



**TO:** Chief Executive Officers  
Chief Student Services Officers  
Chief Informational Officers  
Chief Business Officers

**FROM:** Gina Browne, Assistant Vice Chancellor,  
Equitable Student Learning, Experience & Impact Office

**RE:** Vision-Aligned Reporting Systemwide Implementation Update

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This guidance memo contains an update on the status of Vision-Aligned Reporting (VAR) statewide implementation.

### **Vision-Aligned Reporting Overview**

Vision-Aligned Reporting is a new process to collect and report data that directly aligns to student outcomes and is required under [5 CCR §52012](#).

#### **Using Data for Student Success**

Vision-Aligned Reporting uses the power of data to improve outcomes by aligning data from programs and colleges across the systemwide. Using this data, we can make informed decisions and improvements that support all students at California community colleges. VAR includes quantitative data that helps connect the dots between resources and student success, and qualitative data that lets colleges share their stories as brief narratives.

By sharing their successes and data, colleges provide the Chancellor's Office with information that may be used to inform future decisions about policy and technical assistance. Aligned information offers a more complete picture of what we are doing well, and how the Chancellor's Office can support systemwide improvement that leads to improved educational outcomes for California community college students.

Vision-Aligned Reporting does not replace fiscal reporting or Management Information System (MIS) data. It adds a level of detail that facilitates informed decision-making. Fiscal reporting will still be made using current processes and VAR will ultimately be integrated with MIS data. Programs that report total annual fiscal information through

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Student Services Automated Reporting for Community Colleges (SSARCC) will still report through that platform.

### **Pilot**

Beginning in 2020, a cohort of nine colleges has been actively piloting Vision-Aligned Reporting and providing feedback to help optimize the data collection. Information learned during the pilot process heavily influenced the first iteration of statewide implementation. The initial response to VAR has been promising. Colleges engaged in the pilot are already taking advantage of better insights to maximize equitable student success. Furthermore, aligning the data from different programs across the state is critical to making informed decisions based on a holistic, comprehensive, and cohesive understanding of practices that benefit all students.

### **Statewide Rollout Plan**

Beginning with Fall 2024, the Vision-Aligned Reporting process requires colleges to report program- and college-level data and includes total program funding received, detailed information on program activities including their expected impact on statewide goals, and short college-level narratives. This aggregated data will provide colleges with critical information that can be used to hold cross-functional conversations about what is working, what is not working, and how programs can work together to better leverage resources, address equity gaps, and maximize their impact on students.

### **Programs**

This first iteration of statewide Vision-Aligned Reporting includes the following programs:

- NextUP
- CalWORKS
- Dual Enrollment/College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP)
- Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)
- Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)
- Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE)
- Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA)
- Middle College High School
- Student Equity and Achievement (SEA) Program
- Strong Workforce Local Share
- Transfer Centers
- Veterans Resource Center

### **VAR College Implementation Leads**

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In Fall 2023, college presidents were asked to identify implementation liaisons (or leads). All implementation leads will be supported by the VAR project team at the Chancellor's Office during the full implementation process through June 2026. This will include VAR training, access to a Vision Resource Center (VRC) community specifically for implementation leads, and the ability to connect with the Chancellor's Office project team directly for just-in-time support.

In Fall 2023, the leads participated in monthly onboarding and training sessions to help them understand the new process and their role in supporting their college leadership and programs through implementation and beyond. While the implementation lead may hold any position in the college administrative structure, CEOs were asked to identify someone with the following authority and skills to oversee a collaborative and open process.

- Design, organize, and convene an appropriate on-campus workgroup
- Develop and oversee an implementation process appropriate to the college's context and culture
- Understand the structure and culture of the college as it relates to programmatic reports and budgets
- Work across silos to ensure all programs included in the first year of implementation have a voice in the process
- Integrate additional individuals, groups, programs, and committees for discussion and action, as needed
- Facilitate productive conversations about integrated college priorities and goals
- Elevate critical updates, decisions, and questions to appropriate groups and/or institutional leaders

### **Implementation Timeline**

VAR implementation started with the three-year pilot and statewide implementation will proceed using an iterative process.

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| Summer 2023  | Fall 2023  | Spring 2024  | Summer 2024  | Fall 2024   | December 2025  |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Statewide implementation was approved</li><li>• CEOs selected VAR implementation leads</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Training for implementation leads began</li><li>• Demo site became available</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VAR Regional Convenings</li><li>• General and program specific user manuals became available</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• VAR online reporting tool available (August)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• College programs begin collecting aggregated data for the first year of reporting</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First VAR report due</li></ul> |

### VAR Implementation Resources

There are a variety of VAR resources available to assist colleges with implementation.

- Program-specific and general VAR user manuals (including program crosswalks)
- VAR Implementation Leads
- Regional Convenings for College Teams – There are three remaining in-person convenings upcoming and a virtual session will be scheduled for those who were not able to attend in person.
  - [Thursday, March 21](#) – Oakland
  - [Thursday, March 28](#) - Ontario
  - TBD – Virtual
- Vision Resource Center (VRC) module: Introduction to Vision-Aligned Reporting
- VRC Vision-Aligned Reporting Community
- [VAR Webpage](#)
- Zoom VAR Office Hours
  - Colleges are invited to attend the weekly virtual office hours if they have any questions about VAR.
  - Every Tuesday from noon to 1 p.m.
  - Zoom Meeting ID: 846 427 3508

You may send additional questions to or request access to the VAR demo site at [VARSupport@FoundationCCC.org](mailto:VARSupport@FoundationCCC.org).

cc: Aisha Lowe, Executive Vice Chancellor, ESLEI  
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