

From: [Chief Student Services Officers](#) on behalf of [ESLEI Operations](#)
To: CSSO-ALL@LISTSERV.CCCCO.EDU
Subject: ESLEI Newsletter – April 2024
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California Community Colleges

Office of Equitable Student Learning, Experience and Impact Newsletter (ESLEI)



The purpose of the ESLEI Monthly Newsletter is to disseminate recent program updates, memos, upcoming events, and pending legislation for the Equitable Student Learning, Experience and Impact (ESLEI) Office to external stakeholders. Please feel free to forward this email to share with your network.

APRIL 2024

Program Updates

Zero Textbook Cost

During a recent ZTC Office Hour, the Chancellor's Office shared that new opportunities for using ZTC funds are under development. The goal is to make these new opportunities available in NOVA between late April and early May. The submission period will remain open until Dec. 16, 2024. There will be three types of grants: Acceleration II Grants, Impact Grants, and OER Expansion Grants. Eligibility will be detailed in a forthcoming Chancellor's Office guidance memo.

Contact: Chad Funk at CFunk@CCCCO.edu.

AB 928 Auto-ADT Provision

[Assembly Bill 928](#) (Berman, 2021) the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021, directs the community colleges "on or before Aug. 1, 2024, where ADTs for major pathways exist, the California Community Colleges shall place students on the ADT pathway if students declare a goal of transfer on their mandatory education plans." To ensure compliance by this deadline, college decisions for the inclusion of this "auto-ADT" requirement will be necessary. Key decision points include filtered presentation of the ADTs in CCCApply, student education plan documentation, and statutory exceptions. Local implementation will depend on the community college's business processes, technology tools, and programming capacity and capabilities. In support of this requirement, a memo was distributed in September 2023: [Guidance for Implementing the New Associate Degree for Transfer Placement Requirement \(ESS-23-41\)](#).

Two documents will be made available in a forthcoming ESLEI Newsletter describing funding disbursement and clarifying the guidelines and reporting requirement (by June 1, 2025) for this allocation that assists these required transfer reforms. Colleges have the flexibility to use the funds to work with key stakeholders and groups, review the regulations, plan for implementation, and take actionable steps to operationalize both the auto-ADT and single general education provisions.

Contact: Kim Anderson at KAnderson@CCCCO.edu. Please send questions related to CCCApply to CRMS@CCCTechCenter.org or create a CCCApply support ticket at StaffSupportCCCTC@OpenCCC.Zendesk.com.

CA Competes Public Benefit Finder

California Competes has launched a new tool called the Public Benefit Finder for California Students. This resource is designed to help students discover various public benefits they may be eligible for, providing essential support to alleviate financial burdens and enhance their overall well-being.

By utilizing this tool, students can access information on a range of public benefits available to them, including but not limited to food assistance, housing support, healthcare coverage, and childcare services. Navigating these benefits can significantly improve students' ability to focus on their education without the added stress of financial instability.

Please share this resource with campuses and students. Empowering students with knowledge about available public benefits can make a meaningful difference in their educational journey.

You can access the Public Benefit Finder for California Students tool at the following [link](#).

Contact: Jackie Alvarez at JAlvarez@CCCCO.edu.

Conferences & Events

CCC to HBCU Summit

The Chancellor's Office is thrilled to invite you to participate in the CCC to HBCU Summit, a groundbreaking professional development event designed to build bridges and foster collaboration between California Community Colleges (Counselors, Transfer Center Directors, Deans and other staff/administrators) and partner Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). This conference will take place on June 11 to June 14, 2024 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The CCC to HBCU Summit will provide a platform for in-depth access to HBCU partners, their resources and degree programs, and the exploration of innovative strategies to support the academic success and well-being of CCC to HBCU students. Please note, this is not a student event.

As a valued partner in the educational landscape, we recognize the unique challenges and opportunities faced by CCC colleagues. We know that CCC staff, faculty and administrators play a crucial role in guiding students towards transfer, and that strengthening their connection with HBCU admissions, faculty, and support services can significantly impact student success.

Learn more and register [here](#)!

EOPS Virtual Technical Training Series

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office is excited to announce the 2024 EOPS Virtual Technical Training Series. These trainings will cover Vision-Aligned Reporting (VAR), Student Services Automated Reporting for Community Colleges (SSARCC), Management Information Systems (MIS), Financial Aid and Title 5. They will occur weekly on Fridays this April from 10 a.m. to noon. Please register [here](#).

2024 Veterans Resource Center Professional Development Webinar Series

The Chancellor's Office is pleased to announce that Veterans Services will offer a series of systemwide professional development webinars for Veterans Resource Centers in 2024. Webinar topics will focus on priority areas identified by the field from the VRC Survey results. Please join in with your Veterans Resource Center directors, coordinators, counselors, faculty, administrators, SCOs, and support staff.

Registration [here](#).

Disabled Students Programs & Services Virtual Training Session

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and the California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disability (CAPED) is pleased to host a virtual training session for Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS) entitled "All Creatures Great and Small, Do We Have to Approve Them All?"

The training session will be on Friday, April 12, 2024, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and will focus on federal and state guidance related to service animals and emotional support animals (ESA) working animals as well and address areas where conflicts are most likely to occur on college campuses such as with campus housing, lab courses, faculty pushback and fraudulent ESA requests that require careful processing. Select legal cases will be shared to provide examples of processes for reviewing animal requests, as well as opportunities to ask questions about "hypothetical" cases.

To register, please use this [link](#).

CCC LBGTQ+ Summit

The 6th Annual CCC LBGTQ+ Summit will be held virtually on April 24 to April 25, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration is FREE!

The summit serves as an inclusive space for students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators to convene, collaborate, and advocate for LBGTQ+ inclusion and empowerment within our educational institutions. This year's summit theme, "The Unstoppable Movement for Queer & Trans Liberation," underscores the urgent need for solidarity and collective action in advancing LBGTQ+ rights and affirming the identities of all students. By participating in the summit, you will have the opportunity to:

- Share your unique experiences and perspectives on LBGTQ+ issues within the community college setting.
- Engage in meaningful dialogue with fellow students, educators, and administrators from across California.
- Learn about innovative strategies and successful initiatives aimed at creating more inclusive and affirming campus environments.

- Amplify your voice and contribute to the ongoing movement for queer and trans liberation in higher education.

To register, please use the link provided [here](#).

“All The Black Girls Are Activists” Webinar

The Chancellor’s Office is excited to announce an upcoming webinar that promises to be both enlightening and empowering: “All The Black Girls Are Activists,” featuring the esteemed author, Ebony Janice, on April 12, 2024 at 11 a.m.

During this webinar, Ebony Janice will guide attendees through an exploration of her book, "All The Black Girls Are Activists." Through her facilitation, the audience will delve into practical wisdom aimed at dismantling hustle culture, while centering a wave of womanism, radical liberation, and personal wholeness. This session presents a timely and invaluable professional development opportunity for all who attend.

Registration is now open! You can register online [here](#).

Blue Economy and Climate Action Pathways

Santa Monica College, in partnership with the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and their partners, invite you to the Blue Economy and Climate Action Pathways (BECAP) Kick Off and Conference on April 19, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at AltaSea. The BECAP Regional Project aims to meet the emerging employment demands in ocean-related labor markets that are aligned with climate action and environmental justice priorities.

AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles, a unique public-private ocean institute, serves as a core partner for the BECAP Project. AltaSea is dedicated to accelerating scientific collaboration, advancing an emerging Blue Economy through business innovation, job creation, and inspiring the next generation – all for a more sustainable, just, and equitable world.

More information and registration for this free event is [here](#).

Vision-Aligned Reporting Virtual Convening

The Vision-Aligned Reporting (VAR) virtual convening on May 6, 2024, will provide attendees with training and information on the Chancellor’s Office’s new comprehensive reporting tool and process. This event is also designed to provide campus program staff and other VAR workgroup members with the opportunity to meet with their statewide counterparts to discuss (1) program-specific strategies for collecting reliable data, (2) how best to engage in cross-college conversations, and (3) how information collected through the VAR process can inform other campus wide conversations and activities.

This event is specifically designed for colleges and/or individuals who were unable to attend a regional convening. Learn more and register [here](#), and please contact VARSupport@FoundationCCC.org with any questions.

Student Housing Virtual Forum

The Chancellor’s Office is hosting a series of virtual and in-person professional development events to support California Community Colleges student housing programs. This Student Housing Virtual Forum will feature a panel of Student Housing professionals who will be discussing the total cost of ownership of operating student housing, providing tools to calculate the lifetime costs of housing operations, and the challenges and considerations for transitioning to 24/7 operations. Panelists will engage with virtual attendees and there will be a chance to answer questions. Once registered, you will gain access to all 2024 Student Housing Webinars, receive email reminders, and will not need to register again. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Housing team at StudentHousing@CCCCO.edu.

The next Student Housing Virtual Forum, “The True Price Tag: Calculating the 24-Hour Cost of Student Housing,” will be held on April 9, 2024, from 10 to 11 a.m. via Zoom. Here is the [registration link](#). We encourage your participation in these forums as we navigate the opportunities and complexities of student housing within California Community Colleges.

Important Links

- [Approved and Pending Regulatory Actions](#)
- [ESS](#) and [WEDD](#) Memos
- [Joint Analysis: Governor’s January Budget](#)
- [2023-2024 Compendium of Allocations and Resources](#)
- [Chapered Legislation and Guidance Report](#)

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