



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## ASSESS FOR SUCCESS

The Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) is developing a common assessment system for the benefit of California Community Colleges students and staff. With centralized and integrated technology, the common assessment tool includes placement tests and multiple measures that colleges will use to make local placement decisions.

### CAI Objectives

- Develop a common test for English, Mathematics, and English as a Second Language for all California Community Colleges.
- Reduce the need for re-assessment of community college students by increasing the portability of the results.
- Increase the effectiveness and accuracy of test placement for students placing at or below college level.
- Lower unnecessary remediation rates for California community college students by improving initial placement results for students.
- Increase awareness of the importance of placement tests and improved student preparation.
- Assist colleges with efforts to improve local assessment and placement practices.
- Reduce the cost of assessment-related activities at the district/college level.
- Leverage Multiple Measures data and research to potentially lower the number of assessment tests issued and to improve placement.

### Timeline

**2013/14** The CAI established the governance structure and recruited workgroups representative of a cross section of California Community Colleges.

**2014/15** Through a competitive Request For Proposal (RFP) process, CAI selected Unicon to develop the platform and Link-Systems International (LSI) to create the assessment content. CAI finalized the competency maps that form the basis for test content and ultimately inform local placement decisions.

**2015/16** Pilot colleges are working with their local implementation teams to plan for Spring 2016 testing. Unicon and LSI are developing the "Minimum Viable Product" for field testing and gathering feedback from pilot colleges.

### Colleges Piloting CCCAssess

Bakersfield College  
Butte College  
Chaffey College  
De Anza College  
Delta College  
Diablo Valley College  
Fresno City College  
Rio Hondo College  
Sacramento City College  
Saddleback College  
Santa Monica College  
West Los Angeles College

The common assessment system will be available to all California Community Colleges for free or at greatly reduced cost beginning with pilot colleges in Spring 2017 for Fall 2017 placement, and rolled out to the rest of the system on a phased timeline through Fall 2018.

### CAI Partnerships

The Common Assessment Initiative is being led through the collaborative efforts of the Academic Senate for CCC, Cal-PASS Plus, Saddleback College, and the CCC Technology Center at Butte College. The initiative is grant-funded by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

Together, the Educational Planning Initiative, Common Assessment Initiative, and Online Education Initiative represent a comprehensive and collaborative program seeking to take advantage of technological tools to increase student completion rates and to provide more individuals with the opportunity to achieve higher education in California.

### More Information:

Inquiries about this initiative should be directed to Jennifer Coleman, Statewide Program Director, at (530) 879-4165, or [jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org](mailto:jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org), or go to

[www.CCCAssess.org](http://www.CCCAssess.org)