

California Preschool Development Grant

During the contract period with the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD), the University of Florida will work with WestEd and state and local partners to implement new professional development tools with the early learning workforce in California.

Activities/ Events

Develop plan and initial capacity to pilot of platform in California

- 1.1 In partnership with WestEd-based staff, develop a detailed implementation plan pilot the content of the professional learning platform and strategically build community of practice capacity to support blended learning. This will be informed by new and existing landscape data on professional development, coaching, and existing online tools; information on local capacity; and information from the Transforming the Workforce and other professional development reports and planning.
- 1.2 In partnership with California leaders, identify which courses will be piloted as part of the PDG funding based on stakeholder and practitioner priorities.
- 1.3 Based on recommendations from WestEd, CDE and other partners on potential instructors, build capacity of up to 60 professionals and faculty to serve as online instructors to deliver the online courses effectively.
- 1.4 Review existing online tools for California's workforce and develop a recommended migration plan for consolidating existing online tools into unified platform. This plan will also include ongoing hosting costs for migrated content; hosting of migrated content is not provided in the PDG budget.
- 1.5. Per review and prioritization by CDE, complete initial migration of content up to amount allocated in budget. If migration costs exceed the allocated budget, internal budget modification will be suggested or outside funds will be sought and if less is needed the funds will be reallocated per WestEd and CDE approval.
- 1.6 Complete initial CA branding of all handouts in selected courses and substitute Florida competencies with California-based tools (e.g., competencies, Foundations).

Build California Capacity to Implement Blended Professional Development

- 2.1 Build capacity to implement Communities of Practice via face-to-face and virtual training for 100 stakeholders in regions across the state.
- 2.2 Develop and facilitate online COPs to support QCC implementation. Provide virtual support of facilitation for an average of 10 COP sessions monthly that are facilitated by California professionals trained in COP model.

Pilot of the Platform

- 3.1 Pilot the professional learning system in California with 3,100 practitioners; an estimated 1,600 in synchronous courses and 1,500 asynchronous courses.
- 3.2 Document impact based on user feedback.
- 3.3 Synthesize feedback and outline recommendations for customization and further expansion of the system to serve California's workforce.

Develop Long-Term Plan for Further Customization and Expansion

- 4.1 Engage partners to explore additional development of the platform to meet California’s needs.
- 4.2 Develop recommendations to expand effective professional learning opportunities and sustain access beyond the current funding source.

Final Report Summarizing Lessons Learned and Expansion Recommendations

- 5.1. Submit final report outlining recommendations for expanding access to the platform to meet the needs of the California early childhood workforce.