

APPENDIX G: POLICY REQUEST DETAILS

California Apprenticeship Initiative Program Flexibility

Registered apprenticeships provide students with a direct pathway to high-quality careers by combining paid employment with classroom instruction and industry-recognized credentials. While the California Apprenticeship Initiative has successfully expanded registered apprenticeship opportunities through competitive grants, access remains uneven across the state, with many colleges lacking the capacity to develop and sustain apprenticeship programs. Dedicated apprenticeship personnel at colleges would cultivate employer partnerships, navigate the apprenticeship registration process, coordinate student recruitment and support services, and improve program implementation. We support policy changes that would transition the initiative to a flexible categorical program, enabling the Chancellor's Office to strategically invest in institutional capacity.

Distance Education Access for Incarcerated Students

Access to higher education should not depend on where a student is incarcerated. Although the Rising Scholars Network has significantly expanded educational opportunities in California's prisons, students often cannot complete their programs because required courses are unavailable at their home college. We support policy changes that would expand cross-enrollment in distance education for incarcerated students, enabling them to access courses offered by other community colleges, thereby strengthening pathways to successful transfer, workforce, and reentry.

Economic and Workforce Development Modernization

We seek to modernize the Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) Program through targeted statutory updates that strengthen regional coordination, improve alignment with statewide workforce and economic development strategies, and enhance the program's ability to respond to emerging industry needs. Specifically, this proposal would update existing language to support more effective employer engagement, prioritize regional sector strategies aligned with California Jobs First, K-16 Collaboratives, and workforce partners, and improve credit mobility and program responsiveness across colleges. These changes will establish a clearer, more coordinated framework for regional workforce development. Upon implementation of this updated framework, the Board of Governors intends to pursue additional funding in future years to support full program scale and long-term sustainability.

Streamline Legislative Reporting Requirements

The Chancellor's Office is committed to providing the Legislature with timely, accurate, and meaningful information that supports evidence-based policymaking. However, several statutory reporting requirements no longer align with current data collection practices, program planning cycles, or federal privacy laws, resulting in reports that are burdensome to produce while providing limited value for evaluating long-term outcomes. We request targeted statutory changes to modernize legislative reporting requirements by aligning reporting timelines with program implementation cycles, improving data quality, and providing greater flexibility where required information is unavailable.

Specifically, we propose updating the Student Equity and Achievement Program and Strong Workforce Program reports to align with each program's local planning cycle by transitioning from annual to three and four-year reporting, respectively. We also request aligning the California Adult Education Program report with the program's required three-year consortium plans by transitioning to a triennial reporting cycle and updating statutory deadlines to reflect when complete statewide outcomes data become available. Finally, we propose targeted revisions to the Nursing Program and Dual Enrollment reporting statutes to clarify that required reports include all data that is available, reasonably obtainable, and reportable without compromising student privacy.