Award Amount: $1.5 million over 3 years
Number of Awards: $60,000,000 statewide/$1.5 million = ~40 awards
Deadline: Received by 5 PM, Friday, March 25, 2016
Project Period: July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019
Performance Period: 3 years

Purpose:
The purpose of these grants is to enable colleges receiving an award to implement or expand innovations and redesign in the areas of assessment, student services, and instruction and improve the progression rate of basic skills students from remedial education to college level instruction.

Eligibility:
• Only a community college receiving a separate Basic Skills Initiative allocation may apply
• Applications must select at least two (2) evidence-based practices and principles as identified in this RFA
• Must ensure that faculty and staff participate in professional development regarding academic programs or curriculum developed or expanded as a result of the program

Expected Outcomes:
1. Progressively increasing shares of students enrolled at the college who:
   a. Successfully complete a college-level English or mathematics course, or both, within a sequence of three or fewer courses after enrollment in a community college.
   b. Earn an industry-relevant college certificate or degree within two years.
2. A significantly greater share of entering students who achieve the goals listed in a. Above within a shorter time period than before the implementation of the plan.

Objectives based on Evidence-based Interventions (must select at least 2 and stated in measurable terms):
1) Adopt placement tests or other student assessment indicators and related policies that may include multiple measures of student performance, including grades in high school courses, especially overall grade point average, results from the common assessment system, and input from counselors.

2) Increase the placement of students directly in gateway English and mathematics courses that are transferable to the University of California or the California State University and career pathways, with remedial instruction integrated as appropriate for underprepared students.

3) Align content in remedial courses with the students' programs of academic or vocational study to target students' actual needs and increase relevance. This method is intended to
encourage the development of remedial instruction focused on a student's identified academic need informed by the student's intended course of study.

4) Contextualize remedial instruction in foundational skills for the industry cluster, pathways, or both, in which students seeks to advance.

5) Provide proactive student support services that are integrated with the instruction. [cannot duplicate other services and programs like SSSP, EOPS, DSPS, etc.]

6) Develop two- and three-course sequences, as appropriate, for completion of a college-level English or mathematics course, or both, for underprepared students, by utilizing technology, where appropriate, to enhance the adoption of the high impact practices specified in methods (1) to (5), inclusive.

7) Implement other effective basic skills course strategies and practices, subject to the college providing evidence that substantiates the practice is effective.

Overall Feasibility (15 points):
Not a part of the proposal narrative but reviewers will make a judgment as to whether the project is realistically capable of attaining the required and proposed outcomes.

Sustainability:
• Considered one-time funding and colleges must indicate how sustainability will be achieved by describing the funding sources, revised policies, and/or reallocation of human resources where applicable.

Priority Points (additional 12 points):
• Scaling up existing practices (5 point)
• Providing services to a greater proportion of students (5 points)
• Collaboration with K-12 school districts to better articulate English and Mathematics instruction (2 points)

Notes:
• Workplan is worth the most points (40 points)
• Colleges are encouraged to connect activities to Adult Ed Block Grant activities
• Application workshop on Monday, February 22, from 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM at the Hilton Oakland Airport
• All clarifying questions about the RFA due into the Chancellor’s Office by February 19
• Grant funds cannot be used for classroom instruction – must use apportionment
• Need to identify a Project Director but can be changed later with written notification
• Award Notification on April 1, 2016