

Regional K16 Collaborative Grant Program

Border Region Inclusive Talent Pipeline Collaborative

About the Grant: Up to \$20 million for Collaborative with at least

- 1 K-12 School District
- 1 Community College District
- A steering committee 25% employers
- 1 CSU
- 1 UC

Application due May 2nd

Grant completion June 30, 2026

Border Region Inclusive Talent Pipeline Agenda: Through collaboration and collective action, partners will optimize opportunity for all Border Region students to transform their lives through education. We will leverage the many successful partnerships in our region to strengthen pathways to build a complete workforce talent pipeline in the business, tech, health care and education sectors.

Goal: Increase access to high-wage, high-demand careers for diverse and underrepresented local talent and increase social mobility in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

Values: The Border Region Collaborative will work together ensure that all students in the region have access to a world-class education, the supports needed to have a sustainable career and the inspiration to become extraordinary leaders for the future. The Collaborative commits to changing institutions and creating sustainable solutions. The Collaborative pursues equity-minded, people-center interventions that tackle racial, socio-economic and gender disparities that prevent our region from reaching its true promise.

Activities

K-12	Colleges	Partner Organizations	Business
Funding to pilot inclusive student supports and high-tech, high-touch advising	Funding for Sector/Program Improvement for Community Colleges*	Facilitate connection between employers and education	Access to a diverse local skilled talent pool for impacted occupations
Supports to implement Cradle-to-Career & California Guidance Initiative	Support for becoming an Advancing San Diego Preferred Provider	Create talent demand reports and facilitate Preferred Provider process	Direct connection to workforce training providers
Funding for dual enrollment and early college credit	Student access to paid internships	Conduct evaluation of the project	Subsidized student internships
Funding for pathway development with a focus on work-based learning	<i>*Leveraged through Strong Workforce</i>	Support data requirements of California Guidance Initiative	

Partners & Roles:

Imperial Economic Development Corporation
Imperial Workforce Board
Imperial County Office of Education
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation
San Diego Workforce Partnership
San Diego County Office of Education
United Way of San Diego County
Regional Community organizations
Regional Employers



Additional Strategies:

Shared professional development and peer support for:

- ✓ Improving faculty, staff and administrator diversity.
- ✓ Cultivating inclusive, engaging, and equity-oriented learning environment
- ✓ Retain students through inclusive support
- ✓ Provide high-tech, high-touch advising
- ✓ Support college preparation and early credit

Collective advocacy for:

- ✓ Paid internships for students in high-demand pathways
- ✓ Basic needs, child care and transportation support for students
- ✓ Subsidizing internet access for eligible students
- ✓ Improving college affordability



Information and Links about the Regional K16 Collaborative Grant Program:

K 16 Collaborative [website](#) and [grant](#)

The project must be connected to the [Recovery with Equity Report](#)

<https://postsecondarycouncil.ca.gov/initiatives/recovery-with-equity/>

The project must support the [California Cradle-to-Career Data System](#)

All K12 partners must commit to implement the [California College Guidance Initiative](#)

The Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges (FGCC) would serve as the fiscal agent for this project on behalf of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community Colleges. FGCC currently serves as the fiscal agent for the Regional Strong Workforce Program and the K12 Strong Workforce Program supporting 10 colleges and 40 large and small K12 LEAs in implementing workforce development projects with collective annual budgets of \$21 million

We are at the beginning stages of forming this proposal before the RFP is available. To learn more or join in the work, contact Sally Cox, Foundation for Grossmont and Cuyamaca Colleges 858 603-9810 sally.cox@gcccd.edu.

Collaborative Work

Institutional Alignment & Coordination	Pathway Development	Work-Based Learning Alignment	Professional Development & Leveraging Institutional Resources	Advocacy
<p>Evaluation of student outcomes throughout K16 pathways with the goal of increasing post-secondary completion</p> <p>Data-driven segment-wide interventions with at-risk students (bottom 50%)</p> <p>Segment-wide approaches to improve supports of students of color, English-language learners/multi-language learners, low-income, first-generation and students with disabilities</p> <p>Coordination with industry and regional leadership on workforce development</p>	<p>Evaluation of student outcome data</p> <p>Incentives for curriculum development</p> <p>Pathway development</p> <p>Dual Enrollment</p> <p>K-16 enrollment pathways (like 2+2+2 or ADTs)</p> <p>Improving advising</p> <p>Affinity supports</p>	<p>Evaluation of student outcome data</p> <p>Infuse quality self, college & career exploration into all segments of education</p> <p>Innovation in approaches to integrating high value work-based learning into course work</p> <p>Increase student access to work-based learning</p> <p>Coordination along segments in working with industry</p>	<p>Cultivating inclusive, engaging and equity-oriented learning environment</p> <p>Inclusive supports for students</p> <p>Professional development around pathways</p> <p>High-tech, high-touch advising</p>	<p>Paid internships for students in high-demand pathways</p> <p>Continued support for K16 career education programs</p> <p>Underwriting of career education program expenses</p> <p>Basic needs, transportation, child care for students</p> <p>Subsidizing internet access for students in need</p> <p>Improving college affordability</p> <p>Increasing faculty, staff and administer diversity</p>

- Year 1 Focus—Reaffirming goals, priorities, participation
- Year 2 Focus—Increasing diverse representation in the talent pipeline
- Year 3 Focus—Success on sustainability
- Year 4 Focus--Advocacy



Border Region Talent Pipeline Collaborative Governance

