



January 20, 2015

Congratulations to the 15 college districts identified for the **Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program!** [Read Chancellor's Office press release](#)

The Board of Governors (BOG) at its meeting this afternoon initially approved 15 colleges for the SB 850 Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program, pending consultation with UC & CSU and final approval at BOG's March 16-17 meeting. The BOG also held a first reading of proposed regulatory changes regarding fees for the baccalaureate program. Congratulations also to Chancellor Harris and his staff for conducting the entire selection process in less than 120 days - including winter break. Thirty-four (34) college districts submitted proposals.



*Chancellor Harris recognizes Senator Block and Chancellor Carroll for the passage of SB 850.
From left to right: Senator Block, Chancellor Carroll, Chancellor Brice Harris, and BOG President Baum.*

Come hear more about the pilot program from the two champions of SB 850, Chancellors **Constance Carroll** and **Linda Thor**, at the Legislative Conference this weekend.

Legislative advocacy makes a difference. Another groundbreaking policy discussion this year is **adult education**. Here's an analysis from our talented Legislative Advocate Lizette Navarette:

Over the last two years, a major statewide policy dialogue around adult education redesign and reinvestment has come to the forefront. The League has carefully tracked and advocated to build support for a system that allows regional collaboration, but most importantly delivers on student's unmet education needs. This is one of the defining issues of this year's budget process.

Adult Education Background & AB 86 Regional Planning Consortia

In July of 2013, the Governor and Legislature approved Assembly Bill 86 (AB 86), the 2013-2014 budget trailer bill. AB 86 Section 76 Article 3 provided \$25 million in joint funding (\$22.5 million distributed as grants) for planning grants to regional consortia of community college districts and school districts for the purpose of developing regional plans to better serve the educational needs of adults. Specifically, consortia are asked to create plans to better provide adults in its region with all of the following five education service areas:

- Elementary and secondary basic skills
- Courses in citizenship, English as a second language
- Education programs for adults with disabilities
- Short-term career technical education programs with high employment potential
- Programs for apprentices

As a result, 70 regional consortia were formed to analyze and plan more collaborative models of adult education delivery.

Governor Brown's Adult Education Proposal

Governor Jerry Brown has outlined a \$500 million Adult Education Block Grant in his January Proposed Budget for 2015-16.

- The first \$300 to \$350 million will go to backfill K-12 districts' Maintenance of Effort (MOE) which will be allocated through CCCCCO to the California Department of Education (CDE). This figure excludes fees revenue charged by some adult schools.
- The remaining \$150 to \$200 million will go to fund regional consortia.
- The total MOE amount will be certified by the Superintendent for Public Instruction and the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.
- The Superintendent and Chancellor will jointly approve allocation of funds to the consortiums.

The Governor's proposal provides for each consortium to establish a fiscal allocation committee, with responsibility for final spending decisions, consisting of seven (7) members:

- CCC representative
- K-12 representative
- Other adult education providers (not a K-12 or CC member)
- WIB
- Social services provider
- Correctional rehabilitation program
- Public member

The final report from the AB 86 Regional Consortia is due to the legislature on March 1, 2015 and that report will provide a framework for remaining policy decisions.

- The issue of whether to charge fees for courses will likely come up in the May revise.
- Funds can be used for direct instruction, support services, and administration of the consortia (up to 5%).
- An allocation formula that will be outlined in budget trailer bill language will provide for how much will be allocated to each consortium. Factors will likely include need and students served.

We thank the Governor for proposing an adult education plan that embraces and builds upon the local planning and collaboration of the AB 86 Regional Consortia. The continued reinvestment in adult education is necessary to fill unmet needs of many adults throughout the state.

We will continue to stress the importance of a local fiscal decision making structure as part of the Regional Consortia that provides balance and gives community colleges an equal voice.

We also support a one-year transition period followed by a funding formula that emphasizes collaborative service delivery and provides community colleges with the appropriate levels of funding to close adult education gaps in each region.

Adult education and baccalaureate degree are two of many other topics that will be discussed at our Legislative Conference. Check out the impressive lineup at <http://www.ccleague.org/legconf>.

Of service,



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Interim President and Chief Executive Officer
Community College League of California