

## CLIMATE ACTION WORKPLAN

### Accomplishments - May 2026

#### Executive Summary

The Vision 2030 Climate Action workplan is advancing a coordinated, systemwide strategy across California's 116 community colleges, embedding climate action into curriculum, campus infrastructure, and workforce pathways. Two examples illustrate the breadth of progress. In partnership with the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC), the Chancellor's Office secured a Title 5 change to the Natural Sciences general education requirement adding explicit language on human impacts on the environment and expanding qualifying courses to include environmental science representing a foundational policy shift that will shape climate literacy across all 116 colleges for years to come. On the infrastructure side, the Chancellor's Office is supporting California Renewable Energy Lab and National Renewable Energy Lab techno-economic microgrid studies at five colleges, advancing a legislative budget request and Proposition 4 funding to support construction, and has facilitated a statewide Foundation CCC master contract for solar, battery, and microgrid turnkey design and procurement, positioning campuses to serve as community resilience hubs during climate-related disasters.

On the workforce side, the Blue Economy and Climate Action Pathways (BECAP) demonstration project hosted a 2-day summit in 2026 focused on faculty professional development and regional partnership development, executed an MOU with AltaSea at the Port of LA to expand the BECAP model to other ports statewide, and launched an emerging Far North Blue Economy Consortium connecting four colleges (College of Marin, Santa Rosa Junior College, Mendocino College, and College of the Redwoods) along the North Coast from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Oregon border. Complementing this, the Chancellor's Office has compiled a statewide inventory of climate- and sustainability-focused CTE offerings, developed a Green and Blue Economy Primer to create shared language across colleges, and is completing a Climate CTE Workforce Dashboard and Resource Toolkit in collaboration with the National Renewable Energy Lab.

#### Vision 2030 in Action

The Vision 2030: Climate Action workplan operationalizes Strategic Direction: 2 - [Equitable Workforce and Economic Development](#), and Action: [9](#).

#### *Demonstration Projects*

- Blue Economy and Climate Action Pathways (BECAP)

## Progress & Accomplishments

### Activity 1: Professional Development for Climate Across the Curriculum to Increase Climate Literacy

- Conducted landscape analysis of faculty across the 116 California Community Colleges to determine extent of integration of climate across curriculum and mapped findings.
- Offered a series of statewide webinars on integrating climate across the curriculum and highlighting faculty from across the state.
- In partnership with ASCCC, effected Title V language change for Natural Sciences local general education requirement to incorporate language on ‘humans impact on the environment’ and to include environmental science as a course that meets the natural science requirement.
- Planning upcoming ASCCC Academic Academy - Just Transitions: Academic Academy Climate Justice and Action, October 23-24, 2026, Redondo Beach, CA.
- Ongoing development of Climate Competencies and Literacy for Equity, Action, and Resilience (CLEAR) digital instructional resource hub for climatized curricula, which will include: foundational and external resources and a searchable database for instructional resources.

### Activity 2: Implementation of Board of Governors Climate Action and Sustainability Goals

- Conducted landscape analysis of 116 California Community Colleges to determine document integration of Board of Governor’s Climate Action and Sustainability Goals. Conducted interviews with more than half of campuses/districts.
- Established a working group with three national architects (LPA, HMC and Gensler) to provide guidance for Community Colleges in obtaining LEED 5.0 Platinum certification.
- Partnering with ACBO and CBOs on developing a guide for making the business case for sustainability that will detail cost savings realized through energy savings and sustainability projects along with timelines for realizing return on investment.
- Created reporting framework for collecting metrics data on Board of Governors Climate Action and Sustainability Goals.
- Partnering with the Government Relations Division to investigate possible changes to Education Code language relating to Student Transportation Fee being linked to parking due to student transportation fees being the largest source funding across the system for transportation programs.
- Multiple presentations to ACBO Facilities Advisory Committee, Facilities & Sustainability Working Group, Energy Resource Sustainability Partnership, CCFC conference and C3 Converge Conference.

### Activity 3: Support Campuses to Become Community Resilience Hubs

- Supported California Renewable Energy Lab and National Renewable Energy Lab Microgrid Techno-economic studies for modeling system sizing and benefits of Microgrid System deployment for five colleges within the California Community College System.
- Submitted legislative budget request and working to secure Proposition 4 funds to support microgrid construction on campuses.
- Supported Foundation CCC statewide master contract for Solar, Battery, & Microgrid turnkey design, procurement, construction.
- Completed Draft Adaptation & Resiliency Toolkit for CCCs.

### Activity 4: Partnerships Development with Community Based Organizations

- Student Climate Fellows partnered with Keep CA Beautiful and Caltrans to obtain Clean California Community designation for CCC campuses and are working with students across the state to support expansion of designation among campuses.
- Creating database of community-based organizations throughout California that are engaged in climate, sustainability, and/or environmental justice work as a first step in supporting colleges to partner locally.

### Activity 5: Industry Collaboration to Support Public-Private Partnerships

- Established a working group with three national architects (LPA, HMC and Gensler) to provide guidance for Community Colleges in obtaining LEED 5.0 Platinum certification.

### Activity 6: Blue Economy and Climate Action Pathways (BECAP) Demonstration Project

#### *LA Region BECAP Consortium:*

Supported BECAP with the 2026 BECAP Summit which was a 2-day event that focused on faculty professional development and partnership development across the region. Finalizing data plan for BECAP demonstration project which will be presented at the BOG in May.

Executed MOU with AltaSea at the Port of LA to partner with them on expansion of BECAP model to other ports across the state. Published co-authored Op-Ed on AI-proof jobs in the Blue Economy.

#### *Emerging Far North Blue Economy Consortium:*

Applied a regional, systems-based approach to climate workforce development along the North Coast through convening cross-college leadership, engaging regional workforce development leaders, strengthening partnerships with industry and tribal entities, and forming a North Coast Blue Economy Consortium. This consortium connects the northern California coast from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Oregon border centered on four California Community Colleges:

- College of Marin - Southern gateway to the maritime corridor

- Santa Rosa Junior College- Regional hub for workforce development
- Mendocino College -Rural inland-coastal connector
- College of the Redwoods - Northern anchor to the Oregon border

Key accomplishments include hosting the inaugural convening of the consortium in Spring 2026, early governance development through a draft inter-institutional MOU, identification of priority sectors (e.g., heavy-lift and logistics, ocean energy, offshore wind, aquaculture, biological and regenerative resilience infrastructure), and initial planning for pilot living lab projects. No dedicated funding has been secured to date, and work has been supported through existing institutional capacity; however, the initiative is now positioned to move from planning to implementation. Remaining priorities include finalizing governance, selecting and launching pilot projects, pursuing coordinated funding, and developing shared metrics, with key dependencies related to funding, formalized structure, and continued regional engagement.

#### *Emerging Bay Area Blue Economy:*

Participated in San Francisco Bay Area Blue Economy convening and working with College of Alameda to lead a Bay Area consortium.

#### Activity 7: Catalogue Transferable Skills in Green and Blue Economy

- Compiled a consolidated view of active climate- and sustainability-aligned CTE offerings statewide connected to climate action, sustainability, and green and blue economy needs, including both explicitly climate-focused programs and climate-adjacent pathways in sectors such as transportation, construction, culinary, community health, supply chains, agriculture, energy, automotive, and design. In collaboration with regional consortiums, validating program components and alignment with regional workforce needs.
- Created the Green and Blue Economy Primer to provide common language and reference points that help colleges articulate how diverse CTE programs contribute to climate outcomes. This has been shared with the regional consortium directors, CTE faculty, and participants in multiple conference sessions.
- Completing a Climate CTE Workforce Dashboard and Resource Toolkit to translate the landscape analysis and primer into practical, accessible resources that support planning, program development, advising, and collaboration across colleges and regions meeting the needs of the green and blue economy.
- Beginning to collaborate with the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) to incorporate their existing work on transferable skills into the abovementioned resources.

#### Contributors

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