February 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](#)

❖ **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.

- Recorded Bidder's Conference is available on the [Chancellor's Office CAEP webpage](#).

▪ ELL HP technical assistance support has been launched. Visit the CAEP [CalAdulted.org event webpage](#) to sign up for virtual office hours, webinars, and community practice upcoming events.

▪ **CAEP Technical Assistance Project (TAP) Events**

▪ **Feb. 10, 2026**
- [ELL Healthcare Pathways Bay Area Regional Event](#) (Registration Closed)
- Time: 9 a.m.

▪ **Feb. 11, 2026**
- Pre-Apprenticeship to Apprenticeship: Noncredit to Credit Building Blocks & Pathway Models Part 2
- Time: 10–11:15 a.m.
- [RSVP Link](#) (Link Expired)

▪ **Feb. 19, 2026**
- [ELL Healthcare Pathways Community of Practice](#) (Registration Closed)
- Time: 1 p.m.

Chancellor's Office, Workforce and Economic Development Division
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- **Feb. 27, 2026**
  - [Innovation and Carryover Funds PLC](#)
  - Time: 12 p.m.

- **March 3, 2026**
  - [ELL Healthcare Pathways Central Valley/Mother Lode Regional Event](#)
  - Time: 9 a.m.

- **March 23, 2026**
  - [ELL Healthcare Pathways Southern California Regional Event](#)
  - Time: 9 a.m.

- Please address any questions to 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 2–3 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 the [WEDD webpage](#).

  - 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 a.m.–4:15 p.m., with breakfast starting at 9 a.m.
- **Evening Reception:** March 19, 2026, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
- **Day 2:** March 20, 2026, 8:30 a.m.–12 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 review the Chancellor's Office [Apprenticeship Course and Student Coding Guidance memo](#) carefully to ensure that apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship courses and students are appropriately coded in your local systems. Accurate use of SAM course codes (e.g., CB09 = A for apprenticeship courses) and correct student apprenticeship status coding (SB23) is essential for reliable statewide reporting, compliance with funding rules, and proper alignment with DAS registration requirements. Misclassification can lead to reporting errors, missed funding opportunities, and challenges in measuring program outcomes.

- Please address any questions to Apprenticeship@CCCCO.edu

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

- No new updates.

- Please address any questions to Katie Gilks at KGilks@CCCCO.edu or Abigail Singleton at ASingleton@CCCCO.edu.

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

- **Announcements**
  - **Round 1** grantees have received a no-cost extension for their grants to end on **Sept. 30, 2026** (the same end date as the **Round 2** grants).

- **Upcoming Dates**
  - **April 30, 2026:** 2025–26 Q3 fiscal reports (in NOVA) are due for Round 1 grantees.

- Please address any questions to Cheri Fortin at CFortin@CCCCO.edu and Regina Malcolm at RMalcolm@CCCCO.edu.

❖ **Strong Workforce Program (SWP)**

- Paige Mustain has been hired as a new WEDD Dean effective Dec. 2, 2025. Dean Mustain will oversee SWP, K12 SWP, EWD. Contact at PMustain@CCCCO.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 Nov. 7, 2025.
  - AB 323 applies to SWP only. K12 SWP is excluded.

- Fiscal Reporting due Feb. 15, 2026

  - **2025–26 Allocation**
    - Year 1 Q2
    - Activity Period: July 1, 2025–Dec. 31, 2025

  - **2024–25 Allocation**
    - Year 2 Q2
    - Activity Period: July 1, 2025–Dec. 31, 2025

  - **2022–23/2023–24 Allocations**
    - Project Plans with approved extensions
    - Activity Period: July 1, 2025–Dec. 31, 2025

- Extensions

    - 2023/24 extensions beyond 12/31/2025 expire on **6/30/2026**. Final fiscal reporting **due by 8/15/2026**.

    - 2024/25: Extensions are not being considered for the allocation expenditure timeframe. Funds expire on **6/30/2026**. Final fiscal reporting is **due by 8/15/2026**.

- 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.

- Update to [Student Equity Plan and Strong Workforce Program Metrics](#) memo released 1/28/2026

- Please address any questions to StrongWorkforceHelpDesk@CCCCO.edu

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

- Dean Paige Mustain has been hired as a new WEDD Dean effective Dec. 2, 2025. Dean Mustain will oversee SWP, K12 SWP, EWD. Contact at PMustain@CCCCO.edu

- 2025–26 RFA Intent to Award memo was released Jan. 9, 2026.

    - K12 Strong Workforce Program FY2025–26 Round 8 - Intent to Award

- 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 Jan. 12, 2026, and closes **Feb. 27, 2026, at 5 p.m**.
    - Application review concludes **March 31, 2026**.
    - Awards announced by **April 10, 2026**.

- Please address any questions to k12SWP@CCCCO.edu.

❖ **Nursing and Allied Health**

- **Allied Health**
    - No updates currently.

- **Nursing**
    - No updates currently.

- Please address any questions to NursingApps@CCCCO.edu

- ❖ **Perkins V**

  - ▪ **Title IC Local Assistance**

    - ▪ **Q2 Reporting is past due:**

      - A note to pending districts: failure to submit the Q1 & Q2 report will cause delay in receiving reimbursement and may result in a [Perkins funding risk assessment](#). The district should reach out to the appropriate [Regional Monitor](#) with any questions and/or concerns regarding this submission date.
      - [FY 2026–27 Perkins Headcount Certification in NOVA Memorandum](#) was released, sharing headcount certification updates as well as key dates for Perkins Title 1-C Application.

  - ▪ **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),](#) Nov. 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@CCCCO.edu

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

- Awardees have been announced:

  - [Regional Collaboration and Coordination Grant (Round 2) 2026–29 Intent to Award](#)

- RFA Resources are available on our [WEDD Grant Opportunities](#) website.

- Please address questions to RegionalCoordination@CCCCO.edu

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

- **Announcements**

  - RERP grant ended on Sept. 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 **Oct. 31, 2025.**

- Please address any questions to Cheri Fortin at CFortin@CCCCO.edu and Regina Malcolm at RMalcolm@CCCCO.edu.