



# Regional Equity & Recovery Partnership

## Weekly Q&A

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### Application Criteria

**Q: Is there a page limit for the narrative?**

A: No.

**Q: For the "Community College" field we would enter the name of the Regional Consortium, correct?**

A: Yes, you can insert the name of the Consortia, but the application should also include the names of the specific Community Colleges that will participating in the RERP effort.

**Q: Will there be another date/time that this information will be given?**



A: Q&A's will be posted weekly and the Webinar PowerPoint will be uploaded to the website.

**Q: Is PDF – Wet Signature the same as Electronic Signature?**

A: Any portions of the application that require a signature (cover page, STD 204 and 205, etc.) may be signed and submitted as a PDF. All other exhibits including budget forms and narrative will be submitted in the original Word or Excel format.

**Q: Is there any required travel known? Quarterly meetings or once a year in person meetings?**

A: No.

**Q: Since there is a requirement to work with community colleges, will procurement rules be waived so we can work with whichever ones in our region we would like depending on their programs aligning with the grant objectives? And will the EDD Monitoring Unit be notified of this so we don't run into findings down the line?**

A: Fiscal Agents must use their own documented procurement procedures, as long as they are consistent with applicable state and local laws and regulations. EDD WDB Directive 18-16, Guidance on Regional Awards, states: "The CWDB has determined that a designated Regional Fiscal Agent may apply for regional grants on behalf of a consortium of Local Boards and partners in the RPU. A Regional Fiscal Agent must submit an application that contains the agreements between the partners and/or a detailed plan, the names of partners that will receive funding, a description of services that will be provided as part of the grant, and the amount of funding designated to each partner. If the grant applicant provides a detailed plan or agreement containing the designated roles for each partner, no additional procurement at the local level will be required." Partners should be service providers and meet the criteria of subrecipients (WSD18-06 - Subrecipient and Contractor Distinctions). Finally, these funds are state funds and may be subject to review or audit.

**Q: Since this is State General fund, could we sole source to a contractor by writing them into the grant application?**

A: Fiscal Agents must use their own documented procurement procedures, as long as they are consistent with applicable state and local laws and regulations. Fiscal Agents should refer to [EDD WSD Directive 18-16 Guidance on Regional Awards](#) and include the justification for funding in the project narrative.



**Q: If we subcontract the RO role, could we still budget for staff to manage the subcontractor and assist with RO activities**

A: Yes.

**March 15, 2022**

**Q: Can CWDB please explain how they expect RPUs to develop RERP projects and complete application forms when we do not know if or how much complementary funding our community college partners will receive?**

A: The community colleges receive an array of funding sources that can be used to leverage the RERP funding available through the State Board over the 3-year grant term. The intent of both the RERP funds and the leveraged funding provided through the Chancellor's office is to build partnerships between workforce boards and community colleges and a sustainable infrastructure for meeting the training needs of California's residents and employers. RPUs should describe the activities of the community college partners participating in the grant and include the amount of complementary funding needed to implement these activities. After the RERP awards are made by the CWDB, the CCCCO will award additional AB132CCCO RERP funds to participating colleges. If the awards are less than, or more than requested in the RERP Application, contracts with RPUs will be negotiated.

**Q: Is there any flexibility on Forms 10-13 being part of the application rather than the contract once the awards are determined?**

A: We have omitted all forms with an exception to:

- STD 204: Payee Data Record Form
- STD 205: Payee Data Record Supplement, if applicable
- Proof of Non-Profit status, if applicable

**March 29, 2022**

**Q: For Exhibit 5: Workplan, if you have an RPU with more than five Local Boards, however, choose to only have one Fiscal Agent, when reporting multiple projects (Sites), on exhibit 5 - Workplan, are we reporting on each project site separately (individual Workplans for each project site) along with one overall Workplan for Fiscal Agent?**

A: If you choose to have one Fiscal Agent then you will only submit one Workplan. If there is more than one project, then list each set of activities per quarter by Site number.

**April 12, 2022**

**Q: Can you please confirm the deadline by which questions must be submitted? According to page 15 of the attached RFA, the questions deadline is April 12, 2022; however, the program's website - <https://cwdb.ca.gov/regional-equity-and-recovery-partnerships-grant-request-for-applications/> - indicates that the questions deadline is April 14.**

A: Our website will be updated. The deadline to submit any questions is Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> to ensure they are on our final posting on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Q: Throughout the attached RFA, the deadline is listed as April 22, 2022; however, the program's website - <https://cwdb.ca.gov/regional-equity-and-recovery-partnerships-grant-request-for-applications/> - indicates that the deadline is May 6, 2022. Can you confirm the application deadline for the RERP program?**

A: The application deadline for the RERP grant has been extended to May 6, 2022.

**April 19, 2022Q: CPL was discussed and recommended to be included in the RERP grant. After our meeting with Norco Community College, this who is currently working on CPL for Military Veterans with 53 Community Colleges in the State, we share the same goal of expanding CPL to industry credentials and certifications and other populations. We are interested in adding a Norco Community College as a partner for CPL activities, and would like to utilize RERP funding, specifically staff costs. Will the Community College be able to draw down AB132CCCCO RERP funds to cover these costs? How should this be communicated in the application?**

A: Yes, the AB132 RERP funds can be used to cover staff costs for employer engagement and partnership management activities. Per AB 132, Section 87(c), the \$10M shall be used to integrate community college priorities (such as industry-valued credentials, digital literacy, dual enrollment, credit for prior learning, and work-based learning) into programs identified and developed by RERP. The allowable cost under this grant may be used for but not limited to the following: 1) personnel costs for employer engagement and partnership management activities, 2) program outreach and recruitment activities, 3) costs of program customization and development, program materials, student job placement, coaching, and support activities, 4) institution and training costs, 5) participant fees, and 6) reasonable program operation costs.

Please clearly communicate the AB132 RERP funds requested by community colleges and provide a breakdown of all leveraged contributions in the Partners section of Form 1 - Project Narrative. In Exhibit 6 (Partner Roles and Responsibilities) and Exhibit 7 (Budget Summary) of the RERP Exhibit Workbook, please list the leverage contributions as instructed.



Also, Exhibit 2, Participant Plan of the application should include the number of students that will be enrolled in the grant that will receive credit for prior learning (in the row labeled Individuals Enrolled and Enrolled in Training) and their anticipated placement outcome.

**Q: Is Board of Supervisor (BOS) approval required?**

A: Board of Supervisor's approval is not required during the application submission but CWDB will require it once the project proposal is awarded. We suggest you refer to your local process to ensure you are complying with local procedures. RFA Forms 10-13 have been omitted from the application and will be required prior to execution of sub-grants.

**Q: May the applicant add a "Site Number" column to Exhibit 6 to clearly distinguish which partners are participating in which projects?**

A: To avoid formatting errors please do not edit the workbook. You can identify partners by listing Site 1, Site 2, Site 3, etc. in column C - Roles (Roles within the partnership).

## RERP Grant Program

### General

**Q: Will this funding be added to our EDD subgrant agreement or will it be a separate contract with CWDB?**

A: No. These are State Funds and will be separate contracts with CWDB.

**Q: If this is also to fund Regional Organizers, what about funding for Regional Training Coordination?**

A: We are working with leadership to support capacity building and professional development using other funding sources. RERP is primarily focused on partnership building and training of participants, not professional development or capacity building for staff and partners

**March 15, 2022**

Updated A: RPI 4.0 extensions will be available, we will be sending out more information

**Q: The term "Regional Organizer" is associated with the Regional Organizer and Regional Training Provider under Slingshot 4. Will the "Regional Organizer" under this grant be specifically for this grant? (Unrelated to Slingshot Regional Organizer?)**

A: The Regional Organizer role will be like their role in RPI and SlingShot, focusing on partnership building, ensuring communication between local board directors and partners in the RPU, coordinating with industry-led sector strategies, and connecting with state partnership



staff. They will be focused on making sure the partnership works well and reporting progress and outcomes of the RERP effort.

**Q: RPI 4.0 resources Regional Organizers through 9/22 and this grant period begins 12/22.**

**How does the state plan to support ROs?**

A: The state is considering allowing extensions of RPI 4.0 funding if there are RPUs with unspent funds. Other ways of filling the funding gap are being explored and should additionally be considered as part of sustainable regional work at the local level.

**Q: We currently have a shared RO between both local areas. Is this allowed as long as it totals to one FTE?**

A: Yes. This should be explained in the project narrative

**Q: Can we apply for more than our projected award?**

A: Yes you can apply for more than your projected award amount. Funding will be based on the quality of the application; no region is guaranteed funding in any amount.

**Q: How did the CWDB arrive at the potential allocation and customers served numbers for each region? Was it based on population, poverty, number/size of community colleges/districts, etc.?**

A: The CWDB looked at WIOA allocation formula, but determined that there were insufficient funds for small and rural regions to operate a 3-year program. The final formula is based on the number of workforce boards in regions and the number of community colleges in each RPU.

**Q: Is every local board in an RPU required to have a project included in the application? Or theoretically could a local board just participate with the Regional Organizer activities but opt out of the program implementation piece**

A: This would be a local and regional decision.

**April 12, 2022**

**Q: For the Training Related Employment, should the goal be a percentage of all participants in the grant, or a percentage of the participants enrolled in Training, who then obtain training related employment?**

A: Training-related placements are defined as the percentage of the participants enrolled in Training, who then obtain training related employment. Since the focus of RERP is enrollment in training, the majority of those enrolled should be enrolled in a training activity.



**April 19, 2022**

**Q: We currently have multiple partnerships with multiple community colleges, are we looking for new projects or looking to enhance existing infrastructure that we have built over the years with the community colleges?**

A: The CCCC and CWDB hope that the local community colleges and local workforce development boards will leverage and strengthen existing partnerships to build/build on an infrastructure that is impactful and meaningful to help individuals get back to work as intended in the budget language.

**Q: How does RERP fit with all of the other amazing funding opportunities?**

A: RERP will enhance and expand on existing cross-system planning with a focus on the “High Road” approach to support infrastructure and partnership building that will be sustainable over time and beyond this funding opportunity.

**Q: What is the funding cycle timeline? If more time is required, is an extension possible?**

A: CWDB has approved the extension for the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership (RERP) application due date. The new due date is Friday, May 6, 2022, 3:00PM (PST). CWDB will announce the award in June 2022, with an estimated start date of December 1, 2022 and end date of September 30, 2025 (three-year grant term). For an updated timeline of the RERP grant, please visit the RERP webpage.

**Q: Do WIOA requirements apply to the RERP grant: eligibility, services and training?**

A: No, RERP is a state-funded grant and WIOA requirements are not applicable unless you are leveraging WIOA funds. If leveraging WIOA funds, please abide by the WIOA federal guidelines in the use of leveraged WIOA funds.

**Q: See RERP Outcomes (RFA, page 6). What’s the definition of “higher education” in this context? Does the term include post-secondary adult education programs?**

A: Yes, post-secondary adult education programs accredited through community colleges are included. Please refer to the “Higher Education” definition in [WIOA](#); which reference section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 ([20 U.S. Code § 1001](#)).

(a) Institution of higher education

For purposes of this chapter, other than subchapter IV, the term "institution of higher education" means an educational institution in any State that-

(1) admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate, or persons who meet the requirements of section 1091(d);

(2) is legally authorized within such State to provide a program of education beyond secondary education;

(3) provides an educational program for which the institution awards a bachelor's degree or provides not less than a 2-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree, or awards a degree that is acceptable for admission to a graduate or professional degree program, subject to review and approval by the Secretary;

(4) is a public or other nonprofit institution; and

(5) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association, or if not so accredited, is an institution that has been granted pre-accreditation status by such an agency or association that has been recognized by the Secretary for the granting of pre-accreditation status, and the Secretary has determined that there is satisfactory assurance that the institution will meet the accreditation standards of such an agency or association within a reasonable time.

(b) Additional institutions included

For purposes of this chapter, other than subchapter IV, the term "institution of higher education" also includes-

(1) any school that provides not less than a 1-year program of training to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation and that meets the provision of paragraphs (1), (2), (4), and (5) of subsection (a); and

(2) a public or nonprofit private educational institution in any State that, in lieu of the requirement in subsection (a)(1), admits as regular students individuals-

(A) who are beyond the age of compulsory school attendance in the State in which the institution is located; or

(B) who will be dually or concurrently enrolled in the institution and a secondary school.

**Q: What's the definition of "industry-valued credentials and certificates" for purposes of this project? Is it more flexible than the WIOA definition of "recognized post-secondary**



**credential” found in TEGL 10-16?**A: The Department of Labor’s [Training and Employment Notice \(TEN\) 25-19 Understanding Post-Secondary Credentials in the Public Workforce System](#) has additional information which can be used to define “industry-valued credentials and certificates. CWDB is working with the Chancellor’s Office to identify any State definitions that an also be used.

**Q: Please provide additional information about how applicants are to comply with the requirement to ensure information related to the credentials awarded are made publicly available using linked open data formats.**

A: We are in the process of drafting a response – we will provide an update in next week’s Q&A (4/22/2022).

**Q: Please provide technical assistance related to student release of information forms. Does the CWDB have access to a widely accepted template that can be shared with Local Boards and partnering community colleges to facilitate the legal and confidential exchange of student information? If the partnering community college is unable or unwilling to accept a Local Board’s release of information form, what resources are available to assist with the development of an acceptable release form?**

A: We are in the process of drafting a response – we will provide an update in next week’s Q&A (4/22/2022).

## Target Populations

### General

**Q: For those targeting youth, some local WDBs have a waiver on the definition of youth to include in-school youth at risk of disconnecting, are homeless or precariously housed, will those youth count toward the RERP target population goals?**

A: The RFA lists out-of-school youth 18-24 as a target population for RERP. However, a WDB has the youth waiver, this target group can include in-school youth age 18-24 who are at risk of disconnecting or are homeless or precariously housed, as long as they are eligible for dual enrollment in community college, or have schedules that can accommodate enrollment in community college career technical education certificate or degree programs. The awarded entity will be responsible for maintaining the documentation and appropriate percentages to serve in-school youth under their waiver.

**Q: Are applicants limited to the Target Populations listed on Pgs. 4-5?**

A: Yes. The RERP funds are expected to target populations with barriers to employment and populations that have not historically successfully entered and completed Community College certificate and degree programs. The target populations listed on page 4-5 represent these target populations and it is anticipated that participants will fit into one or more of these categories.

**March 22, 2022**

**Q: Is dual enrollment allowed for high school students as part of this program?**

A: Youth targeted for services in this application are "individuals that meet the criteria for WIOA eligible out-of-school youth ages 18-24". While dual enrollment is important to the colleges and the workforce system, these RERP funds are focused on economic recovery and equity. Youth who are enrolled in dual enrollment activities may be good candidates for RERP as they graduate from high school and enter community college certificate and degree programs, as long as they meet one or more of the target groups included in the RFA. Target groups listed in the RERP RFA include "out of school youth, first generation college students, residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, immigrants, people with disabilities, justice-involved individuals, homeless/housing insecure, and English Language learners".

**Q: Will dual enrolled youth count towards the region's goal of total number of individuals enrolled in higher education of they continue to community college after high school?**

A: Youth targeted for services in this application are "individuals that meet the criteria for WIOA eligible out-of-school youth ages 18-24". While dual enrollment is important to the colleges and the workforce system, these RERP funds are focused on economic recovery and equity. Youth who are enrolled in dual enrollment activities may be good candidates for RERP as they graduate from high school and enter community college certificate and degree programs, as long as they meet one or more of the target groups included in the RFA. Target groups listed in the RERP RFA include "out of school youth, first generation college students, residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, immigrants, people with disabilities, justice-involved individuals, homeless/housing insecure, and English Language learners.

**April 19, 2022**

**Q: For participant eligibility only one "Target Population" is required. To be clear, if "Justice Involved" is selected, can it be a stand-alone eligibility, or do they also need to be "low income" or "dislocated worker"?**



A: Stand-alone eligibility. Individuals only need to meet one of the target population listed on page 4 to be eligible for services.

## Fiscal & Allowable Costs

**Q: What is the administrative cost limitation? 10%?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Is it permissible to subcontract the role of Regional Organizer?**

A: Yes.

**Q: For the requirement of a purchase justification form for \$2500, is this for services or just equipment/supplies?**

A: During a review process CWDB may request a purchase justification form to justify the purchase and procurement of a single item or a group of items to serve the same purpose that exceed \$2,500. This may be required for equipment/supplies and services.

**Q: The list of RERP activities does not include incumbent worker training yet Tim Rainey said on the CWA Quarterly Regional Exchange meeting that this was allowable to move people from entry level to good jobs. Is this allowed?**

A: Yes, it is allowable to provide incumbent worker training if the individuals you are serving meet a target population eligibility listed on the RERP RFA, starting on page 4. Training of incumbent workers should focus on “move-up” strategies and result in income mobility. RERP applications may use the statewide definition provided in the RFA to determine eligibility. For example, “low income housing” can be determined as below 80 percent of the statewide median income or with household incomes at or below the threshold designated as low-income by the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (HCD) State Income Limits) or use regional/local definitions of low-income household, including self-sufficiency standards.

**Q: If stipends will be offered, do we need to include the methodology to derive the stipend? Is there a maximum % per allowable activities?**

A: There is not a maximum percentage for allowable activities. The methodology for stipends should be included in the budget/project narrative.

**March 15, 2022**



**Q: How should regions plan with respect to the CA Community College funding that will follow RERP awards? Without clarity on funding levels, it makes it difficult to plan around those funds, on top of RERP funding.**

A: Regions should include the name of the college(s) that are partnering in the RERP grant, the activities that the college is providing for the partnership, and the source of the proposed leverage in the RFA Narrative, Exhibit 5 - Work Plan, and Exhibit 6 Partner Roles and Responsibilities. Leverage can include Strong Workforce, Carl Perkins, AEBG, or AB132-CCCO RERP leverage (details on this leverage are in the next paragraph). Proposed leverage should be the total for the 3-year grant term. After RERP grants are awarded by the CWDB, the Chancellor's Office will award AB132-CCCO RERP grants to participating community colleges. If awards are not consistent with the leverage amounts included in the application, contract outcomes will be negotiated.

*AB 132 CCCCO RERP Leverage: The California Budget also included \$10,000,000 for the Chancellor's Office to award grants to support colleges participating in regional equity and recovery partnerships. The budget states:*

(c) (1) Of the funds appropriated pursuant to subdivision (a), ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) shall be used by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to award grants through a grant process developed by the office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to support community colleges participating in regional equity and recovery partnerships, which are regional partnerships of community college consortia and regionally organized local workforce development boards intended to connect workers most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to high-quality jobs in target and growth industry sectors, including regional equity and recovery partnerships funded pursuant to Provision 6 of Item 7120-101-0001 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2021. (2) A participating community college receiving a grant pursuant to paragraph (1) **shall focus on integrating community college priorities into programs identified and developed by regional equity and recovery partnerships, including, but not limited to, awarding credit for prior learning, creating work-based learning opportunities, providing academic and career supports, and providing an on-ramp to credit pathways that lead to industry-valued credentials or degrees.**

**March 22, 2022**

**Q: (RPU with less than five) When completing Budget Exhibits 7 & 8 would the Fiscal Agent (one of the four local workforce boards in the RPU) complete Budget Line Items 1-11 for admin & program costs of the Fiscal Agent only, and use line 12 for the other three local workforce boards?**

A: Yes.

**March 29, 2022**



**Q: On the Budget Narrative (Exhibit 8), is Admin included in each budget line item total (column F)? Would Grant Request Total (column E) on the Budget Summary (Exhibit 7) equal the Budget Amount (Column F) on the Budget Narrative?**A: Yes, the Admin amount will be included in each line item total in the Budget Narrative (Exhibit 8) and Admin breakdown will be included in the Budget Summary (Exhibit 7). Yes, the Grant Request Amount in the Budget Summary (Exhibit 7) should match the Total Budget Amount in the Budget Narrative (Exhibit 8).

**April 12, 2022**

**Q: Can we use RERP funds for “signing bonus” to incentivize individuals to accept employment (after training) with small businesses in the region? We have small businesses who often lose candidates to big national organizations who offer signing bonuses to entice candidates, and small businesses just cannot match/compete.**

A: Yes, incentives can be utilized to help participants with employment placement training, prior to program exit, as long as there is a local policy in place that allows it. Incentives payments must be connected to recognition of achievement of milestones in the program tied to work experience or training (i.e. credential attainment, employment, employment retention or other successful outcomes).

**April 19, 2022**

**Q: What are the expected funding amounts?**

A: The CA Workforce Development Board (CWDB) released the [Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership \(RERP\) Request for Application \(RFA\)](#) to invest \$24,050,000 in enhancing and expanding partnerships between the Local Workforce Development Boards in the Regional Planning Units (RPU) and the Local Community College in the Regional Consortia. The CA Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) will fund an additional \$10M to support community colleges participating in the RERP grant.

**Q: Please describe what is meant by stipends. Would RERP allow us to pay for stipends?**

A: Supportive services to help cover basic costs while the individuals receive training under the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnership grant.

**Q: Would the RERP grant allow us to pay for stipends?**

A: Yes, stipends are considered an allowable activity under the [RERP RFA](#) released by the CWDB. You can locate allowable activities starting on page 3 of the RERP RFA.

## Match Funds

### **Q: What does expected leverage costs mean?**

A: Leveraged costs are a financial commitment toward the costs of a project from a source other than the granting organization. In this RFA, Leverage cost means the value of your partner's contribution. Leveraged costs can include the value of faculty or other staff paid for out of non-RERP funds that work on the RERP effort. It can also include support services, wages, facilities, or other costs paid for by other funds that support the RERP effort.

### **Q: Can leveraged costs include local funds?**

A: Yes.

### **Q: How to leverage Chancellor's office funding if we don't know how much colleges are getting**

A: Leveraged funding from the community colleges will be determined after the RERP awards are made.

### **Q: Is Leveraged Costs mandatory? Are we able to use WIOA funds for leverage? What percentage of leverage is mandatory?**

A: Yes, leveraged costs are required. There is no required percentage of leverage that is mandatory. Leveraged funding will be one of the elements evaluated in the scoring rubric.

### **Q: Are we allowed to leverage WIOA Title-I funds?**

A: Yes, using WIOA funds as match is allowable.

## **March 15, 2022**

### **Q: If a region wishes to use those funds as leverage or fund specific activities within proposed projects. It's unclear how we would include that in our proposal submission.**

A: The region should include the request for AB132CCCCO RERP funds in the proposal submission, describing the activities that the college will be providing and the leveraged funding that will be needed to provide the activity (Narrative, Exhibit 5 Work Plan, and Exhibit 6 Partner Roles and Responsibilities). If the final award is less than requested, contracts will be negotiated.

## **March 22, 2022**



**Q: The Budget Summary labels one of the columns as “Leveraged/Match Amount”. Is this being considered leverage or match and how does this grant program differentiate between leverage and match?**

A: For this application, funds in this column are considered leveraged. The definition of leverage can be found in WSD Directive WSD 19-05 Monthly and Quarterly Financial Reporting Requirements: "Leveraged Resources – Federal and/or non-federal resources (cash and/or in-kind contributions) used by the subrecipient to support grant activity and are allowable and auditable under the WIOA program". For the RERP application, this last line should be changed to "allowable and auditable under the RERP program".

**March 29, 2022**

**Q: The RFA states, "Applicants must include the staffing costs for one Regional Organizer...." Can a region use only some or zero RERP funds for the RO position and leverage the balance with WIOA funds?**

A: Yes, you can leverage the balance with WIOA funds or with other funds, as long as they are explained in the Narrative and listed in the Partner Roles and Responsibilities and the Budget Summary (Exhibit 7).

**Q: Are leveraged amounts to be included in the Budget Narrative (Exhibit 8)?**

A: No, the leveraged amounts will not be included in the Budget Narrative (Exhibit 8), the leveraged amounts will be included in the Budget Summary (Exhibit 7) and Partner Roles and Responsibilities (Exhibit 6).

**April 19, 2022**

**Q: K-12 Adult Ed agencies would be leveraging other funding including Perkins Grant, WIOA II 231, etc., is that allowed?**

A: Yes, we encourage applicants to leverage available resources and funding streams to better serve participants, whether that is Perkins, WIOA Title I or II, and/or etc.

**Q: Can an RPU request beyond the projected award amount?**

A: The RERP RFA includes planning estimates for each RPU to give regions an idea of what the partnerships can apply for to avoid challenges with development of the proposal. This is a competitive grant so final awards will be based on the application submitted and partnership proposed. The state has included language in the RFA that allows the ability to raise or lower the planning estimates.

## Partnerships & Project Team

**Q: Is one community college consortium one site?**

A: The California Community Colleges are organized into ten economic regions served by seven consortia. In RERP it is anticipated that local workforce development boards in a RPU will be working with colleges in a Regional Consortia, to develop programs that meet the objectives of the Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships. A Site would be the local workforce development board and the local community college that are working together. We ask that you clearly specify which community colleges will be participating in your application for RERP.

**Q: If we have multiple colleges that are part of a community college district, do we need to list each college in that district or can we do a project with the district?**

A: You would list each Community College.

**April 19, 2022**

**Q: Can RPUs work with multiple colleges within the region?**

A: Yes, you can work with multiple colleges.

**Q: Can multiple RPUs work together?**

A: Multiple RPUs can work together but must submit their own application for the RERP grant.

**Q: Are Adult Ed, non-credit programs under a community college system qualify as suitable partners?**

A: Yes, they are eligible partners on the RERP grant.

**Q: Are local community college districts, who often provides non-credit/not-for-credit courses, eligible as partners in this grant?**

A: Yes, they are eligible partners on the RERP grant.

**Q: Will it support pre-apprenticeship programs connected to apprenticeship programs?**

A: Pre-apprenticeships connected to registered apprenticeships are allowable.

**Q: Will there be agreements between community colleges and WDBs for reporting outcomes that work through FERPA restrictions?**



A: Yes, there should be agreements between community colleges and workforce development boards for reporting outcomes. Our expectation is that agreements are set in place as part of this joint collaboration, community colleges will report the grant required (aggregate) data to the workforce development board while protecting the student's privacy.

**Q: How does the low number of participants in the RERP RFA relate to building infrastructure and structure for partnerships? Is this more of a pilot approach to focus on sector approach while balancing goals for the infrastructure building?**

A: We are using \$9,500 per participant cost to support the building of the partnership and infrastructure; while allowing projects the flexibility to provide work based learning, supportive services, and other services, as stated on page 3 of the RERP RFA, to help individuals get back to work. The intent is to strengthen the partnership and encourage innovative projects to put in place the high road vision.

**Q: If the Local Board plans to partner with an adult education provider (ex. County Office of Education) to provide short-term vocational training or basic skills training, is this partnership considered a "Site?"**

A: The "Site" numbers reference each project the regions have ongoing in partnership with the community colleges. The Local Boards are encouraged to work with adult education providers and other workforce partners as long as required partners (local community colleges) are participating in the "Site" project.

## CCCCO AB132

**April 19, 2022**

**Q: Could you clarify who the fiscal agent is for the community college funds? Is it the same fiscal agent identified in the RFA?**

A: The fiscal agent for the \$10,000,000 in AB132 RERP funds will be the community college that is included in the RERP regional application submitted in response to the CWDB RERP RFA.

**Q: When will the CCCCCO release the RFA for the \$10 million grant fund?**

A: The CCCCCO will not release an RFA for the \$10M. Community colleges can become eligible for the \$10M by collaborating with the RPU's within their area on the development of the RERP proposal. The CCCCCO and CWDB will jointly review the competitive RERP applications to



determine the awards for each respective funding streams (CWDB for RERP - \$24,050,000 and CCCCCO for AB132 - \$10,000,000).

**Q: Will the Workforce Development Boards respond to the RFA and submit the application in NOVA?**

A: The Workforce Development Board that is selected as the fiscal agent for the Regional Planning Unit (RPU) will respond to, and submit the application to the CWDB. Once funding decisions are made by the CWDB, the CCCCCO will review the RERP applications to identify participating community colleges to award. Community colleges do not have to submit a separate RFA application but will need to collaborate with the RPUs in the development of the RERP proposal. Community colleges will receive guidance about the steps for grant processing and reporting requirements in NOVA once the award determinations are made.

**Q: Is there an amount per region for the community colleges, similar to the RPUs?**

A: The final amount of the awards are based on how many colleges participated and the budget amount requested by the community college in the proposal for the RERP grant.

**Q: Will the \$10 million for the community colleges be equally split among each area and automatically sent to the colleges once CWDB announce the awards? What will the process be like?**

A: The award for the \$10M will not be split equally among the community colleges but will be dependent on the RERP proposal. After CWDB announce their awards, the CCCCCO will identify the amount that needs to be distribute to each college. Community colleges will receive guidance on next steps in NOVA once the award determinations are made.

**Q: What metrics will be used to determine allocations for the \$10M that will be granted to eligible community colleges?**

A: It will be similar to the metrics in the [RERP RFA](#), starting on page 6: building an infrastructure, achieving employment outcomes, etc.

**Q: Is the \$10 million for community colleges only or can Adult Ed partners receive some of this funding as well?**

A: The local community colleges are required partners on RERP. [AB132, Section 87\(c\)](#) specify the CCCCCO's role in awarding the \$10M grants to support community colleges participating in the RERP grant. Adult Ed are valuable partners and the CCCCCO and CWDB highly encourage partnerships between the local workforce development boards, local community colleges, Adult Ed, and other workforce partners.

**Q: Is equipment for community college program set up an allowable expenditure?**

A: Equipment was not specifically called out in the AB132 statute but we highly encourage leveraging other available resources (Carl Perkins, Strong Workforce, WIOA) to support the purchase of equipment. Need to circle back with CCCC.

**Q: Please clarify what is meant by Credit for Prior Learning. Could this mean that courses taken at an adult school could be articulated to the college?**

A: The Credit for prior learning (CPL) is a strategy to help students get credit for what they already know and can do, saving them time and money on their educational path. You can locate the definition of Credit for Prior Learning directly from the [CA Code of Regulations, Title 5 section 55050](#) and/or on the [CA Community Colleges](#) website. Yes, courses taken at an adult school that are housed under the CA community colleges could be articulated to the college. The Credit for Prior Learning Policy Implementation Toolkit can be found at the following [link](#).

**Q: Awarding credit for prior learning requires curriculum which has either equivalent coursework, or flexible units within the degree or certificate where the awarded credit can be applied to completion requirements, or it is just additional units. To meet timelines, will the Chancellor's office be able to expedite curriculum approvals to accommodate program modifications to existing curriculum and/or new program curriculum with "general" units?**

A: The intent is to 1) focus on training that is impactful and meaningful to get individuals back to work and 2) build a sustainable infrastructure. The partnerships are expected to help identify gaps and where support is needed from the local, regional, and/or state level.

**Q: Will the Chancellors office be looking to streamline portability of Curriculum from District to District within the community college system?**

A: RERP is focused on building an infrastructure for students who need to access training and educational programs that lead to employment. It would be ideal to scale meaningful outcomes and share best practices that work for each region.

**Q: If the applicant does not specifically name a particular community college as a Site, is that college still eligible to receive other AB132 CCCC RERP funds?**

A: If you are working with two community colleges on one project that is considered 1 site. The site does not pertain to a particular community college but rather it is based on projects.

The Chancellor's Office will review the RERP applications to identify participating community colleges to award. To ensure community colleges are eligible for the AB132 CCCC RERP funds,



please specify all community colleges participating in the RERP grant. Exhibit 4 - Project Site of the RERP Exhibit Workbook and Form 1 - Project Narrative allows you to enter all participating community colleges by project (site number).

## Other

**Q: Will the CalJOBS system have customized reporting or be adjusted so the Regional Organizer can access information for all the Boards in the RPU? This type of reporting by RPU is currently NOT available in CalJOBS.**

A: We are working on it. It is currently possible for each fiscal agent to access data for the region.

**Q: For the supplemental data report, what data will be needed that is not going to be in CalJOBS?**

A: We are still working on this report.

**Q: The language on tab 11 clearly states that the application is binding which requires Board of Supervisors approval prior to submitting the grant rather than once we receive the funding and they approve the contract. Is there a way you can help us understand why this changed as this is going to be a huge challenge for us because our regular timeframe for board approval is 12 weeks? They must have the fully completed grant application way in advance of the meeting. The closest meeting prior to the due date is April 12. Is there any flexibility on these forms being part of the application rather than the contract once the awards are determined?**

A: The changes in the language on tab 11 are due to the use of State funds for the RERP effort. Fiscal Agents should inform their Elected Officials of their intent to submit these forms as part of the application, but Elected Official approval is not necessary until after the award is made and the forms become part of the contract.