

## **CBS WebEx – 5.15.20 – Q and A**

WebEx called to order and welcome by Monica Wilson.

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

Jon's update:

- We have also continued to push hard on Secretary DeVos and the Dept. of Ed. to make basic skills students eligible for CARES Act funding, and we seem to be making some headway.
- On March 8, Senator Murray Introduced Legislation to Invest Billions in Workforce Training and specifically:
  - Invests \$1 billion to expand the capacity of adult education providers across the U.S. to prioritize serving adults with low-literacy levels negatively impacted by the economic consequences of the COVID-19 national emergency;
- As shared last week, we have been working with our AG's office as they prepare to bring litigation against the DOE over our concerns. They are submitting a complaint and motion today. In support of our AG's work on this SBCTC has submitted a declaration providing a statewide lens on the problem of the exclusion of basic skills and DACA individuals.
- We also wrote to Secretary DeVos requesting an immediate review of our Ability to Benefit proposal that would allow dually enrolled HS+ and I-BEST students to be able to use the Ability to Benefit option from their first quarter in college-level programming. We let Secretary DeVos know that this is a critical piece needed to meet the workforce needs of our state and the expected high number of unemployed individuals because of COVID-19.
- We let both our Congressional delegates and the AG's office know, that during the last recession in 2008-09, basic skills programs (like nearly all CTC programs) were over enrolled and many programs had waiting lists. We also let them know that another unfortunate factor is that during the last budget crisis, as a result of the recession, colleges significantly cut down on their basic skills programs as basic skills courses do not generate tuition. With budget cuts on the horizon, this is likely to happen again without federal support to Title II.

Professional Development Opportunities – Monica Wilson

- Teaching the Skills that Matter in Adult Education (TSTM) Project -
  - We are requesting nominations for four interested faculty from our providers. We are hoping to create a team composed of an ELA instructor, an ABE instructor, a high school completion instructor, and an I-BEST instructor so that all instructional areas and initiatives are represented. When nominating a faculty please include their name in the email and a copy of their resume or CV.

Please have all nominations to Troy Goracke by Wednesday, May 20, 2020

GED Update – Lou Sager

- We are getting closer to web-testing - [https://ged.com/in-session/testing-update-online-proctoring\\_may2020/](https://ged.com/in-session/testing-update-online-proctoring_may2020/)
  - Phase 1 is happening in four states – that is basically the test to make sure it's working properly (will run for 7-10 days) – Once done Phase 2 begins

- Phase 2 – prioritizing/inviting eligible students in participating states with no residency. Lou put Washington State in Phase 2 – gets our students tested sooner, rather than later AND it doesn't put them in a queue
  - Cancelled appointments 3 of 4 tests passed GED Ready “Green”
  - State’s essential cases
  - GED ready “green” – there is no retesting on remote testing, if they do not pass the first time
  - Only testing 18 and older (temporary)
  - Only testing in English at this time (temporary)
  - No hand-held calculators – only the one on the computer
  - No scratch paper – only electronic scratch pad
  - Must provide government issued ID front and back

Q) Time-line for f2f testing? Has the Gov provided a time-line?

A) No - The test centers have to follow the same rules as the college – they are not independent

Q) Any idea what will make a student a priority for GED testing on site?

A) Yes, one that has already begun the series; anyone in an essential work field

Q) Maybe students who need special accommodations?

A) Yes, those students should be considered a local priority

Q) Since Lou is here, does she want to give any guidance about the CIP Code updates?

A) The CIP Code workbooks went out to the colleges on Monday. Any of the local CIP Codes that are changing to federal CIP Codes are listed, as well as any that the Feds have switched. We are NOT changing any 32 or 33 CIP Codes, those will be the only local CIP Codes we do keep.

Kelli Bloomstrom – CBS

- Need approval for the Winter 2020 Meeting Minutes - Motion called / second made – minutes approved as submitted
- Treasurers report – Began the year with \$30,265, spent \$11,991 so current balance to carry forward for 2020-21 year \$18,274 - Motion called / second made – report approved as submitted
- **Need a new Vice-Chair – have not received any**
- **Need a new Treasurer – Laura Singletary or Marc Coomer**
- **The VOTE will be called for on the 5/29 CBS SBCTC COVID19 Update Meeting**