

**CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE**

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DATE: April 18, 2016

TO: Chief Student Services Officers  
Chief Instructional Officers  
Chief Business Officers  
Chief Information Systems Officers  
SSSP Coordinators  
Student Equity Coordinators  
Assessment Directors  
Counselors

FROM: Theresa Tena  
Vice Chancellor, Institutional Effectiveness

Pamela D. Walker  
Vice Chancellor, Educational Resources

SUBJECT: **Adoption/Implementation Schedule for the Common Assessment Initiative**

The Chancellor's Office is pleased to announce that the Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) is preparing to implement the new assessment instruments for English, math, and English as a Second Language (ESL), beginning Fall 2016 for spring placement. The CAI, under the direction of the Chancellor's Office, has been several years in the making with strong collaboration from the community colleges. This project will transform the assessment process for the system, ensure appropriate placement of students and facilitate increased retention and completion rates for the colleges.

Attached is the CAI Assessment System (CCCAssess) College Adoption/Implementation Schedule. Please review it for your college's placement on the schedule. Pilot colleges and their sister institutions will be early adopters of CCCAssess. Due to the sunset of COMPASS tests in November 2016, colleges using these instruments have also been prioritized for implementation. Early adoptions by other colleges may be accommodated based on available capacity. To request an earlier option date, please contact Jennifer Coleman at [jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org](mailto:jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org) or at 530-879-4165. Full implementation of CCCAssess will be completed by Fall 2018.

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Title 5, section 55518, requires Student Success and Support Program (SSSP) funding to be contingent on the colleges' use of CCCAssess, if an assessment test is used for placement. It is important for colleges to prepare for implementation of these assessment instruments or they risk losing their SSSP funding. CAI is offering [regional professional development workshops](#) to assist colleges in preparation for implementation. To stay abreast of updates and future professional development opportunities, please sign up for the listserv and newsletter on the [CCCAssess website](#).

As a reminder, the approval process for assessment instruments used by the colleges has been temporarily suspended, allowing colleges to transition to the new CCCAssess, as well as to accommodate the sunset of COMPASS. The suspension does not relieve colleges of the responsibility of validating all assessment instruments, including multiple measures, in accordance with title 5, section 55522, as well as addressing any bias and disproportionate impact on particular groups of students.

For questions regarding CCCAssess, please contact Jennifer Coleman at [jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org](mailto:jcoleman@ccctechcenter.org) or at 530-879-4165. Assessment questions should be directed to Chris Graillat, with the Chancellor's Office, at [cgraillat@cccoco.edu](mailto:cgraillat@cccoco.edu) or 916-322-7988.

cc: Erik Skinner, Acting Chancellor