

College Promise Grant

The California Community College Chancellor's Office has announced their investment of \$15 million to support local communities in coming together to guarantee students a mechanism to complete their first two years of higher education in a community college where they can seamlessly transfer to a university or become competitively employable for careers with family-sustaining wages.

In response to the California College Promise Innovation Grant request for applications, Bakersfield College proposes to introduce The Bakersfield College Promise Program (a scaled iteration of The Renegade Promise) in close partnership with Kern High School District and California State University Bakersfield. The application specifically highlights:

- Partnering with school districts to establish early commitment programs
- Partnering with school districts to improve college preparation and reduce remediation
- Utilizing evidence based placement including multiple measures and assessment
- Providing enrolled students with priority access to courses to aid completion efforts
- Providing outreach regarding Associate Degrees for Transfer and the California Community College Transfer Entitlement Cal Grant program.

As it continues to scale, the two main goals of the Bakersfield Transfer Promise will be:

1. **Timely Completion** – providing priority access to classes needed to help students ensure a full-time (30 unit) academic load each year, coupled with necessary structure support through Completion Coaching Communities and student support services on campus. This is the heart of the Bakersfield Transfer Promise.
2. **Financial Assistance/Incentive** – through partnership and the leveraging of existing foundation dollars, we seek to provide promise students with a scholarship

If selected as a grant recipient, Bakersfield College will receive \$750,000 (1 time grant over two years) to continue the existing plans to scale the Bakersfield Promise (formerly known as The Renegade Promise Program in its current pilot year) and provide support to aid these students in successfully transitioning through the educational pipeline.

Department of Finance (DOF) Innovation Award

California's 2016-17 budget includes \$25 million for the Awards for Innovation in Higher Education. The program will support innovation at California's colleges—potentially with other partners—that is expected to reduce the time it takes students to complete degrees and credentials, reduce the total cost of attendance for students, or do both. The legislation specifically highlights the state's interest in efforts to:

- Redesign curriculum and instruction.
- Allow students to make progress toward completion of degrees and credentials based on demonstration of knowledge and competencies
- Address financial need
- Equity - Improve outcomes for students from groups that are historically underrepresented in higher education, such as low-income students, first-generation college students, students from underrepresented minority groups, students who are current or former foster youth, students with disabilities, and students who are veterans.
- Technology -Use technology in ways that are not common in higher education.

In response to the DOF Innovation Award request for applications, Bakersfield College proposes to focus on three main objectives. If selected as a grant recipient, Bakersfield College will receive \$2.5 million to focus on and accomplish the following for students:

1. **Clarify the Path** – Create relentlessly clear pathways for all students
2. **Get on the Path** – Improve intake and onboarding processes for all students
3. **Stay on the Path** – Further integrate academic support service with instruction for a seamless college experience