Benchmarks for High Quality, Inclusive Online Learning

The California Virtual Campus – Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) is committed to ensuring that students are able to complete their educational goals with access to and success in high quality online courses. Increasing access to online courses and programs through the CVC Exchange is essential, but student access does not always equate to student success. To support the academic success of students, online courses must be designed and taught with high quality practices that support the diverse needs of California community college students.

To that end, the CVC-OEI supports Consortium member colleges with resources and professional development to increase course quality in all online courses, using an approach that supports faculty preparation for online teaching, builds local college capacity for course design support, and provides faculty with knowledge, skills, and recognition for improving the quality of online teaching. As described in the CVC-OEI Consortium Master Agreement for California Community Colleges (MCA), Consortium colleges will demonstrate progress toward course quality improvements by meeting incremental benchmarks for high quality, inclusive learning:

Foundational Benchmarks

- **Online Teaching Preparation Benchmark**: College provides faculty preparation prior to online teaching through *Introduction to Teaching with Canvas* and *Introduction to Online Teaching & Learning* courses.
- **Course Design Standards Benchmark**: College formally adopts the OEI Course Design Rubric.
- **Course Design Support Benchmark**: College establishes a Local Peer Online Course Review (POCR) program that is certified by the CVC-OEI.

Growth Benchmarks

Upon signing the MCA, colleges will establish baselines for the following quality indicators and will track and report on growth each subsequent year with the goal of creating a campus culture of inclusive online learning.

- **Course Design Competency Benchmark**: Annual growth with a 10% target in the number of online instructors who have earned a badge in one or more of the Online Teaching & Design competencies.
- **Design Quality Benchmark**: 20% of college’s online courses or sections are aligned to the CVC-OEI Course Design Rubric within two years of establishing a local POCR process.

*CVC-OEI Benchmarks for High Quality, Inclusive Online Learning* (updated February 6, 2020)
Teaching Quality Benchmark: Annual growth with a 10% target in the number of college’s online instructors who have earned a badge in Humanizing Online Learning and Equity & Culturally Responsive Online Teaching.

College-based equivalents to the professional development described above can be counted toward benchmark progress with CVC-OEI approval. Consortium colleges should take an incremental, comprehensive approach to meeting these benchmarks, with the goal of increasing the quality of all online courses by June 2023.