

CBS WebEx – 6.25.20 – 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:

- College Plans for Fall 2020 – Now included in resources is the latest listing of each college's plan for instruction for fall 2020. Please note that these can change minute to minute, so you will want to check with your college, to make sure what is listed is still accurate---and that your college's plans have not changed.

If it is useful, we would be more than willing to collect our CBO's fall plans and add them to our listing. Please let me, or Jodi know if this would be of value. *Jodi responded to Jon and will share the one the CBO's already have in Google Docs.*

Please note that yesterday the Governor held a press conference on re-opening Higher Education. This was based on recommendations from a taskforce led by Governor Gregoire and a consulting company out of Boston. Because of this-----many plans in this current document could change. So, you will want to review the document I forwarded late yesterday afternoon.

1. CARES Act Update

- As I shared during our last Zoom, the District Court judge in Spokane on June 12 ruled in our favor, prohibiting the U.S. Department of Education from using its April 21 guidance or the interim final rule it was developing on what groups of students are eligible for CARES Act funding—meaning our students other than undocumented or international students are eligible for CARES ACT support.
- After the Spokane decision, SBCTC re-issued our guidance to the field with some additional backing from the AGs office. As a result, U.S. citizens and qualified aliens—which include permanent residents and valid visa holders---are eligible for the aid, regardless of whether they are Title IV/federal financial aid eligible. This will be the case at least during the temporary injunction.
- At about the same time, a California District Court judge also ruled against the Department of Education CARES Act guidance and interim rule last week, making undocumented students eligible for the aid in California, while the temporary injunction lasts. The ruling does not apply to Washington, however the appeal level for both courts is the 9th Circuit, which oversees both. So, there may be some hope for our Dreamers.
- Now, the Washington AG is preparing a motion for summary judgment to be filed on June 29. A summary judgment can be made when the facts of a case are not in dispute, the judge would have to agree that such is the case. The AG has requested additional data from us, which Travis Dulaney, Research is gathering.

2. Ability to Benefit Reminder – we also sent out the updated guidance on Ability to Benefit for both the Washington College Grant and Federal financial aid. We encourage you to meet with your financial aid office to see how you can support the use of both the state and federal Ability to Benefit.

3. FY 2021 Allocations – Our Board approved the FY21 Grant Allocations to ensure all federal funds will be available to you beginning July 1.

BEa COVID-19 Messages

- CARES Act Part III: Emergency Financial Aid and The Fight for Racial Equity – sent 6.17.20
Ha Nguyen shared an update with the latest guidance from our [Attorney General on CARES Act funding to students](#). Also included in the attachments is the [most recent guidance from SBCTC](#) on June 3, 2020 regarding the distribution of the CARES Act emergency aid to your students. As confirmed by the Office of the Attorney General, these funds can be distributed to U.S. citizens regardless of whether they are Title IV aid eligible, until further notice. Our students are again eligible. Hooray.—Jon

- Ability to Benefit & Washington College Grant: One-pager – sent 6.23.20
Shared by Ha Nguyen – As you all know, students without a high school credential can receive both federal and state financial aid by demonstrating their “ability to benefit” through two Options - Option 1) approved testing or Option 2) earning six college-level credits successfully. *However, thanks to the advocacy of SBCTC’s Director for Basic Skills, Jon Kerr, and I-BEST/Pathway Development policy associate, Will Durden, WA State’s Ability to Benefit (ATB) Option 3 goes into effect on July 1, 2020 for the Washington College Grant.* This process gives more students access to ATB through dual enrollment in our highly successful dual credit I-BEST and High School Plus (HS+) diploma programs. And, it relieves some of the eligibility requirements that colleges face with the current requirement that students either pass an approved test or earn six college credits. Jon and Will have also worked tirelessly to submit a proposal for ATB Option 3 at the federal level, and are awaiting final approval. As soon as we hear more, I will make sure to communicate this exciting news to you.

At this time, please find attached an [Issue Brief](#) to help clarify the process and criteria for gaining access to the Washington College Grant and Federal Pell Grant through the available ATB Options. We will also add the document to the SBCTC website under the Ability to Benefit section soon.

CBS 2020-21 Meeting structure – Brent Carter, BBCC, CBS Chair

Brent shared that the CBS meetings this year will be done via Zoom! Yeah, no travel! The meeting structure will change to *monthly* 2-hour Zoom meetings on Fridays from 9-11 a.m. Christy Lowder will send Outlook meeting requests.

- The Exec. Committee/Committee Chairs will have a 1-hour meeting +/- 30 days prior to each scheduled CBS meeting to plan the agenda and check-in. This provides the necessary time to gather materials and recruit presenters. CBS Agenda will be created and assigned during this meeting.
- Proposed Fall meeting structure:
 - 1st CBS Meeting in October-General CBS/SBCTC information and Committee progress reports, CBO update, Equity Work, Best Practice Sharing
 - 2nd CBS Meeting in November- General CBS/SBCTC information, Equity Work, Professional Development, Best Practice Sharing
 - 3rd CBS Meeting in December- General CBS/SBCTC information, Business Meeting, Equity Work, Reports/Updates from other Councils, Best Practice Sharing
- Committees and CBO’s will set up their own meeting schedule knowing that they will report once per quarter for workplan progress. Yes, we will be working with the IC to reform workplan. Teresa will send out reminders and work with the SBCTC advisors to get this schedule working smoothly.

- The Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee will manage and develop the monthly Equity Work activity to the for each meeting, there is a budget for speakers or materials, just need EC approval to go ahead. If training is found that would take the full 2-hours, the Exec. Committee fully supports that. Monica is your advisor and will help guide these efforts.
- Quarterly Professional Development activities are assigned to the committees to suggest and plan/recruit/coordinate. There is a budget for speakers or materials, just need EC approval to go ahead.
- Teresa and Brent will coordinate the outside Council reports and Best Practice sharing.
- Monica will coordinate the SBCTC portion, and help with PD coordination as needed.
- In consideration of the budget crisis and need for social distancing brought on by the COVID-19 health crisis, the CBS elected officers met and determined that CBS dues for the 2020-2021 program year will be suspended.

While providers will not need to pay the \$150.00 per member (the dues were voted on at the Winter 2020 mtg to be reduced for the 2020-21 year), they will still need to indicate, based on size of program, who their member of CBS will be for the program year. At least one CBS member will be required to attend CBS meetings, in accordance with BEdA Master Grant assurances.

Please use this short survey to indicate the name, title, email address and phone number of each CBS member for your provider. Please complete the [2020-2021 CBS Membership Survey](#) by Friday, July 11.

- Next CBS Exec. Committee meeting including CBS chairs and SBCTC will be July 16, 2020. This meeting is to plan how the new Exec. Committee will work with one-another, look at the CBS Work plan and plan for the meeting in October.
 - Q) Sound Learning – is there a posted list of committees and committee chairs? if no, can we have one?
 - A) [CBS Members and Committee Members](#)

WABERS+ Language Survey – Scott Toscano email 6.23.20

Updated federal guidance now allows the State to provide and collect the WABERS+ Intake Form in languages other than English. Therefore, our office would like to survey our programs to see which languages are the most important ones to use for translated forms. Please [complete this short survey](#) and select up to 10 languages by end of day on Wednesday, June 24. We'll discuss the results and any other suggestions you have during the Thursday BEdA COVID 19 Update call for CBS.

- Q) Whatcom - Would it be possible for the State Board to include a fillable form in each of the different languages as these are created?
 - A) These materials will be posted in the CBS Canvas site
 - Q) Sound Learning - Has anyone else run into the issue of Mam (Guatemalan students who speak Mam, but don't read it)? They also don't read Spanish yet either. Does any one have it recorded, so the student could listen to it, even though they can't read it....would be simpler than trying to locate a Mam speaker to come in and translate each time it was needed.
 - A) The colleges could continue to have a student come in and translate the form, record it and then share the recordings on the CBS Canvas site. TCH did this and it worked really well getting volunteers to do this.
- As long as whomever is processing the intake form on the behalf of the student, it would still be signed and recorded as it was reviewed with the student.

I-BEST@Work – Nicole Hopkins – email sent 6-5-20

Nicole shared the newly approved activities with you all and you will find them attached to this email. There are still funds available, but they are limited so if you have been tossing this idea around for the past few months, now is the time to jump on board! If you would like to be a part of a program that is forward thinking and moves Adult Basic Education out into the workforce to reach more students who need our services, please visit the I-BEST@Work webpage at this link [Webpage](#). You can also contact me at any time to discuss your ideas for an I-BEST@ Work program. I am happy to help any of you with each step of the process.

- July 9 – 10-11 am – I-BEST@Work Info Session
- July 21 – 8:30-9:30 am – Navigator Cadre Summer Meeting (*typically has not been sent to the CBS distribution list, but would be happy to share. However, they are not “open” meetings, they are intended for cadre only*). The directors do wish to see what the navigators are doing/working on.

Questions / Answers:

- Q)** TCC – are there any updates about furloughs for higher ed that you can share?
- A)** Jon shared that the VPI’s are across the board – some are doing voluntary, some have different protocols – it also involves faculty negotiated agreements. It changes daily, so you will need to check in with your college to see how they will be handling the furloughs.