

FUND FOR INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT (FII) LOAN WEBINAR

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FUND FOR INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN

- **Fund for Instructional Improvement Request for Proposals (RFP)**
- **Specification for Loans**
RFP No. 12-051 and RFP No. 13-049

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

- Applications must be received in the Chancellor's Office by 5:00 p.m. on
 - Tuesday, February 5, 2013, for the Initial Competition Phase and if funds are,
 - available for the Secondary Open Funding Phase, until the funds are expended.

FII HISTORY

- The passage of AB 1173 (Vasconcellos) in 1977, established the Fund for Instructional Improvement (FII).
- *California Education Code*, Article 7, Sections 84381-84384 (Appendix C), and
- *California Code of Regulations*, Sections 56652-56684 (Appendix D).
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PURPOSE OF FII

- The Fund for Instructional Improvement (also called “the Fund” throughout this RFP) provides loans to improve learning and teaching in community colleges through the development, implementation, and evaluation of alternative educational programs and services in accordance with established statutes and regulations

PURPOSES

- 1. Nontraditional Instruction
- 2. Program Development
- 3. Faculty/Staff Development

SCOPE

- **FII RFP Specification for Loan Awards (RFP No.12-051 and 13-049)**
 - **Student Success Task Force of 2011 Recommendations**
 - **Local Level Initiatives**

Initial Competition Funding Phase

- This phase of the FII funding cycle for both 2012-13 funds and 2013-14 funds is set for 90 days concurrently
- All proposals received during this period will compete among the applications received within each fiscal year for the funds within the fiscal year and will be allocated on a competitive basis.
- Colleges may apply for more than one fiscal year. All proposals will be received and reviewed by a panel using the same criteria.
- Funds will be awarded to the highest ranking proposals until either all funds are expended or all projects with a qualifying score are funded.

Secondary Open Funding Phase

- If after the “Initial Competition Funding Phase” there are unallocated funds within a designated fiscal year, the Chancellor’s Office will accept proposals for the remaining funds for that fiscal year on a first come first served basis.
- Proposals are still subject to the established funding criteria and will be evaluated and scored and must receive a minimum score of 75 points in order to be funded.
- However the priority for this phase is based on when the request is received and not the highest ranked proposal.

SCORING CRITERIA

- All applications will be evaluated and ranked on the basis of the following criteria:
- Need (Statement of Problem) 25
- Objectives 20
- Procedures/Activities 20
- Evaluation Design 10
- Project Management 10
- Dissemination Plan 5
- Application Budget Summary 5
- Overall Feasibility of the Project 5

- **TOTAL POSSIBLE** 100

CALENDAR OF KEY DATES FOR RFP PROCESS

- RFP Release Date November 5, 2012
- Application Deadline Applications must be received at the Chancellor's Office by 5:00 p.m. February 5, 2013
- Reading and Rating of Applications February 8, 2013
- Notification of Intent to Award Loans February 12, 2013
- Last Day to File an Appeal February 25, 2013
- Final List of Awards February 26, 2012
- 2012-13 Projects Operational March 15, 2013
- 2012-13 Due Date for Final Report April 15, 2014
- 2013-14 Projects Operational July 1, 2013
- 2013-14 Due Date for Final Report July 31, 2014

LOAN FUNDING SCENARIOS

- **2012-13 FII Loan Funds**, funds are received by April 15, 2013, zero percent interest, 3 equal annual payments to repay loan, first payment of one-third of the loan amount is due in June 2014 (14 months from initial receipt of funds).
- **2013-14 FII Loan Funds**, funds are received by July 1, 2013, zero percent interest, 3 equal annual payments to repay loan, first payment of one-third of the loan amount is due in June 2015 (24 months from initial receipt of funds).

SCENARIO 1 – CONTRACT COURSE

- Title 5, section 55000 (d) defines a contract course as “...a course which a community college district offers under a contract pursuant to Education Code section 78021 with a public or private agency, corporation, association, or other organization.” The FII Loan program can be used to develop, market, and/or deliver contract courses to profit or non-profit businesses, companies and organizations in either the traditional face to face or distance education instructional delivery mode. The revenue generated by the contract course is retained by the district and can be used to operate and sustain an overall program dedicated to that purpose.

SCENARIO 2 – COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFERINGS

- Title 5, section 55000 (b) defines “Community Services Offering” as “...a fee-supported community services class authorized pursuant to Education Code section 78300 and approved pursuant to subdivision (d) of section 55002 for which state apportionment is not claimed and credit is not awarded.”
- In scenario 1 the focus of the instruction was on the organization but in “community services offerings” the focus is on the individual. Colleges can very similarly use FII loan funds for the purpose of developing, marketing, and delivering “community services offerings” and generating revenue that can be used to sustain a program and provide revenue to repay the loan.

SCENARIO 3 – OUT OF STATE OR INTERNATIONAL DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES

- The FII Loan program may be used to fund distance education courses that are targeted to out of state and/or international students who pay nonresident student fees.
- These fees are retained 100% by the district and can be used to support the cost of conducting the specialized distance education course.
- The distance education courses can be coordinated into a program that is marketed and delivered in a cohort model for students beyond the State's boundaries.

SCENARIO 4 – EQUIPMENT AND/OR SOFTWARE ACQUISITION

- The FII Loan program can be used to purchase equipment that can be amortized over a three year period at zero percent interest. Colleges can refurbish out of date labs and equipment and pay for it over time as if they are purchasing the equipment with cash.
- Depending on the fiscal year the equipment may be used 14 – 24 months before the first payment on the equipment is due.
- This may be attractive to those high cost programs requiring expensive equipment as a part of the instructional format. Colleges may also acquire software to update Enterprise systems or to convert from one system to another or to fund the development of local software systems.