Regional Strong Workforce Program

A New Funding Opportunity:
Adoption and Integration of Onboarding Practices with Guided Pathways

Purpose of the Project

Why: Strong onboarding practices are essential to ensure that students successfully start and complete their college experiences and transition successfully to further education and careers. This is a fundamental "pillar" of Guided Pathways and principle of SSSP. The Strong Workforce Program adds value to these initiatives by intentionally connecting students to programs and services that are relevant and engaging, and that support their long-term career goals.

What: Provide support to colleges to work toward the adoption and integration of campus onboarding strategies with Guided Pathways efforts at the colleges. Specifically, the focus is on implementing three best practices that align with the principles "entering the path" of Guided Pathways:

1. The development of an *intake form and practices* that are comprehensive enough to facilitate effective referral of students to appropriate programs and services.
2. An *orientation process* that welcomes students to the campus, effectively informs students — through interactive as well as electronic means — of all the programs and services available to them and serves as the first step to integrating students into their pathways or learning communities.
3. *Career guidance and exploration processes* that occur before students are required to select their courses of study and are integrated with education planning, thereby ensuring better "fit", promoting student agency in selecting majors and courses, and supporting ongoing motivation and eventual completion.

How: Through a comprehensive RFA process that will support all colleges in developing plans to adopt and scale the three strategies described above. Prior to submitting an application, colleges must attend an informational session, complete a self-assessment, and participate in at least one, one-on-one consultation. These activities are designed to support the application development process, so that colleges can maximize this opportunity.

Timeline:
- Fall 2018: Application development
- Informational Session: September 26, 2018 (mandatory participation)
- Deadline to submit applications: November 30, 2018
- Project Span: January 2019 through June 2021

Funding Available: $225,000 per college

Mandatory Information Session Details

Date: September 26, 2018
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (lunch provided)
Location: TBD

Purpose:
- Provide background information about the purpose and goals of the funding
- Explain the application process
- Support completion of self-assessment
- Answer questions

Who Should Participate:
- **Minimum number of participants per campus: 5**
- **Maximum number of participants per campus: 10**
- Prospective participants:
  1. Student Services Dean
  2. CE Dean
  3. Career and General Counselors
  4. Counseling Department Chairs
  5. Person responsible for Career Services
  6. Person responsible for Guided Pathways overall
  7. Person responsible for "Entering the Path"
  8. Person responsible for SSSP
  9. Person responsible for student outreach and onboarding
  10. Person responsible for campus orientation
  11. Faculty responsible for department orientation
  12. Person responsible for student equity
  13. Representative from institutional research (as appropriate)

By Monday, August 27, 2018 please provide:
- The name, title, email, phone number for each participant to:
  To Leslie Blanchard, leslie.blanchard@gcccd.edu; (619)644-7354

For question or additional information:
- Name: Claudia Estrada at cestrada@sdccd.edu or
  Mollie Smith at mollie.smith@gcccd.edu