

Leveraging Braided Funding Opportunities for Noncredit CAEP Program Development



California Adult Education Program (CAEP) Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) at
North Orange Continuing Education (NOCE)

September 11, 2026



Welcome!

In the Chat, please:

Introduce yourself and your affiliation
(Consortia or Member, College, etc.)



Housekeeping

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Please note, AI notetakers are currently not allowed.
- The recording and PowerPoint will be released on the Cal Adult Ed Website following remediation.
- Please fill out the survey at the end. We value your feedback and use it to improve our webinars.



Gracious Space

Affirming others	Trusting others and being trustworthy	Being open to different and conflicting views
Accepting of other perspectives	Willing to change my mind	Welcoming others not from my comfort zone
Innovative new approaches	Reflecting on assumptions	Being authentic
Being present	Being curious	Bridging boundaries
Being aware of my impact of others	Asking open-ended questions	Holding off judgement
Assuming other's best intentions	Being comfortable not knowing	Sharing power
Being intentional	Being collaborative	

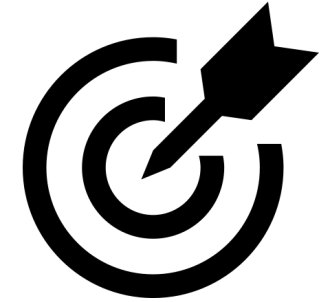
Today's Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Session Objectives
- Braided Funding Streams
- Visiting Guest, Dr. Sabrina Lopez
- Questions & Discussion
- Closing Activities





Learning Objectives



1. Review most common braided funding sources: Perkins, WIOA II, Strong Workforce, Student Equity & Achievement, CA Apprenticeship Initiative.
2. Gain familiarity with CCC Compendium of Allocation Resources.
3. Gain exposure to models of how Noncredit programs braid funds to maximize student program resources.
4. Identify how students are counted for outcomes measurement depending on the funding source/initiative.



Braided Funding

The Urban Institute distinguishes the two approaches:

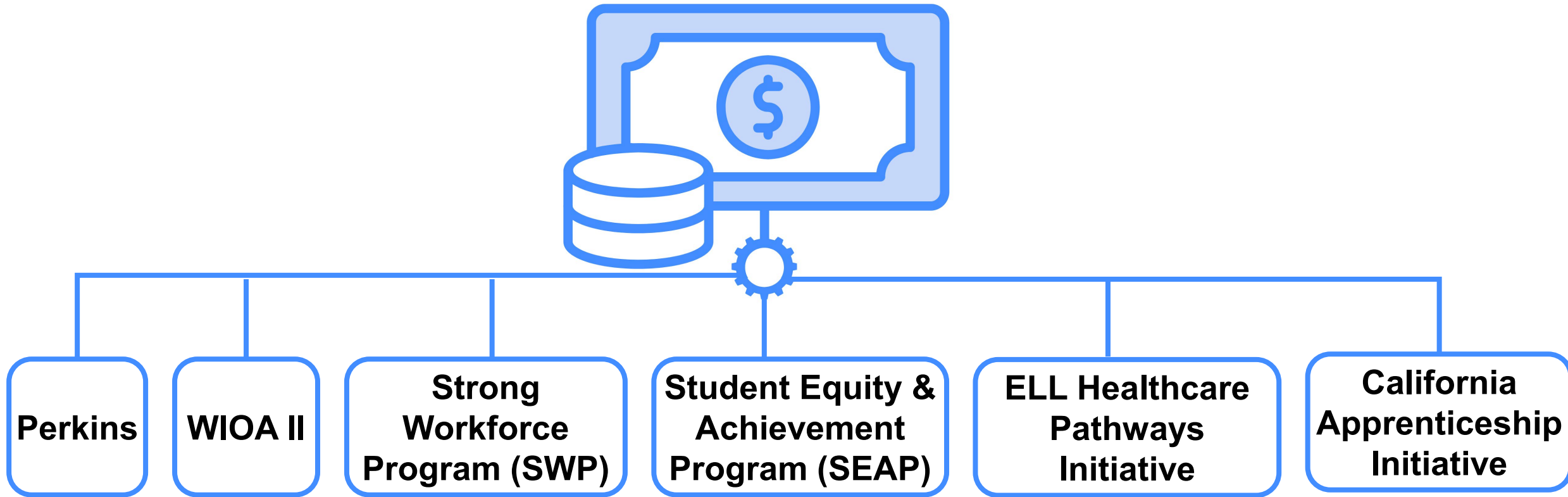
- **Braided Funding:** Multiple funding streams support a common program, service, or objective, but each funding source continues to be tracked, administered, and reported separately according to its individual requirements.
- **Blended Funding:** Multiple funding streams are combined or pooled to support a common purpose and are not continuously differentiated or tracked as separate funding sources after they are combined.

Why Blend or Braid Funding?

Blended and braided funding strategies can help adult education providers and regional partners:

- Expand or strengthen programs without relying on a single funding source.
- Build more comprehensive services around the needs of adult learners.
- Coordinate education, workforce development, transition, and support services.
- Leverage resources available across different agencies and systems.
- Reduce duplication by aligning investments around shared regional goals.
- Support stronger partnerships among adult schools, community colleges, workforce agencies, employers, and community organizations.
- Sustain or scale promising programs by distributing costs across appropriate funding sources.

Major Braided Funding Sources in serving Adult Learners





Perkins

- **Federal CTE legislation:** Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), signed into law July 31, 2018; effective July 1, 2019.
- Reauthorized the **Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV)**.
- Congress provides approximately **\$1.4 billion annually** in federal funding for CTE, primarily through state formula grants.
- Supports **secondary and postsecondary CTE programs and programs of study**.
- Develops students' **academic knowledge, technical skills, and employability skills**.
- Supports pathways aligned with **state, regional, and local workforce needs** and recognized postsecondary credentials.



Perkins V — Who Is Eligible?

Eligibility for Funding:

- Perkins V supports eligible **secondary and postsecondary CTE providers**, including those serving adult learners.
- **Section 131 – Secondary:** High school districts, charter high schools, county offices of education, and other eligible secondary providers.
- **Section 132 – Postsecondary:** Adult schools, ROCPs, community colleges, and other eligible postsecondary CTE institutions.



Perkins V — Who Is Eligible? Cont'd

- Postsecondary programs support **technical skill attainment and recognized credentials** leading to employment or further education.
- For **CA adult schools/ROCPs**, Section 132 allocations are based on eligible **economically disadvantaged adult CTE enrollment**.

Source: [Perkins V | U.S. Department of Education](#)

Perkins V Requirements

- **Annual performance reporting**, with outcomes disaggregated by required **special populations**.
- **Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA)** at least **every two years**, addressing performance, program quality, labor-market needs, and equity/access.
- CTE programs must demonstrate **labor-market alignment**; for CA community colleges, programs must meet at least **2 of 3 criteria: High-Skill, High-Wage, and In-Demand**.
- **Reporting varies by recipient:**
 - **Community Colleges:** Applications, CLNA, fiscal/program reporting, and headcount certification through **NOVA**.
 - **Adult Schools/ROCPs:** Follow **CDE reporting requirements and applicable systems/forms**.



WIOA II



- **WIOA Title II — AEFLA**
- **Federal grant:** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (**WIOA**), Title II — **Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA)**
- Largest federal investment in **adult education and literacy**; awarded in California through a **four-year competitive cycle**
- Administered federally by **OCTAE** and in California by **CDE**
- **Eligible providers:** Adult schools/LEAs, community colleges, nonprofits, libraries, public housing authorities, and other eligible organizations
- Applicants must demonstrate **effectiveness in adult education and literacy**
- **NEW: 2027–31 grant cycle now open; applications due October 6, 2026**

WIOA II Cont'd

Purpose of AEFLA

- AEFLA helps adults:
 - Build **literacy, education, and workforce skills** needed for employment and self-sufficiency.
 - Become **full partners in their children's educational development**.
 - Complete **secondary education or its equivalent** and transition to postsecondary education/training.
 - Support **English language learners and immigrants** in improving English proficiency and understanding U.S. civics.
- **California Reporting:** WIOA Title II agencies report student participation and outcomes through **TOPSpro Enterprise**.

Strong Workforce Program (SWP)

- **California Community Colleges state categorical funding** supporting Career Technical Education (CTE) and workforce development.
- Established in **2016** to expand “**more and better**” **CTE** and prepare students for **high-demand, high-wage careers**.
- Investments are **data-driven and responsive to regional labor-market needs**.
- Supports **credit and noncredit CTE**, including pathways for **adult learners**.

7 Target Areas:

Student Success

Career Pathways

CTE Faculty

Workforce Data & Outcomes

Curriculum

Regional Coordination & Funding



Strong Workforce Program (SWP) Eligibility

- Eligibility for Funding:
 - **Community College SWP:** Approximately **\$290 million annually** to support CTE and workforce development across California's **116 community colleges**.
 - **K12 SWP-Braiding Opportunity-** An additional **\$150 million annually** supports eligible K–12 LEAs in developing and expanding high-quality CTE pathways.
 - **Eligible K12 SWP applicants:** School districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and **ROCPs serving K–12 students**.
 - **CDE and CCCCO jointly administer K12 SWP** through **8 regional consortia**, which award funds competitively based on regional workforce priorities.

[Strong Workforce in K-12 LEAs](#)

Student Equity & Achievement (SEAP)

- **State categorical funding** administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.
- Established in **2018**, consolidating three initiatives:
 - Student Success and Support Program (SSSP), Basic Skills Initiative (BSI), and Student Equity
- Supports colleges in **eliminating equity gaps** and improving **access, persistence, completion, and student success** for disproportionately impacted populations.
- Funds activities aligned with **student equity, Guided Pathways, and comprehensive student support**.

**Student Success and
Support Program**



Basic Skills Initiative



Student Equity



Student Equity & Achievement (SEAP) 2

- Colleges must maintain a **Student Equity Plan** identifying disproportionately impacted student populations and equity gaps.
- Plans establish **measurable goals, strategies, and activities** to address disparities in student access, persistence, and achievement.
- SEAP supports implementation of **equitable student support, placement, enrollment, and completion practices**, consistent with state requirements.
- Colleges must **monitor outcomes and evaluate progress** toward closing identified equity gaps.

[Student Equity | California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office \(cccco.edu\)](http://cccco.edu)



Student Equity & Achievement (SEAP) 3

- **Ongoing state categorical funding** governed by Education Code [§§ 78220–78222](#).
- Districts must **maintain a Student Equity Plan** as a condition of receiving SEA funds.
- Each college develops a **Student Equity Plan**, which requires **district governing board adoption**.
- Plans are submitted and certified through **NOVA**.
- Student Equity Plans are updated on a **three-year cycle**.
- **Current cycle: 2025–28 Student Equity Plan**.



ELL Healthcare Pathways Initiative

- **State-funded initiative administered through CAEP** to develop healthcare-focused pathways for **English Language Learners (ELLs)**.
- Supports **accelerated vocational pathways** for adult learners across **all levels of English proficiency**.
- Prepares adult learners for **high-demand healthcare occupations** while strengthening regional healthcare workforce pipelines.
- Supports development of **Centers for Innovation and Impact in Health Careers** to expand regional expertise, partnerships, curriculum, and effective practices.
- **Current Round 3: FY 2026–29.**

Guest Speaker



Sabrina Lopez

Apprenticeship Lead,
Chancellor's Office



California Apprenticeship Initiative: Investing in Innovation

- **Statewide Investment:** The Chancellor's Office administers the California Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI) grant program through the Workforce and Economic Development Division (WEDD) using Proposition 98 funds.
- **Focus on Innovation:** CAI supports the implementation and expansion of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs in priority and emerging industries, particularly in the non-traditional sector.
- **Education + Employment:** Grants help California Community Colleges, K-12 partners, and their affiliates connect classroom instruction, paid work experience, and industry-recognized credentials.
- **Designed for Scale:** Funding can support programs through stages of implementation to expansion, with an emphasis on building sustainability beyond the grant period.



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CAI Grant Types

- Apprenticeship and Pre-Apprenticeship Implementation
 - Three years
 - Up to \$1,500,000
- Apprenticeship Expansion
 - Two years
 - Up to \$1,000,000
- Additional Support
 - Statewide grant administration support
 - Technical assistance, program development, and employer engagement support
 - Alignment with CCC certificate and degree pathways, integrating CPL
 - A focus on equity, sustainability, and scale





California Apprenticeship Initiative

- **State Proposition 98 funding** administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.
- Supports development and expansion of **registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs**, particularly in priority/emerging industries where apprenticeship is not well established.
- **\$30 million ongoing annual investment** for the CAI New & Innovative Grant Program; for 2025–26, \$20M is designated for grants and \$10M for technical assistance/infrastructure.
- Funding supports **program implementation and expansion**, including registration, startup/initial operating costs, capacity expansion, and apprentice support-service networks.
- Eligible grantees can include **California community colleges, K–12 LEAs, and other eligible entities/partners**.
- Fiscal and programmatic reporting is conducted through **NOVA**.

Whose Data is Being Examined for Outcomes Measurements?

Funding Stream	Who Are We Generally Tracking?
CAEP	Adult learners with 12+ instructional hours across CAEP adult education program areas
Perkins V	CTE students participating in Perkins-eligible programs; populations and measures vary by secondary/postsecondary reporting
Strong Workforce (SWP)	Community college CTE students , including qualifying credit and noncredit students
WIOA II (AEFLA)	Adult learners with 12+ instructional hours in WIOA II-funded adult education/noncredit programs
SEAP	Community college students examined for equity gaps in access, persistence, completion, transfer, and other outcomes
ELL Healthcare Pathways	English language learners participating in funded healthcare education and career pathways
CA Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI)	Apprentices, pre-apprentices, and other participants served through funded apprenticeship projects



CCC



Compendium of Allocation & Resources

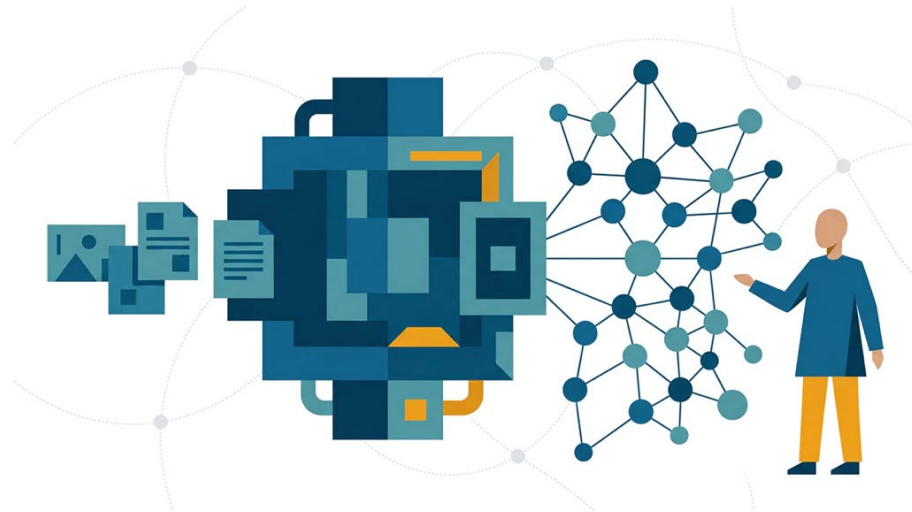


- Essential resource for Chancellor Office categorical programs/investments & associated allocations/ funding levels across the system e.g. ELL Pathways
- Updated annually
- Also contains information on Annual State Budget Cycle, Alignment to Vision 2030, Student-Centered Support through Leveraging Funding Sources, and approaches to Data-Informed Decision Making to reduce equity gaps and advance student outcomes

[2026–27 California Community Colleges Compendium of Allocations and Resources](#)

Resources

[Leveraging Braided Funding Opportunities for Community College Noncredit CAEP Program Development Webinar Resources Link](#)



Scan QR code to
access resources



Q&A and Discussion



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Join our Voices from the Field

Scan to fill out our Interest Form or share with colleagues who are knowledgeable in one of these areas:

- Adult Education and/or Noncredit Curriculum
- CAEP Fiscal Reporting
- CAEP Three-year plans/Annual Plans
- CAEP Data and Accountability Reporting
- CAEP Program Improvement and Evaluation
- Adult Education and/or Noncredit Student Services
- DataVista





Join the CC TAP Adult Dual Enrollment (ADE) Community of Practice (CoP) for CAEP

Next meeting:

Tuesday, September 15th, 12:00-1:00 pm

[Register today!](#)



Scan QR to register!

Thank You for Joining Us!

For any questions:

Dulce Delgadillo, M.P.P.
Ddelgadillo@noce.edu

Lisa Mednick Takami, Ed.D.
lisa.mednicktakami@noce.edu

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