

## Broadband USA Applications Database

**Applicant Name:** Butte-Glenn Community College District

**Project Title:** ALLIANCE Project

**Project Type:** Sustainable Adoption

---

### Executive Summary

---

Q7 Executive Summary (2 pages)

The ALLIANCE Project will expand and connect several successful existing programs to reach underserved and unserved segments of the population in California through deployment and adoption of expanded broadband video conferencing capability for California Community Colleges (CCC). One-time funds will allow us to build capability and capacity while minimizing ongoing program costs. ALLIANCE will provide essential centralized services and support to colleges, schools, and a number of community-based organizations that will allow them to evolve program delivery models from face-to-face to far more effective hybrid online delivery models using videoconferencing, electronic student portfolios and a Web-based Early Assessment Program (EAP) testing. The program is designed to help overcome financial barriers to change while creating long-term efficiencies.

In California, a fifth (19.8%) of the population over 25 lack high school diplomas. Less than a third (29.5%) of California's population over 25 have a Bachelor's Degree or higher. The current unemployment rate is 11.6% statewide. This funding and work will enable us to pilot new ways to reach out to unemployed workers seeking retraining and workforce reentry; improve our educational outreach success among the Hispanic community, the poor, those without a high school diploma; and create a bridge between community colleges and high schools to help our high school students better prepare for and be more successful in completing college. By focusing on raising fundamental workforce skill levels as well as employment and educational level of underserved populations in California, we will help drive sustained demand for broadband access in underserved and underserved areas of California.

To do this, we propose to engage, expand and connect three mutually-supportive existing statewide programs and their partners in California: 1) California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Program; 2) North Far North Regional Consortium (N/FNRC) and its partnership with the Northern Rural Training and Employment Consortium (NoRTEC) and the CCC Regional Chairs, and 3) The Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) Student Services Division, EAP Program Director, working through the Regional Chairs Group (RCG) and the Economic and Workforce Development Program (EWD)

To minimize startup time and cost, we will leverage existing programs and services to create the information and content storage, delivery and sharing infrastructure essential to support expanded delivery of their services. All project partners have long and successful track records in delivering complex, collaborative, and large-scale technology and curriculum delivery programs:

- The California Virtual Campus (CVC) and the K-20 California Educational Technology Collaborative (K-20 CETC), will jointly develop and manage the overall project plan for this effort; CVC will be the lead and the accountable organization.
- The Center for Interactive Learning and Collaboration (CILC) in Indianapolis supports and advances education nationally through videoconferencing and other collaborative technologies, and will offer access to quality professional development and student educational content, and provides technical assistance, helping organizations to leverage technology to improve educational outcomes.
- The Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC) operates and maintains the California Research and Education Network (CalREN), and will provide Internet backbone, video bridging, and ISP services to all California educational segments.
- CCCC Student Services Division will align and extend their planned Early Assessment Program improvement work to help us assess students in California more consistently in terms of their readiness for college-level mathematics, English Language Arts skills, and Information, Computing and Communications competencies.
- NoRTEC and the local One-Stop Centers (the Job Training Center of Tehama County, Butte Community Employment Centers/Private Industry Council, Alliance for Workforce Development, Siskiyou Training and Employment Program, and Shasta-Trinity SMART center) will provide business service to over 8,000 small businesses in their 11-county Northern California region.

In terms of proposed infrastructure improvements, we will upgrade bandwidth and interactive video conferencing (IVC) equipment at all California Community Colleges, the CVC, the K-20 CETC and the CCCC. We will also integrate a Web-based video conferencing system to allow students to have IVC access that will connect them with classroom-based systems, and also integrate this desktop system with our existing statewide e-conferencing service. In this effort, we are also partnering with North Carolina's Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCC&TI), to pilot an interstate exchange effort to connect similar classrooms through CILC, exploring opportunities for students and faculty to interconnect and share resources at a national level. ALLIANCE will directly create/save approximately 164 full and part-time positions across the California Community College System colleges, the California Virtual Campus, CILC, University of California Santa Barbara, CCC&TI in North Carolina, and in northern California with NFNRC and NoRTEC as they reach out to local health care employers and small businesses. Based on the methodology, as outlined in the Executive Office of the President Council of

Economic Advisors memo on "Estimates of Job Creation from the ARRA of 2009" We estimate estimate that the requested grant funds will generate 413 job-years broken down by: a) direct and indirect job effects: 264 jobs, and b) induced job effects: 149 jobs. The overall cost of the proposed project is \$47,846,454 (including match of \$10,267,075. The total grant funds requested: \$37,579,379.