

TO: Chief Executive Officers
Chief Instructional Officers
Chief Business Officers
Career Technical Education Deans
Regional Consortia Chairs
Technical Assistance Providers

FROM: Anthony Cordova, Vice Chancellor of Workforce and Economic Development

RE: FY 2026–27 Request for Application Release – K12 Strong Workforce Program Round Nine

The Chancellor’s Office, in partnership with the California Department of Education (CDE), is pleased to announce the release of the Request for Applications (RFA) for K12 Strong Workforce Program (K12 SWP). Beginning in 2018–19, Education Code §§ 88827 established the K12 component of the SWP appropriating \$150,000,000 in annual, ongoing Career Technical Education funding to strengthen students’ pathways from secondary to post-secondary education. K12 SWP funds will create, support, and/or expand high-quality career technical education programs at the K12 level that are aligned with the workforce development efforts occurring through the California Community Colleges SWP and regional priorities.

The goal of the K12 SWP is to increase the levels of college and career readiness among students, which will support their successful transition from secondary to post-secondary education and, ultimately, to career.

Eligible K12 local education agencies are encouraged to submit applications for K12 SWP funds to create, support, and/or expand high-quality CTE course sequences, programs, and pathways at the K–12 level that are aligned to regional workforce efforts occurring through the SWP.

Application Information

The K12 SWP Round Nine RFA Instructions, application requirements, and other materials are available online and may be accessed at the Chancellor’s Office [K12 SWP RFA website](#). The K12 SWP grant application, the required forms, and all supporting documents must be submitted and certified via the [NOVA online application platform](#) by **5 p.m., Oct. 2, 2026**. If you are new to NOVA, please create a new account via the [NOVA Request Access webpage](#).

Bidder’s Conference Webinar

There will be a Bidder’s Conference Webinar to provide an overview of the project submission process, **Aug. 26, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** Interested parties are required to complete the [webinar registration](#) to attend.

Questions

Any questions about specifications in the Request for Applications must be submitted via email K12SWP@CCCCO.edu by **5 p.m. Wed., Sept. 11, 2026.**

cc: Paige Mustain, Dean of Workforce and Economic Development
Mindi Parsons, Division Director of California Department of Education