

CBS WebEx – 4.10.20 – Q and A

WebEx called to order and welcome by Monica Wilson and Jon Kerr.

Monica Wilson shared the link to the [COVID-19 Google Folder](#):

Jon's update:

- CARES Act – these are in support of the COVID19 - \$31 billion all ed (CTC and K12) - \$6 billion directly to the college system by 4/15/20.

The stimulus law calls for the emergency financial aid to be used by college students for things like technology, course materials, food, shelter and health care. DeVos said that the colleges will be required to distribute the \$6 billion of "emergency cash grants" directly to students.

DeVos said that the "only stipulation" for colleges will be signing a certification form attesting to using the funding in accordance with the law. Department officials do not plan to specifically direct how colleges must allocate the funding among their students but will make recommendations on how colleges may want to structure the aid program, such as targeting it toward students based on need.

There are absolutely NO restrictions on who may receive this funding – basic skills, ELA despite their status, ELL populations are eligible.

- SBCTC sent a letter of support for the CARES Act #4 to all Congressional delegates.
- On March 27, 2020, Congress passed the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act). To ensure refugees, asylees, and the organizations that serve them understand the available benefits, Refugee Council USA, We Are All America and National Partnership for New Americans are hosting a webinar this coming Tuesday, April 7. In addition to providing direct support to individuals and families, the CARES Act also benefits small businesses and nonprofits. Learn how to apply for "forgivable loans" (grants) to ensure our refugee-owned businesses and refugee-serving nonprofits stay financially stable during the pandemic. Topics Covered Will Include: - Direct Cash Payments to Individuals - Unemployment Insurance During the Pandemic - Paid Family / Medical Leave - Help for Small Businesses and Nonprofits - Additional Resources

Review of Guidance shared this week

- Due to COVID-19 we are formally cancelling Rendezvous. That said, we are designing a plan that allows us to continue to offer a version of the strands that faculty and staff from around the state have been designing over the last several months. Some strands may be able to move online, some strands may pivot to a face to face training when it is safe, some may become a webinar series. There are still many unknowns in regards to exactly what this will look like, but more information will be made available as decisions unfold.
- Grant feedback will be available later today or Monday – responses are due 5/8/20.
- Please see the [Financial Aid FAQ](#), developed in response to inquiries related to financial aid impacts as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. This is being shared across the system. We do expect further updates and will be sure to share those when we have them.
- I-BEST Webinar Series – Will Durden
[Spring 2020 I-BEST Webinar Series](#) | Fridays @ 10:30am – 11:30am
 - April 10th: Team Teaching Online (Focus on Team Teaching)

- April 17th: Team Teaching Collaborative Planning for Online Instruction (Focus on Co-Planning Strategies and Tools)
- April 24th: Navigation for Online Programs (Focus on navigation)
- May 1st: Team Teaching Check-in: Successes, Challenges, and Next Steps
- Future dates on demand and as need/topics arise
- High School Credit Option – is allowable and now is a good time to switch students to this option, so there are no worries about the CASAS testing. CASAS is developing an online option, but we do not have any details yet.

Chat Questions:

Q) Is there a chance that I-BEST students can be switched to a credit option?

A) Yes, they can use the high school credit option.

Q) Would using CARES money to buy laptops specifically for our students be considered direct aid to students?

A) Yes, remember that this first amount of money is direct financial aid to students and goes to technology, course materials, food, shelter, healthcare, childcare and transportation costs related to COVID19. So, funding could go to students to supply what they need to be able to work remotely during this time.

Comment – GED Update from Lou Sager – Looking at remote proctoring for GED testing and we are hoping to have by mid-May, so that we have an option to do remotely. They login and it would lock their browser, so they are unable to look up answers. At the same time, the proctor will be watching them on their camera. The sessions will be recorded and review for security afterwards. So, there is an option coming once all the details are worked out.

Students that had already begun testing will be given priority to complete online.

Q) who's watching the student, are those our test proctors or a third party?

A) Still working out, GED needed proctors to train and Lou volunteered our test administrators as they have a lot of test experience giving exams, many more than just GED testing.

Q) Respondus? Do we know what the lockdown browser is?

A) Yes, one has been selected, but Lou didn't write down which one it was.

Q) Would the monitoring be Respondus or Honor Lock. Honor lock works with OIS.

A) already answered

Q) Will they be using lockdown browser? Want to prep for tech needs, that doesn't work with Chromebook which we are checking out

A) We do not have those details yet. As the product is web-based, Lou believes that the Chromebooks will work, but we have to wait and see.

Q) Will the testing sites already doing GED be the "sites" or only through the state board?

A) It may be the test administrators, but this is remote so they can actually do this now. If the test administrator is working remotely, they are still able to do this remotely and not have to go into the test center. However, it does require that both the test taker and administrator have cameras on their laptops.

Comment - There are some serious privacy issues with proctoring.

Q) Any news on Parchment training, Lou?

A) That would be for Corrections that had been scheduled prior to the mandate to work remotely. Lou will have to reschedule that training.

Comment – our system is contracted with Respondus or Honor Lock only. Honor lock works with OIS.

Q) Any talk about an extra fee associated with the remote GED testing, yet?

A) It is still under discussion, they hope to keep the costs as close to the current price as they are able.

Q) Cares Act \$\$--Could count for Wi-Fi hot spots, too, I assume.

A) Yes, the dollars go directly to the college and they decide how it will be distributed, so be sure to check with your business office.

Q) Question about the HS credit option. To clarify, can any student be switched over to the online credit option even if they have previous CASAS tests in the system?

A) Yes, if there is a pre-test, you have the ability to turn the credit option on. However, if there is a post-test, you cannot.

Q) Can I-BEST students who have a GED but not a high school diploma be placed on the credit option?

A) Yes, if they are working towards a diploma and you are tracking their credits, that is what this is for.

Q) But for both I-best and ELA students, in order to use the credit option, students would have to not have a HS diploma and be working toward it? How can we show eligibility for I-BEST in this scenario? Many of these students already have their HS diploma but still may need to improve basic skills; without CASAS, we may not be able to show eligibility. And then if those students are earning college credits, shouldn't those be looked upon as providing momentum in the same way as earning HS credits?

A) You can still do the CASAS pretest to determine eligibility. You may also set up and use a local assessment for placement. Yes, the college credits can be used to track the high school credits, if that's what the provider has determined as appropriate.

Scott – do you have any suggestions now, since CASAS testing is not an option?

Yes, you may also set up and use a local assessment for placement, a local determination. Some providers have developed a way to do oral screenings (phone calls).

Comment - This link has a list of estimated amounts each college would get from the CARES Act. It's in order by state, so we're towards the bottom:

https://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/ACE_Preliminary_Analysis_COVID_Stimulus.pdf

Q) Because the state is looking into remote testing for CASAS, what should we be telling faculty/advisers about what to expect this quarter (and what to put on course syllabi)?

A) We have a mtg with CASAS on Monday to discuss, so we should have more information on Monday.

Q) Is there an approximate date of when we will know more about remote CASAS testing?

A) Hopefully on Monday, 4/13

Q) What needs to be included in class syllabi concerning assessment now that we are unable to CASAS test students?

A) Our suggestion for syllabi is as follows: "During the COVID19 crisis, we will be using class assignments and assessments to assess student performance and once available we will be returning to CASAS testing."

Comment - Need to advocate for a browser that works with Chromebooks, Respondus does not work with Chromebooks

Comment - Re: remote testing some students are taking classes on their phone and this testing may not work on their phones.

Comment - Chromebooks that we have used for remote testing has also had some glitches when the headphones are plugged in.

Comment – LWIT has been distributing tablets. Will they be able to be used for remote testing? Should be able to answer on Monday, 4/13

Q) For those who started classes this week, any insights you can share with those of us starting next week or on the 20th like we are?

- BBCC opened this week and have been frantically training the faculty to use CANVAS
- Remind your faculty to not be too hard on themselves!
- LCC is starting on the 20th
- TCC did as well. it is early days to see retention. working with faculty as much as students to get everyone up and running.
- LWIT – Students need technical support to figure out their audio, PC requirements for Zoom, and video. *Karen, check in with your eLearning department, as they may have already developed something you can use.*
- SPSCC – Our motto is "Meh, good enough."
- Literacy Source – We started this week. Attendance will not be as high. Lots of heavy lift and individual coaching around tech. Many individual phone calls, texts etc. also sending out ESOL 1 packets and phone calls.
- CPTC – have been reaching out to students and realizing that they need to focus more on what's going on in the student's life vs. do they understand the technology – it's just not the most important thing right now. Found when contacting students to see why they haven't logged in.
- WWCC – has put the academic piece on the back burner, help your students understand how they are able to help their children and home schooling, while still doing their jobs and taking their own courses.
- TCC – A huge shout out to Rebecca and our team of navigators. They have done an amazing job ensuring our students and faculty are ready... From delivering materials to faculty to ensuring books are mailed and/or distributed to students.
- YVC – Panopto videos showing "how to" do some of the tech has been helpful. We focused the first week on "how to" do the tech and not as much on content.

- Bellevue – started this week. Had an issue as our IT made security changes to Zoom at the last minute which meant students had to learn an additional step. This isn't a given for our population and we are working to have a simplified login process for our students.

Comment only: using credit option dependent on getting HS transcripts, which is difficult right now. K-12 slammed with their own problems unfortunately.

Q) Had I heard that ESL 6 can be credit option?

A) Yes, ESL students, regardless of level, if they are still working on HS diploma, then yes, they may use the high school credit option.

Q) LCC, couldn't we use the Leadership Block Grant for curriculum development? The faculty do not have time to spend on professional development at this point. Unfortunately, stipends are not being allowed, because of a recent MOU that was signed between the faculty and the district. So, she's just wondering if there other ways to spend those last remaining dollars, now that Rendezvous has been canceled.

A) Yes, leadership dollars could be used for curriculum development, but it cannot be used to pay for instruction.

Q) Couldn't Leadership Block grant funds be used for curriculum development as courses are being transferred to online.

A) 2019-20 Leadership Block Grant (LBG) funds can be spent on stipends or wages for part-time faculty creating materials for remote instruction. The purchase of technology for faculty or staff is not an allowable expense for 2019-20 LBG.

You can use 2019-20 Master Grant funds for purchase technology for faculty working remotely. This would require a budget revision, and funds would be moved to Instruction Goods and Services.

Comment – Literacy Source needs help – they are looking into Wi-Fi hotspots, particularly for undocumented students who can't get service without SSN. If any leads, please reach out to them.

Comment - Bellevue's computer pick-up went well as we worked with campus administration and security to maintain social distancing. We have a great IT team as well!

Comment - Response to the Leadership Block Grant – WWCC has used for Technology for Instructors. We got that approved for our program and it is especially helpful for those who teach at our offsite locations.

CBS is still looking to have a volunteer for Vice-Chair and Treasurer – please contact Brent Carter at BBCC.