K12 Strong Workforce Program Update: Application Process, Timeline and Continuous Improvement Process

Prepared by California Community Colleges

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K12 SWP Objectives

K12 SWP is a joint effort between CCCCO and CDE

- Supports intersegmental partnerships between LEAs and CA community colleges
- Strengthens CTE programs and pathways aligned with regional workforce needs
- Support LEAs in developing and implementing high-quality, K–14 CTE course sequences, programs, and pathways

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Strengthening Career Pathway Programs

CTEIG and K12 SWP

- Educating K–12 students leading them to a postsecondary education, industry-valued degree, credential, or certificate and employment
- Enabling the creation, improvement, and expansion of robust CTE opportunities for K–12 students
- Preparing students for high-wage employment in industries that meet regional labor market needs.

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Summary of K12 SWP Awards Rounds 1, 2, and 3

REGION	PROJECTS AWARDED ROUND 1 2018-2019	AMOUNTS AWARDED ROUND 1 2018-2019	PROJECTS AWARDED ROUND 2 2019-2020	AMOUNTS AWARDED ROUND 2 2019-2020	PROJECTS AWARDED ROUND 2 2020-2021	AMOUNTS AWARDED ROUND 2 2020-2021
Bay Area	40	$29,422,144	40	$31,444,367	56	$30,825,442
Central/Mother Lode	30	$22,371,470	26	$20,636,915	31	$20,846,690
Inland Empire/Desert	25	$18,961,422	21	$18,410,894	23	$18,048,425
Los Angeles	42	$26,059,654	36	$24,643,796	37	$25,339,879
North/Far North	70	$14,819,649	68	$19,600,593	67	$19,844,596
Orange County	9	$12,828,373	11	$11,888,757	22	$11,789,491
San Diego/Imperial	22	$14,701,200	22	$13,439,670	19	$13,318,371
South Central Coast	4	$10,836,068	10	$9,935,008	8	$9,986,836
TOTAL	**242**	**$150,000,000**	**234**	**$150,000,000**	**263**	**$149,999,730**

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K12 SWP Participants, Instruments and Activities

K12 SWP Participants:

- All K12 SWP applicants (regardless of award)
- Selection Committee Members
- Regional Consortia Leaders
- K14 Technical Assistance Providers

Instruments and Activities:

Surveys

- All Applicants
- Selection Committee Members
- Selection Committee Chairs

Focus Groups

- Selection Committee Members
- Selection Committee Chairs
- Regional Consortia Leads
- K14 TAPs

Review of Awards and Grantee Progress Reports

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Primary Objectives of K12 SWP Continuous Improvement Efforts

Continuous improvement instruments and activities are designed to:

- **Assess** the effectiveness of available support and/or training;
- **Understand** the time stakeholders dedicate to the process;
- **Evaluate** the effectiveness of the application as a tool to describe CTE programs, plans, and pathways;
- **Examine** the distribution of awards and the types of work supported by K12 SWP funding, and
- **Consider** additional features and considerations that could improve the K12 SWP program and process.

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Summary of Revisions Informed by the K12 SWP Continuous Improvement Process

1. **Expanded** the Support and Training for Applicants and Selection Committee Members

2. **Improved** upon aspects identified as helpful and refined aspects to capture programs, plans, and pathways more accurately

3. **Simplified** the materials, review, and scoring process

Expand the number of K12 SWP grantees and the number of programs and pathways across the state

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Summary of Improvements 1

Expanded the Support and Training for Applicants and Selection Committee Members

For Applicants:

- **Expanded** the information available about the K12 SWP program and process
- **Extended** the time frame for preparing and submitting a successful application
- **Increased** access to technical assistance

For Selection Committee Members:

- **Improved** the training process, developed standard materials, and simplified the scoring process.

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Summary of Improvements 2

Improved upon aspects of the application identified as helpful and refined aspects to capture programs, plans, and pathways more accurately

Many Selection Committee members rated each section of the application as **Very Helpful/Helpful** to understanding and scoring an applicant's plan.

- 96%: Project Objectives
- 95%: Problem Statement
- 92%: Work Plan
- 77%: Scoring Rubric
- 70%: Budget and Match

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Summary of Improvements 3

Simplified K12 SWP Review and Scoring Materials and Process

- Standardized selection committee training materials across all regions

- Simplified the scoring rubric

- Clarified characteristics for positive consideration

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Examination of K12 SWP Awards Rounds 1, 2, and 3

- Over 600 LEAs received K12 SWP funds as a Lead or K-12 Partner

- 472 (75%) were awarded funds in two or more rounds

- 739 of 1,084 (68%) of applications submitted have been awarded to date

- A majority of Round 1 awards were to support existing CTE programs and pathways

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Enhancements for K12 SWP Round 4

Expand the number of K12 SWP grantees and the number of programs and pathways across the state

- Prioritizing new K12 SWP applicants and plans to create New Pathways by awarding additional points to K12 SWP applicants that
  - have never been awarded K12 SWP funds
  - propose creating New Pathways
  - prior awardees who partner with new applicants

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K12 SWP Round 4 Timeline

DATE	EVENT
Aug/ September 2021	Launch Round 4 K12 SWP Application
October 2021	K–12 SWP Applications due in NOVA system
October 2021	Selection Committee member training
November 2021	Selection Committees review applications and submit nominations of proposed grantees to CCCCO
December 2021	K–12 SWP preliminary intent to award announced
December 2021	Appeals due to SWP Regional Consortium
January 2022	Regional Consortia communicate intent to award funds to LEAs and initiate subcontract process
January 2022	K12 SWP Round 4 project term begins

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Update on TAP's and Pathway Coordinators Field Support

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Support for K12 SWP Round 4 and CTEIG Applicants

Key Talent: Tiered System of Coordinated and Targeted Support

- 9 K–14 TAPs and 72 K–12 PCs :
  - Outreach regarding K12 SWP funding opportunity
  - Share knowledge about the region's labor market needs and employment opportunities
  - Offer training on successful application, grant writing, and data collection
  - Build relationships between K–12 and region's community colleges

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K12 Pathway Coordinators Work to Date

- Compiled Inventory of CTEIG and SWP Grantees to Date.
- Identified CTE Career Pathways in Place that meet the following:
  - Two CTE Classes in Same Sector
  - Aligns with Community College Career Pathway thru Articulation and/or Dual Enrollment Classes
  - Based on Labor Market Data
- Outreached to LEAs without grant funds to encourage participation.
- Completed CTEIG Application Orientation – presented by CDE - to provide technical assistance to applicants.

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Examples of K12 Pathway Coordinators Work to Date

- Facilitated revamping Advisory Committees

- Connected HS and Community College faculty

- Established Work Based Learning Community of Practice

- Developed a consistent Dual Enrollment process for every HS to utilize.

- Created Video Series on How to Navigate the Community College.

- Expanded Articulation Agreements between HS and CC.

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K12 SWP Key Talent Staff Development

- 1/19/2020: Integrating Work Based Learning into Career Pathways (K14 TAPs and K12 PCs)

- 2/16/2021: Role of Business & Industry on Advisory Committees – An Agenda that Ensures Input (K14 TAPs and K12 PCs)

- 3/16/2021: Q&A session on Articulation, Dual Enrollment, and Career Pathways (K14 TAPs and K12 PCs)

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K12 SWP Key Talent Staff Development cont.

- 4/13/2021: CTEIG Application (K14 TAPs and K12 PCs)
- 4/20/ 2021: CTEIG Application Attachments (K14 TAPs and K12 PCs)
- 5/18/2021: Session with host LEAs – Understanding the role of Regional Consortia (K14 TAPs and K12 PCs)
- 6/15/2021: TBD

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