

## **Award for Innovation in Higher Education Report on Proposed Uses of Award**

**Name of Coordinating Institution:** Long Beach City College

**Eligible Partners:** California State University Long Beach, Long Beach Unified School District

**Amount of Award:** \$5 Million

**Timeframe for Spending of Award:** 18 Months

**Check Payable to:** Long Beach City College, 4901 E. Carson Street, Long Beach, CA 90808 ATTN: Eloy Ortiz Oakley

**Point of Contact:** Eloy Ortiz-Oakley, Superintendent-President, Long Beach City College, 4901 E. Carson Street, Long Beach, CA 90808 [eoakley@lbcc.edu](mailto:eoakley@lbcc.edu), (562) 938-4121

### **Proposed Use of Award Narrative:**

In the original award proposal, the Long Beach College Promise (College Promise) identified four primary areas in which previous successful innovations could continue to be leveraged to increase bachelor's degree attainment: (1) system alignment, (2) reducing remediation, (3) strengthening career pathways, and (4) accelerating time to completion. Long Beach City College (LBCC), CSU Long Beach (CSULB), Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), and the City of Long Beach plan to use the funds from the Award for Innovation in Higher Education on furthering work within these four areas. In addition to these four areas, the College Promise partners will also allocate funds to support communication and public engagement efforts that promote college access and success leading to bachelor's degree completion. All three institutions will receive funds to support each of these five areas as outlined below.

The College Promise partners have estimated the following allocations for each of the five primary areas: system alignment (\$2.5 million), reducing remediation (\$650,000), strengthening career pathways (\$650,000), accelerating time to completion (\$650,000), and communications/community engagement (\$500,000).

*System Alignment.* Since 2008, the three educational institutions structured the College Promise to align educational systems and remove barriers to student progression. Previous efforts have included local scholarships, preferential admissions criteria for local students, and the Promise Pathways program. These efforts will be furthered by introducing technology tools to improve student advising across all three institutions (k-16). By leveraging technology, the institutions will be able to reinforce vertical academic advising teams, potentially reducing the number of excess units accumulated by students and increasing the number of dual enrollment options aligned with clear major pathways. For example, a k-16 advising tool can assist in tracking course-taking patterns of students, identify progression points where counseling interventions are most effective, send timely and personalized communications to students about their progress toward completion, and ultimately reduce time to degree. These system alignment efforts will also build on the implementation of electronic transcripts between the institutions. The College Promise partners anticipate a significant investment in technology in this area and have allocated \$2.5 million for system alignment activities.

*Reducing Remediation.* The College Promise has been very successful in reducing remediation through the use of alternative placement models, increasing faculty collaboration across institutions through faculty symposia, and implementing targeted “bridge” activities such as the Urban Math Collaborative. Much of this work has been built upon sharing data across institutions and applying predictive analytic models, namely using previous student performance data to predict future student performance. The College Promise partners intend to continue this work, using both high school performance data and the results from the Smarter Balance assessment to target more remediation in the senior year of high school and create more customized interventions based on specific student needs. This focus on increasing college preparation in high school will include both expanded Advanced Placement (AP) courses and concurrent enrollment opportunities. In addition, the College Promise will continue to expand coordinated professional development efforts across the institutions, modeled on the annual faculty symposium, and will further implement “bridge” activities such as the Urban Math Collaborative and summer bridge programs. The College Promise partners have dedicated approximately \$650,000 for activities related to reducing remediation.

*Strengthening Career Pathways.* Using the Linked Learning model, the College Promise has become a leader in the state in career pathways development, procuring two Career Pathways Trust Grants and more recently being identified as one of seven Linked Learning Hubs across the state. With the City of Long Beach joining the College Promise, the partnership has also committed to increasing internship opportunities for secondary and postsecondary students. This expansion of work-based learning activities is being coordinated by the Long Beach Collaborative for Advancing Linked Learning (LBCALL). The College Promise will leverage this work in the future by continuing to build structured pathways across the institutions aligned to industry sectors and by further increasing the number of work-based learning opportunities available to LBUSD, LBCC, and CSULB students. The College Promise partners have dedicated approximately \$650,000 for activities related to strengthening career pathways.

*Accelerating Time to Completion.* The work of the College Promise has emphasized increasing the number of students entering college and accelerating their time to completion. CSULB’s Highly Valued Degree Initiative and major-specific admissions has provided a foundation for degree acceleration; more recent work done on expanding the use of digital technologies, specifically in the creation of online and hybrid course offerings, has also extended additional opportunities for students to complete more quickly. LBCC has built upon these efforts through the adoption of SB 1440 Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADTs). The College Promise partners have committed to increasing the number of ADTs and additional local transfer pathways available to students, each built within structured pathways for students with coordinated student support services. The partnership will also expand the use of digital technologies, building upon the recent work at CSULB. The College Promise partners have dedicated approximately \$650,000 for activities related to accelerating time to completion.

*Communications/Public Engagement.* In order to continue the success of the College Promise, an investment in public communication and engagement is required. The College Promise has established effective communication tools, such as the Annual Report to the Community and

the College Promise website. The partnership has also been successful in engaging the public and policymakers, having successfully passed SB 650 and having brought the City of Long Beach on as College Promise partner. The College Promise intends to increase outreach throughout the region—with parents, students, counselors, and community organizations—to expand the success of the Promise, building more effective communication tools to reach more potential students. The partnership will also continue work influencing local and state policies and practices to further improve its ability to implement innovations leading to bachelor's degree attainment. The College Promise partners have allocated \$500,000 for efforts related to communications and public engagement.

*Timeline for Spending of Award.* By building upon many existing efforts, the College Promise will be able to begin allocating some funds from the Award for Innovation in Higher Education immediately. The College Promise has also identified new innovations, such as the implementation of technology tools, which will take longer to identify and implement. The partnership is confident that it can fully implement the plan for the Award funds within 18 months.



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April 9, 2015

Christian Osmena  
Mollie Quasebarth  
Committee on Awards for Innovation in Higher Education

**Re: Narrative Report - Awards for Innovation in Higher Education**

Dear Christian and Mollie:

It is with great pride and pleasure that I submit the Narrative Report on behalf of the Long Beach College Promise partners for the Award for Innovation in Higher Education. As the Superintendent-President of Long Beach City College, the coordinating institution, I fully support the proposed use of funds and the goals set forth in the application for the award. The Long Beach College partners stand ready to further the work that we have been engaged in and focus our efforts on using innovated practices to decrease time-to-degree, increase access to higher education to the residents of the greater Long Beach region and eliminate institutional barriers to the successful completion of a quality postsecondary credential.

I want to thank you both and your entire team for all of your efforts to put this award process together. I look forward to attending the upcoming committee meeting.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eloy O. Oakley".

Eloy Ortiz Oakley  
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Long Beach Community College District  
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