

March 29, 2016

L E G I S L A T I V E A N A L Y S T ' S O F F I C E

LAO
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The 2015-16 Budget: CCC Workforce Education

Presented to:
Assembly Budget Subcommittee
No. 2 on Education Finance
Hon. Kevin McCarty, Chair





Governor's Budget: California Community College (CCC) Workforce Education

- Proposes \$200 Million for New Career Technical Education (CTE) Program**
 - Implements recommendations of Board of Governors Workforce Task Force.
 - Purpose is to expand availability of quality CTE and workforce development courses, pathways, and programs.
 - Proposes collaborative planning approach aligned with state's workforce planning regions to the extent possible.
 - Tasks Chancellor's Office with developing program performance measures, allocation formula, and various workforce-related policies.
 - Leaves distribution of funds within each region to community college districts.

- Makes Otherwise Expiring CTE Program Ongoing**

- Increases Funding Rate for Apprenticeship Instruction**



LAO Assessment: CCC Workforce Education

- A Few Task Force Recommendations Could Require Legislation or Funding**
 - Removing statutory barrier to hiring CTE faculty who may have industry experience in lieu of formal education, providing additional funding to cover high costs of some CTE programs, and increasing financial aid for CTE students.

- Unclear if Recent Augmentations Have Resulted in Notable Improvements**

- Governor's Proposal Contributes to Even More Duplication of Planning Efforts**

- Governor's Proposal Does Not Link Funding to Root Issues**
 - Expensive equipment and small class sizes are main cost drivers of workforce education programs.

- Governor's Proposal Does Not Address Other Notable Issues**
 - CCC interprets current law as preventing colleges from hiring instructors who have industry experience in lieu of education to teach specific CTE courses.
 - CTE students often receive less aid than other students, even if they have similar financial need.



LAO Recommendations: CCC Workforce Education

- Consolidate Planning Processes**
- Replace Governor's \$200 Million Workforce Proposal With a Better Structured Program Linked to Key Cost Drivers**
 - Provide (1) ongoing equipment funding stream and (2) ongoing supplemental funding stream for programs with especially high costs. Fold nursing supplements into those new funding streams.
- Reject Continuation of CTE Pathways Program**
 - Fold associated funding into other existing workforce programs.
- Remove Statutory Barriers to Hiring Qualified Industry Professionals**
- Consider Increasing Cal Grant C Award Amount**
- Adopt Apprenticeship Rate Increase**
 - Consider trailer legislation automatically linking changes in apprenticeship funding rate with changes in standard workforce course funding rate.