Developing Fully Online Career Programs: A Guided Pathways Perspective

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Bob Nash, CVC-OEI
Marina Aminy, Saddleback College
Daniel Gilbert-Valencia, American River College
Tony Teng, Saddleback College

Why Offer CTE Programs Fully Online?

- Increase access

  – Some students cannot attend in person

- Increase and expedite program completion

  – Some onsite students benefit from taking 1 or 2 online courses

- Expand California's skilled workforce

  – Prepare for the rest of 21st Century

Improving Online CTE Pathways Grant

In response to Budget Act of 2018 (SB 840) and the trailer bill (SB 843); support existing California Community Colleges in **accelerating innovative online learning opportunities leading to increased employability and upward mobility for working Californians.**

Three Grant Tracks:

- TRACK 1: Improve access to and quality of existing online programs
- TRACK 2: Increase the number of online programs that meet workforce needs by filling in gaps within programs
- TRACK 3: Support students, faculty, staff and campus leaders by supporting the student groups that could most benefit from expansion of online

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Improving Online CTE Pathways Grant

Deliverables:

- **792 New Online Courses Developed and/or Converted to Online**

- **216 New Online Programs/Pathways**

- **191 Improved Programs/Pathways**

For more details, go to Improving Online CTE Pathways Grant Program Web Site

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Improving Online CTE Pathways (IOP) Grantees by SWP Region

70 Grant Projects
68 Colleges/Districts

For a list of grantees and a summary of their projects, go to our IOP Grant web page
(URL: https://cvc.edu/pathwaysgrant/)
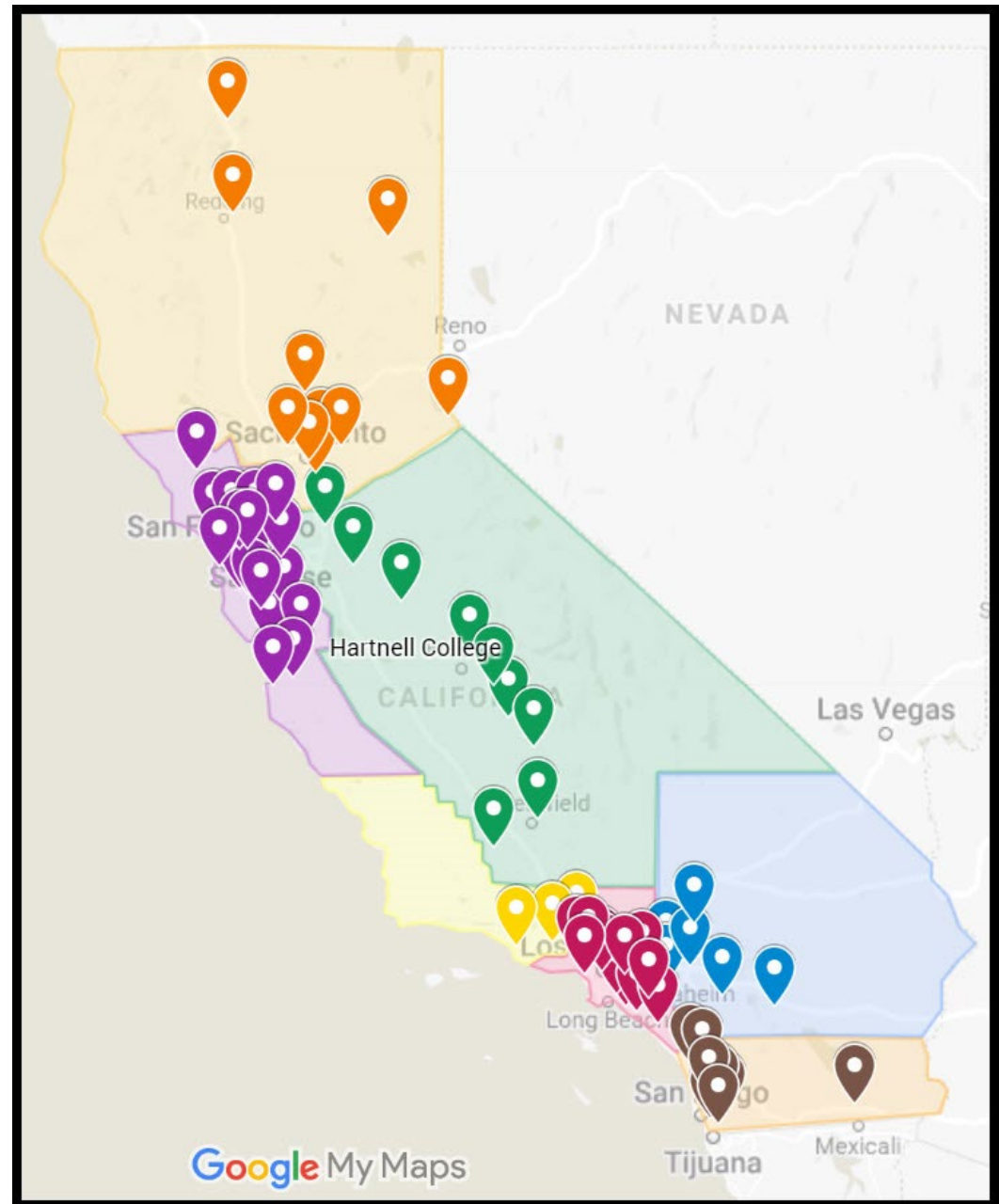
Pillar #1: Clarify the Path

Create clear curricular pathways to employment and further.

- Simplify students' choices with default program maps developed by faculty and advisors that show students a clear pathway to completion, further education and employment in fields of importance to the region.

- Establish transfer pathways through alignment of pathway courses and expected learning outcomes with transfer institutions, to optimize applicability of community college credits to university majors.

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Pillar #1 for Online CTE Students

Create clear curricular pathways to employment and further.

- Create fully online programs that are pathways to jobs and/or 4-year college career programs
- Consider statewide and regional labor market data
- Articulate CTE pathways with 4-year colleges statewide
- Prepare to create relationships with employers statewide and in your region

Pillar #2: Enter the Path

Help students choose and enter their pathway.

- Bridge K12 to higher education by assuring early remediation in the final year of high school through application of courseware technology in strong K12/higher ed partnerships.

- Redesign traditional remediation as an "on-ramp" to program of study, which helps students explore academic and career options from the beginning of their college experience, aligns math and other foundation skills coursework with a student's program of study, and integrates and contextualizes instruction to build academic and nonacademic foundation skills throughout the college-level curriculum, particularly in program "gateway" courses.

- Provide accelerated remediation to help poorly prepared students succeed in college-level courses as soon as possible.

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Pillar #2 for Online CTE Students

Help students choose and enter their pathway.

- Develop program maps and self-help tools that allow students to explore on their own (without travelling to your campus)
- Deliver initial academic counseling and career guidance online (for remote students in their regions)
- Provide guidance to younger high school and other students who may prefer to interact with you online
- Deliver remediation embedded online if a student does not have all entry level skills
- Provide students with the technology they need to pursue online education (e.g., device, broadband internet access)

Pillar #3: Stay on the Path

Help students stay on their path.

- Support students through a strong advising process, embedded and ongoing in the pathway experience and supported by appropriate technology, to help students make informed choices, strengthen clarity about transfer and career opportunities at the end of their chosen college path, ensure they develop an academic plan with predictable schedules, monitor their progress, and intervene when they go off track.

- Embed academic and non-academic supports throughout students' programs to promote student learning and persistence.

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Pillar #3 for Online CTE Students

Help students stay on their path.

- Provide easy online access to support services, as needed throughout the program
- Help address student financial-basic needs at a distance (e.g., financial aid, OER, meals, health and wellness)
- Provide non-academic support services and co-curricular activities online (e.g., intercultural training, resume writing workshops)
- Provide professional development opportunities to help your faculty and staff provide rich, equity-minded support services to your onsite and online students

California Community Colleges | California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative

Pillar #4: Ensure Learning

Ensure that learning is happening with intentional outcomes.

- Establish program-level learning outcomes aligned with the requirements for success in employment and further education in a given field and apply the results of learning outcomes assessment to improve the effectiveness of instruction across programs.

- Integrate group projects, internships, and other applied learning experiences to enhance instruction and student success in courses across programs of study.

- Ensure incorporation of effective teaching practice throughout the pathways.

Pillar #4 for Online CTE Students

Ensure that learning is happening with intentional outcomes.

- Build collaborative group work into online courses/programs
- Facilitate internships, work-based learning, lab work, and fieldwork at a distance (either online or onsite experiences in remote student's region)
- Measure post-program outcomes of your students who live inside and outside your region
- Provide faculty training and development to help instructors ensure success for all students online as well as onsite

Resources

- CVC-OEI **Faculty: Keep Teaching** page (Scroll down to "Move Career & Technical Education Courses Online")

- **How Guided Pathways Can Reform Career and Technical Education** (2018, Mixed Methods Blog, Community College Research Center)

- **New Fact Sheet Encourages Integration between CTE and Postsecondary Student Success Efforts** (2018, CareerTech.org)