

# Annual Report 2024-25



**Workforce and Economic Development Division** 

#### **FISCAL YEAR 2024-25**

A year of strategic growth, strengthened partnerships, and economic development across the region.

www.cccco.edu

# **Table of Contents**

INTRODUCTION	<u>3</u>
LEADERSHIP CORNER	<u>4</u>
TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS	<u>6</u>
Program Highlights	<u>7</u>
Chancellor's Office & Division Conferences	<u>11</u>
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES CHARTING NEW CAREER PATHS	<u>12</u>
VISION 2030 IN ACTION	<u>14</u>
Apprenticeship Pathway Demonstration Project	<u>14</u>
United Domestic Workers Demonstration Project	<u>15</u>
Rising Scholars	<u>16</u>
ECE/EDU Educator Pipeline Demonstration Project	<u>17</u>
AGTEC Workforce Initiative	<u>18</u>
Bridging the Nursing Gap Demonstration Project	<u>19</u>
PUBLIC FUNDS IN ACTION	20
Grant Spending and Multiple Agency Collaboration	<u>20</u>
VISION 2030: AMPLIFYING OUR WORK	<u>22</u>
STUDENT STORY METRIC REPORT	<u>24</u>
FUTURE FORWARD	25

### Introduction

WELCOME TEAM MEMBERS, **COLLEAGUES, AND STAKEHOLDERS TO** THE FIRST WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT.** 

What a remarkable year it has been for the Workforce and Economic Development Division (WEDD). As we reflect on the milestones, challenges, and accomplishments of the past year, one thing is abundantly clear—our team's commitment to impact, innovation, and equity has never been stronger.

This inaugural WEDD Annual Report marks a pivotal moment in our evolution. With intention and focus, we began the year with a goal to transform how we operate—from streamlining internal processes to fostering a culture of collaboration and unity.

This year kicked off with specific focus and goal of transforming our operational efficiency, culture, and team cohesion. We have made huge strides in reaching our goal, including welcoming two new deans and several talented team members, restructuring program ownership to better

leverage capacity, and aligning our operations under a newly reestablished division framework. These foundational changes have elevated our ability to serve colleges and our students with greater efficiency and purpose.

Across California, WEDD has supported countless events, programs, and initiatives—from celebrating apprenticeship milestones and launching statewide career education strategies, to shaping new workforce pathways in collaboration with industry and education leaders. Our newsletters throughout the year highlighted key moments, including the California Jobs First Coalition event, the Chancellor's Office Climate Summit, and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on career development with the Port of Los Angeles, to name a few.

We've seen students thrive and carry out their dreams—from internships at NASA to hundreds of apprenticeships that launch skilled careers. We have celebrated staff achievements and witnessed the seeds of Vision 2030 taking root across our system, guided by equity, innovation, and student success.

As we launch this annual report, we hope it not only captures the incredible efforts and progress made by our internal team but also reflects the power of collective leadership across the community college system. The stories within speak to a shared mission of building opportunityrich futures for all Californians. This annual report aims to recognize the incredible work and accomplishments happening not only from an internal team perspective, but also in showing our support and partnership across the system.

With gratitude,

Anthony Cordova

**Anthony Cordova** 

Vice Chancellor, Workforce and Economic Development

## **Leadership Corner**

At the start of the fiscal year, one of our first priorities was to strengthen our leadership structure. This strategic move helped distribute programmatic ownership and to ensure staff had support and escalation paths. In addition to new leadership, we also restructured program assignments and staff reporting.

#### See WEDD's organizational chart



Anthony Cordova Vice Chancellor acordova@cccco.edu



Gary W. Adams
Dean
gadams@cccco.edu



LaCandice Ochoa

Dean
lochoa@cccco.edu



Linda Bermudez, Ed.D.

Dean

lbermudez@cccco.edu



Chèri Fortin
Dean
cfortin@cccco.edu



### Team Accomplishments

#### **Internal Communications and Access**

Throughout the year, two guiding themes anchored our work and underpinned all our efforts; One Team - All for One and One for All AND Make it Matter - Vision 2030 and You! We implemented a strategic, intentional, and unified approach to division messaging and internal communications. The leadership team hosted quarterly in-person division-wide meetings, and we launched biweekly informal open-office hour sessions for staff to share concerns, ask questions, or simply get to know one another on a more personal level.



#### **Intranet Page**

The team launched a division intranet page in May 2025 and recognized immediate adoption with 100% of the organization visiting the page in the first 30 days. Efficiency was realized quickly as the most useful information was centralized and available to WEDD staff in three clicks or less.



#### **Quarterly Meetings**

The division's in-person quarterly meetings are an excellent way for staff to get together and talk through division-specific topics, suggestions, or best practices.

Some highlighted topics from this past year were:

- Vision 2030 Updates
- Executive Team Meet and Greet
- Program Realignment Discussions
- Al and Digital Center

Agendas and meeting materials available on the WEDD Intranet.



#### **MS Teams Expansion**

While the agency expanded the use of MS Teams beyond just the "chat" function in early 2024, the WEDD Division decided to redeploy and adopt the use of MS Teams in an organized and unified capacity. The division is now utilizing the platform and some of the coordinated power apps in a consistent approach to program management, including the use of MS Planner, meeting management through OneNote, leadership collaboration utilizing post discussions, as well as document storage, and co-authoring. The deployment and use of the MS Teams platform and features has proven a huge step toward efficiency and organizational collaboration.

#### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

Each year, WEDD strengthens the connection between education and workforce needs across the state. Programs are designed to equip students with relevant skills for today's dynamic job market while supporting regional economic growth and addressing labor market demands. Key programs under WEDD include the Strong Workforce Program (SWP), which funds career education to increase student success in workforce pathways; the California Adult Education Program (CAEP), aimed at improving adult learners' access to education and training; and Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning Initiatives, which expand opportunities to learn skills while earning money in both traditional and emerging industries.



WEDD also leads other important initiatives like Career Technical Education (CTE) Leadership, Regional Consortia, and Employer Engagement efforts, all of which focus on aligning educational offerings with local employer needs. These programs serve the organization by fostering innovation, accountability, and partnerships with industry and community stakeholders, while students benefit through access to high-quality equitable career education that enhances employability and economic mobility. Below are some updates from each of these programs this year.

#### **California Adult Education Program (CAEP)**

The California Adult Education Program (CAEP) is a statewide initiative jointly overseen by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (Chancellor's Office) and the California Department of Education (CDE). It was established in 2015 by Assembly Bill 104 to better serve adult learners by fostering collaboration among K-12 adult schools, community colleges, workforce boards, libraries, and community-based organizations. CAEP supports adults in acquiring the skills necessary to earn a high school diploma (or equivalency), improve basic literacy and numeracy, learn English (ESL/ELL programs), gain workforce training aligned with regional needs, transition to postsecondary education or employment, and support family literacy and civic participation.



#### \$130M Healthcare Pathways Funding Project

- Round Two (FY 2024-2025) LOI was announced.
   Access the LOI on the <u>Chancellor's Office</u> website.
- Watch a recording of the informational webinar on Round Two.

#### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)**

#### **California Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI)**

The California Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI), administered through the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, is a major statewide effort to expand and diversify the use of apprenticeship training models across a variety of sectors. Launched in 2015, CAI provides grants to community colleges and their partners to develop new or innovative apprenticeship programs that go beyond traditional trades—extending into fields like healthcare, IT, education, and advanced manufacturing.

 Amended Notice of Intent to Award - California Apprenticeship Initiative New and Innovative Grant Program (Fiscal Year 2023-24) was sent out on May 9, 2024.





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

The Economic and Workforce Development Program is designed to strengthen California's economic vitality through education and workforce training that meets the evolving demands of business and industry. The program's central aim is to ensure that the state's workforce is equipped with the skills needed to support key sectors of the economy.

 Strategic partnerships with regional employers through Regional Consortia. Emphasis on equity, digital literacy, and reskilling programs in response to postpandemic and automationrelated economic changes.

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

The K–12 Strong Workforce Program (K12 SWP) is a statewide initiative administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office in collaboration with the California Department of Education. It was created to strengthen career education pathways for students in grades 7–12, ensuring smoother transitions from K–12 schools into postsecondary education and careers in high-demand sectors.

Round 7 grant allocations were awarded in early 2024.
 View the full list of recipients.



#### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)**



#### **Modern Policing Degree Program**

California's Modern Policing Degree Program, established under Assembly Bill 89 (AB 89), aims to enhance the education and training of peace officers in the state. The program mandates that, effective January 1, 2025, new peace officer applicants must be at least 21 years old and have either a bachelor's degree or an associate degree in modern policing. The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, in collaboration with stakeholders such as the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), law enforcement representatives, and community organizations, was tasked with developing this degree program and submitted a report with recommendations to

the Legislature by June 1, 2023. Together, they refined over 30 recommendations, shaping the associate degree's core—including psychology, communications, ethnic studies, law, and critical thinking—ensuring it aligns with standards required for POST certification.

- As of this publication there have been a total of 24 community colleges who have submitted degree programs for approval to start in the fall of 2025
- Check out the latest update on this work
- Supporting slide deck

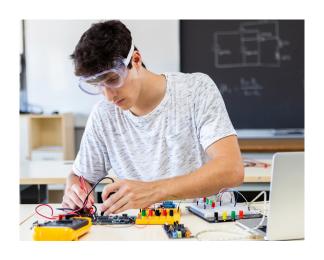
#### **Nursing and Allied Health**

The Nursing and Allied Health programs provide instruction leading to a certificate, associate degrees, and transfers to four-year institutions. The goals of the program include improving the employability of newly graduated nurses and allied health professionals to function as safe and effective patient care practitioners, promoting and supporting statewide efforts to increase the pipeline of baccalaureate-prepared nursing and allied health professionals, and supporting colleges to deliver health care workforce training programs to meet the future demands of a growing, aging, and diverse population.



 The Nursing Enrollment and Growth Retention Grant for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 LOI was released on June 19, 2024. The performance period runs from August 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

#### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)**



#### **Perkins IC**

Perkins IC (Perkins Implementation Certification) is a required annual certification process for recipients of Perkins V funds—typically local educational agencies (LEAs) like high schools, county offices of education, and community colleges—to confirm that they are meeting the compliance requirements of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act.

 Perkins 1C Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Allocations - Memo announcing the 2024-2025 Perkins Title IC allocations for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education.

#### **Strong Workforce Program (SWP)**

The Strong Workforce Program (SWP) was launched in 2016 and is a signature initiative of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. Its primary mission is to expand the availability and quality of career education (CE) programs across California's 116 community colleges to meet the needs of a dynamic labor market.

 Grouped into seven areas targeting student success, career pathways, workforce data and outcomes, curriculum, CTE faculty, regional coordination and funding, this leading-edge state economic development program is driven by "more and better" CTE.



- Strong Workforce Program Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Base Allocation Funding Memorandum
- Strong Workforce Program Fiscal Year 2024-2025 17% Incentive Funding Memorandum

#### **CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE & DIVISION CONFERENCES**

July 2024 through June 2025

29 Conferences

20
Presentations

3
Keynote Addresses

**5**Panel Discussions

**7** Regions









# California Community Colleges Charting

### **New Career Paths**

#### **MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING**

This year WEDD, on behalf of California Community Colleges, secured extensive new agreements with partners committed to creating career pathways for new and incumbent workers.

#### **Career Pathways for Aging Californians**

California's over-60 population is projected to diversify and grow faster than any other age group. By 2030, nearly 10 million Californians will be an older adult. Guided by California's Master Plan for Aging, the California Community Colleges, California Department of Aging, and the Workforce Development Agency signed an MOU that provides guidelines for regional partners to establish career pathways for older adults. The partnership also expands the caregiving workforce, which is a critical need as it is estimated that California will experience a shortage of up to 3.2 million caregivers by 2030.

## **Connecting College Students to Maritime and Goods Movement Careers**

The Chancellor's Office and the Port of Los Angeles signed an MOU to ensure that Southern Californians receive the skills necessary for careers in the evolving goods movement industry. Activities outlined in the MOU include expanding Port apprenticeship opportunities for community college students; connecting students to Port careers through career and recruitment events; and educating community college career personnel on the diversity of maritime and goods movement careers.

#### **Skilling Up for Public Sector Careers**

California Government Operations Agency
The Chancellor's Office entered an MOU with
the California Government Operations Agency
to expand talent pathways from community
college programs to state government careers.
Primary goals include promoting state careers as a
mechanism to achieve economic mobility; provide
better, more efficient, and more equitable services
to the people of California; and supporting positive



career outcomes for community college students and alumni.

#### Institute for Local Government

In partnership with the Institute for Local Government (ILG), California Community Colleges will build new apprenticeship opportunities in public sector fields as diverse as human resources, accounting, information technology, and health and human services. ILG launched a pilot initiative with Yolo County that will include partnerships with community-based organizations for mentoring, wrap around services, and technology services. The initial 12-month pilot will include 5-10 career apprenticeship programs.

#### **Preparing Future Workers in Generative AI**

The Chancellor's Office, as a party in an MOU between the Governor's Office and Nvidia Corporation, will participate in activities to responsibly and thoughtfully utilize AI to drive significant advances in economic and workforce development. Key Vision 2030 sectors, including Climate and Energy, Biotech, Media and Entertainment, Agriculture, Transportation, and High Technology, will be top priorities to maintain California's global economic advantages. Specific activities may include developing state-of-theart college campus 'AI laboratories', curriculum integration and development, and explore possibilities for hackathons, design sprints, or other collaborative events that showcase practical applications of AI technology.

We drive Vision 2030 forward by managing career education and entrepreneurial development programs built from real-world employer data and market intelligence.



### Vision 2030 in Action

Workforce and Economic Development Demonstration Projects are pilot initiatives that foster significant change in California's community colleges by seeding innovation, scaling implementation of promising practices, and integrating new education models. Projects are expanding pathways for more credit opportunities through apprenticeships and for students earning lower incomes, as well as veterans and other groups.

#### **APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (APDP)**



#### **Project Overview**

The Apprenticeship Pathways demonstration project gives students on-the-job training and classroom instruction in high-demand industries, guaranteeing wages during their education and employment afterward. Participating colleges employ credit for prior learning to award credit for the apprenticeships, providing students with a direct path to certificates and degrees, employment and upward social mobility. The project could provide a statewide model for apprenticeships.



#### **Enrollment Progress**

Since its launch, the APDP project has served approximately 2,855 students, with 876 receiving credit for prior learning (CPL). Extended through June 30, 2026, the project will continue to support grant objectives and offer additional training in fall 2025 and spring 2026.



#### **Program Highlight**

In partnership with the LAUNCH Apprenticeship Network, the project is also developing a statewide apprenticeship hub and regional infrastructures to support program development, registration, and employer engagement across the California Community Colleges.

**27** 

**Grantees Supported** 

2,855

**Students Served** 

876

Students Received Credit for Prior Learning



**Merry Ramirez** assembles chips at Infinera Corporation, a San Jose-based company that supplies parts for high-speed telecommunications, and has—along with other manufacturers in the industry—partnered with Foothill College in nearby Los Altos to offer the semiconductor apprenticeship program which Ramirez just completed.

This is the first semiconductor apprenticeship of its kind in the state of California, and the partnerships with area manufacturers enabled the school to cultivate talent for the most needed careers of today. It's been a year since the program's inception, and Ramirez and her classmates graduated from the first cohort in December 2024.

#### **UNITED DOMESTIC WORKERS (UDW) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**



#### **Project Overview**

The UDW Adult Learner Demonstration Project launched in June 2024 with 20 colleges across five counties, aimed at improving outcomes for adult learners through innovative strategies and cross-sector collaboration.



#### **Enrollment Progress**

Since the project launched in spring 2024, 581 UDW members have enrolled in noncredit or credit programs across participating colleges. Enrollment has steadily grown from 145 learners in July 2024 to 581 as of spring 2025.



#### **Program Highlight**

The project was featured at key events, including the fall 2024 DEIA Institute and CCCAOE pre-sessions in spring and fall 2024, showcasing strategies to advance equity and strengthen statewide efforts for adult learner engagement.

145

**Learners in July 2024** 

**581** 

**Learners in Spring 2025** 



**Roxana de Hernandez** is an in-home caregiver for her 20-year-old daughter, who is nonverbal and has autism, and for a home-bound 81-year-old client. Through the UDW Demonstration Project, Roxana is enrolled in an English as a Second Language course at no cost to her, receives a housing allowance, and scholarship funding to attend professional development conferences.

#### RISING SCHOLARS



#### **Project Overview**

The Rising Scholars demonstration project aims to advance certificate and degree completion for justice-impacted students. The project provides technical assistance, resources, and support to enhance partnerships between three colleges and three correctional institutions. Through these efforts, the project aims to increase postincarceration employment.

2,637
Students Served

↑<u>=</u>

#### **Enrollment Progress**

A total of **2,637 students** were served across the five demonstration colleges. This number includes currently incarcerated, formerly incarcerated, and juvenile justice-impacted students—reflecting the overlapping nature of these populations. While the project began with a focus on supporting currently incarcerated individuals, it has expanded to serve all Rising Scholars student populations, ensuring a broader and more inclusive impact.

**5** Demonstration Colleges



#### **Program Highlight**

Through these efforts, the project aims to increase postincarceration employment prospects and socioeconomic mobility; reduce recidivism; and improve their ability to provide for their families, contribute to their communities and positively impact society.



Jose Romero served 26 years in prison before being introduced to the Rising Scholars program where he was convinced to enroll in, and complete, an associate degree in sociology and behavioral science at Palomar College. He transferred to San Marcos State University and is pursuing his bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in criminology while working at Palomar College as a student support specialist, helping other formerly incarcerated students enroll in classes.

#### **ECE/EDU EDUCATOR PIPELINE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT (EP)**



#### **Project Overview**

This Demonstration Project focuses on strengthening the preparation and availability of California's teachers, aligning with Chancellor Sonya Christian's Vision 2030 and state education master plans. By prioritizing Early Childhood Education and Education sectors, it builds on regional successes to expand pathways, provide technical support, and enhance student outreach. The project aims to address teacher shortages by improving workforce preparation, streamlining educational pathways, and boosting student support across all education levels.

↑<u>=</u>

#### **Enrollment Progress**

California faces a critical teacher shortage affecting education statewide. The May 2025 Centers of Excellence Sector Profile: Early Childhood Education and Education reports that the education sector includes 30 occupations with 1.4 million jobs and is projected to grow 6% by 2028, adding over 84,300 jobs. Industries hiring education workers are expected to grow nearly 10%, double the state average. Education programs at 113 community colleges enroll about 126,000 students annually, with 16,320 completing degrees or certificates each year. Most students are female (82%) and Hispanic (55%) or White (22%), with 30% aged 20–24.

84,300

**Jobs Added by 2028** 

Industries Hiring Education Workers Expected to Grow

10%

126,000

Students Enrolled in Education Programs Annually



#### **Program Highlight**

Key milestones include expanding pipelines and apprenticeships in the ECE/EDU sector, with 43% of the state's 1,234 registered apprentices located in the SF Bay Area by June 2025. The project also published the "Playbook for Teach for the Bay," based on an October 2024 virtual conference attended by 1,100 students with over 30 workshops. The Playbook now serves as a guide for similar statewide events.



#### AGTEC WORKFORCE INITIATIVE



#### **Project Overview**

AgTec is a Competency-Based Education (CBE) program developed in collaboration with seven Central San Joaquin Valley community colleges. It aims to upskill adult learners and socially disadvantaged farmworkers in agriculture through a non-credit Ag Systems Certificate program. The program features online modules, inperson assessments, and support from farmworker organizations, all while aligning with MAP and ONET frameworks to support stackable credentials and workforce integration.

Central San Joaquin Valley Community Colleges

357
Students Enrolled



#### **Enrollment Progress**

As of June 2025, the Ag Systems Certificate is currently active at six community colleges, with 357 students enrolled. Persistence rates indicate that approximately 68% of students who started at the beginning of the term remain enrolled. Over 400 assessments have been completed, and 22 students have earned their certificates to date. Technical support, outreach, and collaboration efforts continue across all seven colleges.



#### **Program Highlight**

Collaboration between colleges, industry, and farmworker groups to co-create curriculum, offer bilingual CBE modules, and provide stackable digital credentials. The program builds pathways into agricultural careers and is positioned for statewide scalability.



## BRIDGING THE NURSING GAP DEMONSTRATION PROJECT: NURSING ADN EXPANSION (ADN)



#### **Project Overview**

This project tackles California's nursing shortage by expanding Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) programs at community colleges, with a focus on serving underserved students and promoting equity in healthcare. It aims to create a statewide blueprint through a community of practice involving administrators, faculty, and staff. Key strategies include incumbent worker training, simulation labs, flexible scheduling, and partnerships with labor unions, healthcare providers, and the Board of Registered Nursing to boost program capacity and support student success.

24
Colleges

40%

Expected Increase in Enrollment by December 2026



#### **Enrollment Progress**

The ADN expansion launched in March 2024 and is slated to run through December 2026. A cohort of up to ten colleges is being assembled with the goal of increasing enrollment by 40%. As of spring 2025, seven colleges

have accepted the invitation to join the ADN Expansion Demonstration Project and were active participants in the April Community of Practice convening. Currently, 200 students are enrolled in the spring 2025 semester, as reported by the Program Director. MIS enrollment data will be reported by the data team at the Chancellor's Office following the end of the term. Ongoing activities include regional partnership development, identifying and enrolling incumbent workers, securing BRN approvals, recruiting part-time faculty, and aligning program structures to support enrollment growth.



#### **Program Highlight**

Statewide community of practice with monthly convenings, strategic use of simulation labs, flexible scheduling (evening, year-round, accelerated), and deep partnerships with labor, regulatory bodies, and healthcare employers to expand ADN program capacity.



### Public Funds in Action

## GRANT SPENDING AND MULTIPLE AGENCY COLLABORATION

In addition to state mandated programs, such as Career and Technical Education, the K12 Strong Workforce Program, and the California Apprenticeship Initiative, the Workforce and Economic Development Department oversees special project assignments to pilot new initiatives that provide lessons and opportunities to meet the needs of a dynamic economy where the workforce and workforce skills are constantly evolving.



#### Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP)

Launched in response to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP) is a \$35 million statewide initiative led by the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) in partnership with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

RERP strengthens regional collaboration between Local Workforce Development Boards, community colleges, and industry partners to train individuals with barriers to employment and connect them to high-quality jobs in in-demand industries.

#### **Grant Awards**



**15 Regional Planning Units** (**RPUs**) received CWDB grants



**75 community colleges** received grants from the Chancellor's Office



**Corporation for a Skilled Workforce** is conducting third-party evaluation



**California Workforce Association** is providing technical assistance



**Grant Duration:** January 2023 – December 2025



**Funding:** \$25M from CWDB and \$10M from the Chancellor's Office



#### Participants to be served:

2,781 by CWDB grantees and 3,183 by community colleges



**Target Outcomes:** Job placement, wage gains, and successful training completion

#### **High Road Initiatives (HRTP & HRCC)**

As part of California's commitment to equitable workforce development, the state invested \$35 million to support High Road Training Partnerships (HRTP) and High Road Construction Careers (HRCC). These initiatives connect Californians with high-quality, climate-resilient jobs in growing industries.

#### **HRTP Grant Awards**



**103 total applications** across five funding rounds (2022–2023)



**63 funded projects** across 15+ sectors statewide

#### **HRCC Grant Awards**

The HRCC program supports construction career pathways that connect community college students to state-certified apprenticeships through local building trades councils. The program emphasizes credit for prior learning, supportive services, and direct entry into careers with strong wages and benefits.



**9 total grants awarded** in the construction sector



Two application rounds in 2023



Additional funding rounds planned



**\$25M** allocated to the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB)



**\$10M** allocated to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office



**Programs align with state goals** for equity, sustainability, and job quality

#### **LA Recovery Effort**

#### **LA Wildfires**

As Los Angeles emerges from the devastation of recent wildfires, the LA 19 Community Colleges, led by LACCD in partnership with the Chancellor's Office, have created a forward-thinking, equity-centered approach to workforce development, infrastructure restoration, and community revitalization. The REBUILD approach is a comprehensive plan designed to mobilize talent, train workers, and rebuild communities with resilience and sustainability at the core. Keep an eye out for the formal publication of this plan as our funds and efforts become community action.



#### **Donation Partnerships**

The Wildfire and Disaster Relief Fund, administered by the <u>Foundation for California Community Colleges</u>, provides community colleges in impacted areas with funds to help its community members who have lost homes or been forced to evacuate due to the fires. Donations to the fund help cover relocation costs, temporary housing, transportation, clothing, and food, as well as replace essential equipment, such as lost or destroyed computers.

## Vision 2030: Amplifying Our Work

Stay connected with the latest updates from the Chancellor through a variety of channels including press releases, newsletters, blog posts, webinars, and social media. Below are key resources to keep you informed and engaged.

#### **Press Releases**

Access official announcements and important news from the Chancellor's Office. These releases highlight significant initiatives, policy updates, and other key developments. View Press Releases

#### **Educate. Elevate. Podcast**

The Educate. Elevate. podcast features inspirational stories from students, alumni,

and faculty. Thoughtprovoking conversations highlighting the many resources available will inspire current and prospective Black and African American students to enroll or stay enrolled in a community college. The bimonthly episodes



also aim to increase student transfer rates to the University of California, California State University, private nonprofit colleges, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

Listen to the Educate. Elevate. podcast.



#### **Blog Posts**

Read personal reflections, educational insights, and updates directly from the Chancellor on her blog. This is a great way to dive deeper into topics affecting California's community colleges.

**Visit Blog** 

#### **News and Media**

Stay informed with the latest news, stories, and updates from the Chancellor's Office, featuring a range of topics impacting California community colleges.

**Explore News and Media** 

#### **Social Media**

Follow the Chancellor on social media to get real-time updates, insights, and community highlights. Engage directly through her posts and stay connected with ongoing initiatives.









22

#### **DIVISION COMMUNICATION**

#### **WEDD Newsletters**

WEDD launched its division newsletter in the summer of 2024. The newsletter highlights success stories from across the State, Vision 2030 goals in action, and the activities of WEDD leadership that happen between newsletter releases. The newsletter celebrates the achievements of community colleges, inspires collaboration, demonstrates best practices, and represents activities from an array of community colleges across the State. Through success stories, program highlights, and key updates, the newsletter provides valuable insights into ongoing efforts that strengthen partnerships, drive impactful workforce development, and offer potential models for replication across the state.

The newsletter is emailed out to the WEDD distribution list but can also be found on the <u>WEDD Programs Updates and</u> <u>Newsletters Page</u>.

#### **Press Releases**

Throughout 2024 and 2025, the WEDD team released a series of press and media releases through the Chancellor's Office that spotlight key milestones in workforce and economic development across the region. These press releases cover a range of strategic initiatives, including new and expanded apprenticeship programs, advancements in nursing education, a memorandum of understanding with the Port of Los Angeles, and collaborative events focused on career education and Jobs for the Future.

Each release reflects the impact of WEDD's ongoing efforts to build industry-aligned pathways, strengthen regional partnerships, and create accessible opportunities for students and workers. Together, they underscore the team's year-round commitment to driving workforce innovation and economic growth.

Read the collection of press releases sent to the media during the 2024-25 fiscal year.





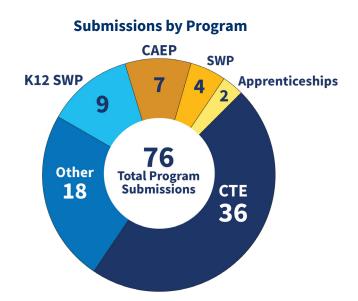


## **Student Story Metric Report**

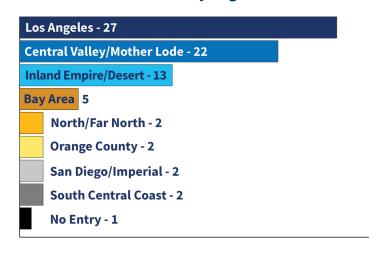
In January 2025, after a number of stories had been collected, WEDD began analyzing these stories and creating quarterly metrics reports. Metrics provided in the report will help determine where we need to source more stories moving forward (e.g. we need to find additional stories from the Bay Area or need more stories that align with Vision 2030); it will also provide metrics for WEDD leadership to review so they can encourage their teams to add more stories. Below are the results for Q1 and Q2 (up to June 4, 2025).

#### Q1 Results

Total submissions in Q1 included 76 student success stories, and the most commonly submitted stories were related to CTE. The regions who submitted the most stories included Los Angeles, Central Valley/ Mother Lode, and Inland Empire/Desert in that order.

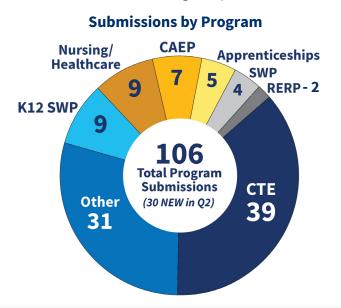


#### **Submissions by Region**

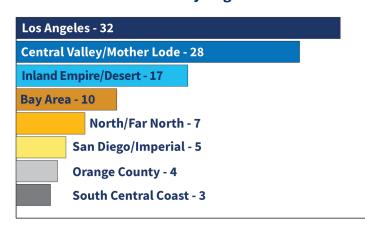


#### **Q2 Results**

Total submissions in Q2 included 106 student success stories, with 30 new stories being submitted across a variety of regions and programs. The regions with the most submissions during Q2 continue to be Los Angeles, Central Valley/Mother Lode, and Inland Empire/Desert in that order, but the Bay Area and North/Far North, and San Diego/Imperial all added several more stories during this quarter.



#### **Submissions by Region**



### **Future Forward**

As we look at what lies ahead and reignite our passion to provide impact, the team remains laser focused and ready to continually improve our services. We have shared all our hard work and are proud to say our foundation is solid and we are successful in our mission of ensuring students from all backgrounds succeed in reaching their goals and improving their families and communities.

I personally want to extend a HUGE thank you to not only the WED Division staff, but to all our constituents, colleagues, cross-division partners, regional stakeholders, and system leaders. The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office WEDD team is ready to take on new challenges with clarity and purpose—deepening collaboration across sectors, improving access to opportunity, and using smarter tools to drive decision-making. We remain rooted in the values of equity, innovation, and resilience. Together, we look forward to another year of growth, progress, and shared success.

Onward and Upward.

Sincerely,

Anthony Cordova

**Anthony Cordova** 

Vice Chancellor, Workforce and Economic Development Division, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office





**Workforce and Economic Development Division** 

#### www.ccco.edu

