@cccco.edu)**

#### ❖ **K12 Strong Workforce Program (SWP)**

- Dr. Paige Mustain has been hired as a new WEDD Dean effective December 2, 2025. Dr. Mustain will oversee SWP, K12 SWP, EWD. Contact at [pmustain@cccco.edu](mailto:pmustain@cccco.edu).
- FY 2025-26 RFA Intent to Award memo was released January 9, 2026.
  - **[K12 Strong Workforce Program FY 2025-26 Round 8 - Intent to Award](#)**
- FY 2025-26 RFA Feedback Surveys released December 19, 2025.
  - **Submission Deadline:** January 31, 2026
  - **[K12 SWP Round Eight Applicant Survey](#)**
- FY 2025-26 RFA Allocation Update
  - Recalculated allocation certified for apportionment for Advanced Apportionment. Payments expected late December/early January.
- FY 2025-26 Round 8B
  - Inland Empire/Desert Regional Consortium (IEDRC) and North Far North Regional Consortium (NFN) will conduct a Round 8B application process.
  - Application period opens January 12, 2026, and closes **February 27, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.**
  - Application review concludes March 31, 2026.
  - Awards announced by April 10, 2026.
- **Please address any questions to [k12swp@cccco.edu](mailto:k12swp@cccco.edu).**

#### ❖ **Nursing and Allied Health**

- **Allied Health**
  - Fall/Winter Reporting for FY25-26 due on **January 31, 2026**. NOVA reporting will be available by mid-January.

- **Nursing**
  - **Enrollment and Retention Grant**
    - FY24-25: Year 2, Quarter 2 Fiscal report due on Jan. 31, 2026.
    - FY25-26: Year 1, Quarter 2 Fiscal report due on Jan. 31, 2026.
  - **RNI RFA Round 1**
    - Y1Q2 Fiscal Report due on **Jan. 31, 2026**.
  - **Rebuilding Nursing Infrastructure RFA Round 2**
    - Applications due in NOVA by **January 16, 2026**, by **11:59 p.m.**
    - For more information please refer to the [WEDD RFA Website](#).
- **Please address any questions to [nursingapps@cccco.edu](mailto:nursingapps@cccco.edu).**

## ❖ **Perkins V**

- **Title IC Local Assistance**
  - **January 15, 2026:**
    - Section 132 Preliminary Report 1 & 2 will be available in NOVA. Remember that the 2026-27 Perkins V Title IC local allocation will be based on the student counts in report 1.
    - 2nd Qtr. Report for fiscal year 2025-26 is due
    - A note to pending districts: Failure to submit the Quarter 1& 2 report will prevent the district from receiving reimbursement and may result in a risk assessment. The district should reach out to its **regional monitor** to share any questions and/or concerns regarding this submission date.
- **FY 2026-27 CLNA and 1C Local Application:**  
As a reminder, districts are required to submit their updated CLNA within their FY 2026-27 local application. Please refer to the current guidance as also posted on the Perkins website:
  - [Perkins FY 2026-27 Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment Guidance Memorandum \(PDF\)](#), November 24, 2025
  - [Perkins V CLNA Reporting Framework for California Community Colleges \(Template\) \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Appendix C: Key Questions to Ask](#)
- **Non-Traditional Programs:**  
There is an opportunity for professional development with National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE) with a focus on “Achieving Education and Workforce Excellence” For more information and registration, go to <https://napesummit.org/register/>.

- **Perkins V Out-of-State Travel Requests:**  
For all out of state travel requests, please submit using the current the [Perkins Out-of-State Travel Request Authorization Form](#). Requests for travel should be submitted for approval via email to your regional monitor once they contain sufficient detail to support a thorough review. This includes:
  - A clearly defined purpose for the out-of-state travel
  - How attendance will benefit CTE programs as shared in the local application
  - How attendance will benefit the State
  - An explanation for why the traveler cannot receive similar training or opportunities in the State

Including this information in travel requests is critical in providing the Chancellor's Office with the necessary level of detail in case of an audit.

- **Please address any questions to [perkinssupport@cccoco.edu](mailto:perkinssupport@cccoco.edu)**

#### ❖ **Regional Collaboration and Coordination Grant (Round 2)**

- Applications are currently in the review process.
- RFA Resources shared on our [WEDD Grant Opportunities](#) website
- Please address questions to [regionalcoordination@cccoco.edu](mailto:regionalcoordination@cccoco.edu)

#### ❖ **Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP)**

- **Announcements**
  - RERP grant ended on **September 30, 2025**. All grant deliverables are now overdue. If any of the following items are outstanding, please submit them right away:
    - End of Term report in NOVA
    - Final student-level data submission
    - Final invoice (please do not submit this until all other grant deliverables have been met)
  - Final NOVA report, student-level data, and invoices were due **October 31, 2025**.
- **Please address any questions to Cheri Fortin at [cfortin@cccoco.edu](mailto:cfortin@cccoco.edu) and Regina Malcolm at [rmalcolm@cccoco.edu](mailto:rmalcolm@cccoco.edu) .**