



## SCCCD 2023-24 Open Education Resources (OER) Initiative/Request for Proposals (RFP)

July 8, 2023

**Background:** The Board of Trustees recently authorized \$1m to support and expand district OER initiatives ([Resolution 2022.36, Fall 2022](#)). SCCC colleges already are making progress to lower students' educational costs ([AB 798, Bonilla, 2015](#)). So that every student can realize the benefits of lower educational costs, this new investment seeks to:

- Lower costs across the range of educational materials needed by students to succeed in their coursework, certificate, and degree programs;
- Expand the adoption, and/or creation of and ultimate use of Open Educational Resource texts in courses, replacing high-cost textbooks and other required materials;
- Generate faculty teams, partnerships, and districtwide sharing of materials, especially by subject matter discipline;
- Grow SCCC expertise, faculty resources and skills, and knowledge networks within the district that support continued learning and increasing OER applications; and
- Increase student access to SCCC programs within our region and across the State of California.

**OER Block Allocation.** Funding will be allocated to the colleges through an annual block allocation, for two or more years as funding allows. In addition to the funding allocated over the next two years, the district will seek additional funding through the CCCCO and other grant opportunities. Rather than a "one and done," OER projects and programming can continue to develop alongside other proven activities (i.e., guided pathways) that support increased student success ([California Education Code §66406.9](#)).

With the block allocation, colleges are encouraged to dialogue and locally determine how to invest these funds most effectively and efficiently for each college's needs, but also to develop a district network of support so that all colleges, and students, may benefit equitably ([Resolution 13.01, Fall 2017](#)).

**Applications will be reviewed and scored by the district Executive Cabinet.**

August 1:	Call for Applications announced in Communications Council
August 30:	Applications due
Sept. 15:	Allocations announced

**For planning purposes:**

- a. Maximum award to a college: \$200,000/yr.  
Minimum award to a college: \$75,000/yr.



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**Application Process.** To receive the block allocation, colleges will prepare and submit an annual application. The first year includes program description, examples, plans and commitment to achieve college OER goals, including:

	Points
1. A brief 2–4-page description of the college model, project management, and anticipated outcomes/results, amount requested, and approval by the college president.	10
2. Priority areas/proposed projects (examples can include courses/programs, locations, activities, localized or partner college programs, among many others.	15
3. Estimated number of texts that may be replaced with rigorous and vetted OER versions of academic and/or vocational content.	10
4. SAMPLE form(s) that a faculty member, or team might submit for project awards.	5
5. Commitment to submit timely college 6-month and annual progress reports, all of which shall be used to develop updates and reports to the Board of Trustees and our communities. Reports to contain projected cost savings for our students.	5
6. Dissemination Plan to share OER Program benefits across the district.	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

Allocations will be based on how application addresses items 1-6 above, with particular attention to commitment to tangible results and quantifiable metrics for evaluation and reporting.

**Priority Areas and Examples for Colleges to Consider:**

1. OER course projects that are part of a ZTC sequence for a certificate or degree.
2. Projects that directly improve the college/district “ease of access” on the CVC Exchange.
3. Programs that show intentional quality improvement approaches such as POQR and use of CVC Rubric that demonstrate formal and external peer review “best practice.”  
Colleges can build such process improvement as a regular component of their OER program.
4. Programs that include description of how implemented resources will be maintained for currency, shared locally or throughout district (preferred) and periodically reviewed for relevance. While stipends may be funded during the initiation phase, colleges cannot assume grant funds will fund future maintenance.



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### Priority Areas (continued)

5. Funded teams of 3-5 per college that would act as district liaisons to serve as editorial support, conduits for districtwide review and adoption, etc. Proposals for district models are encouraged.
6. Minimal amounts should be spent on work already associated with current positions. For example:
  - a. Content maintenance would score lower than OER coaching/mentoring with newer faculty.
  - b. Small stipends are allowed for a team (3-5 faculty) OER leaders for each college.
  - c. Funding for travel is discouraged.
  - d. Reassigned time should be used sparingly, if at all. For example,
    - i. 2 faculty propose to develop a ZTC degree over one year
    - ii. 5 faculty propose a district program from scratch
7. Adopt/Adapt/Create: ZTC and other OER applications are not new. Many “off the shelf” ZBTs are in use now. The program encourages widespread faculty engagement and review, adaptation, and regular updates/maintenance of existing, time-tested materials. On the other end of this scale would be the one-off, boutique program that involves high cost and continuous materials maintenance ([Resolution 13.01, Fall 2017](#)). Please consider and plan for long-term cost considerations.

**Support:** For questions, help, or potential partnership opportunities, the following offices will provide coordination and application support:

- Vice President of Instruction Office
- Presidents’ Offices (assemble local application and design/build teams)
- Office of the Vice Chancellor of Educational Services (RIE, other grants, work with VPIs to disseminate FAQs, etc.)