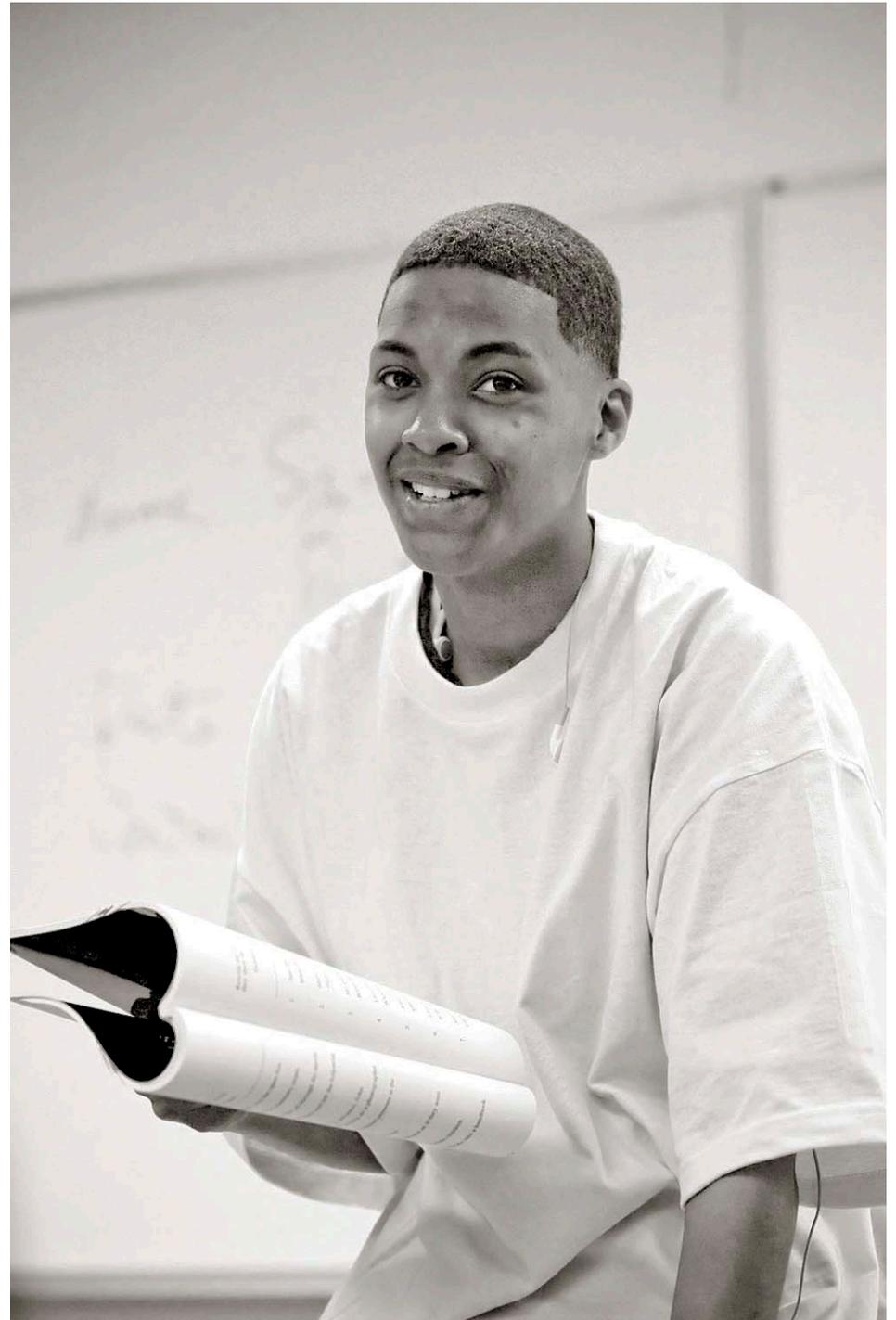


# Contextualized Teaching and Learning: CTE/Basic Skills Workshop

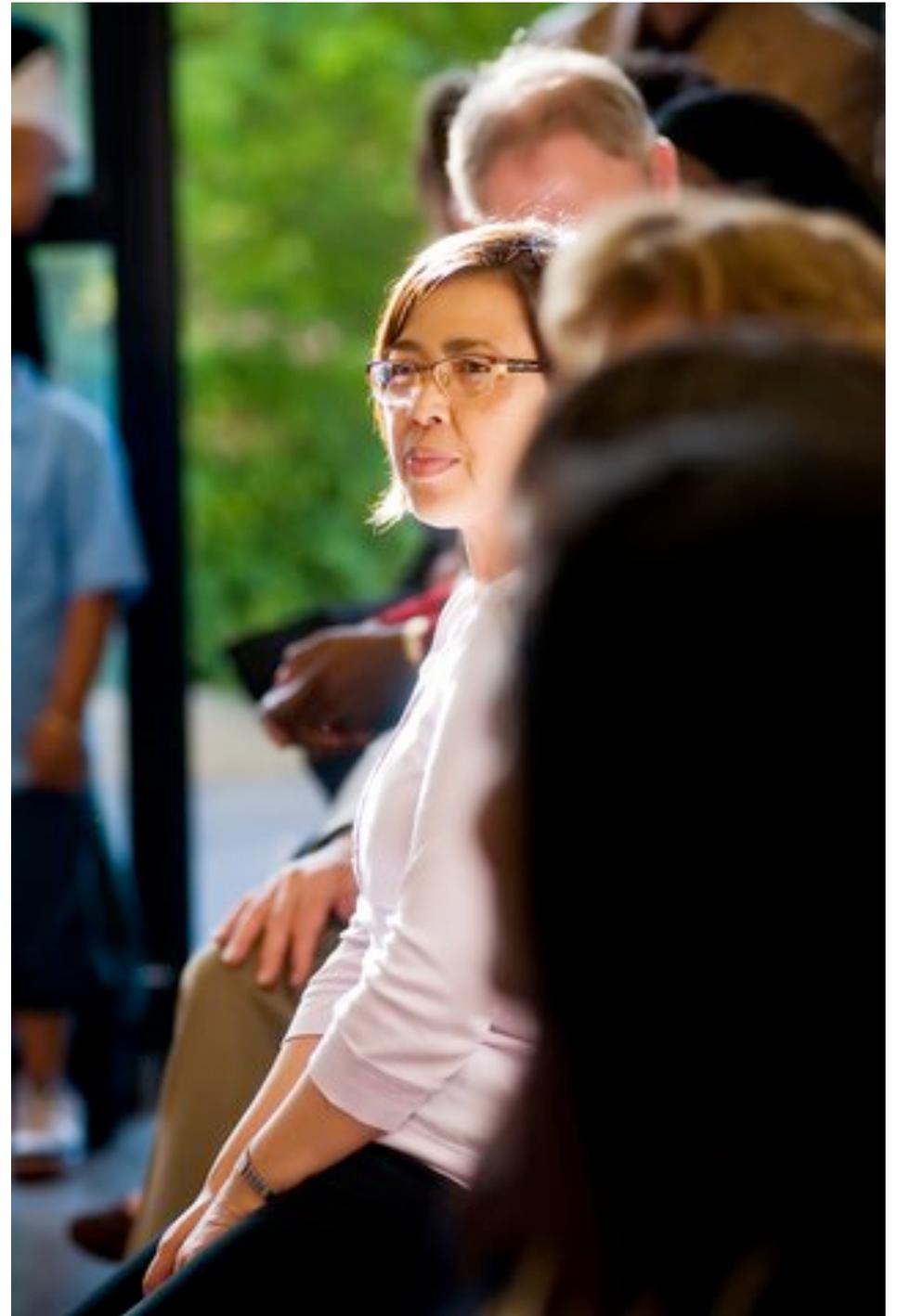
Linda Collins  
April 9, 2009



# The Career Ladders Project

fosters educational  
and career  
advancement through  
research, policy  
initiatives, and direct  
assistance to  
community colleges.

[www.CareerLaddersProject.org](http://www.CareerLaddersProject.org)





*education, diversity and growth in the economy*

**Partial list of Endorsing Organizations and Companies:**

- California Workforce Association
- Community College League of California
- Career Ladders Project, Foundation for California Community Colleges
- California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
- California Manufacturers and Technology Association
- Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
- Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
- Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation
- San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
- State Building and Construction Trades Council of CA
- The Boeing Company
- United Way of Greater Los Angeles

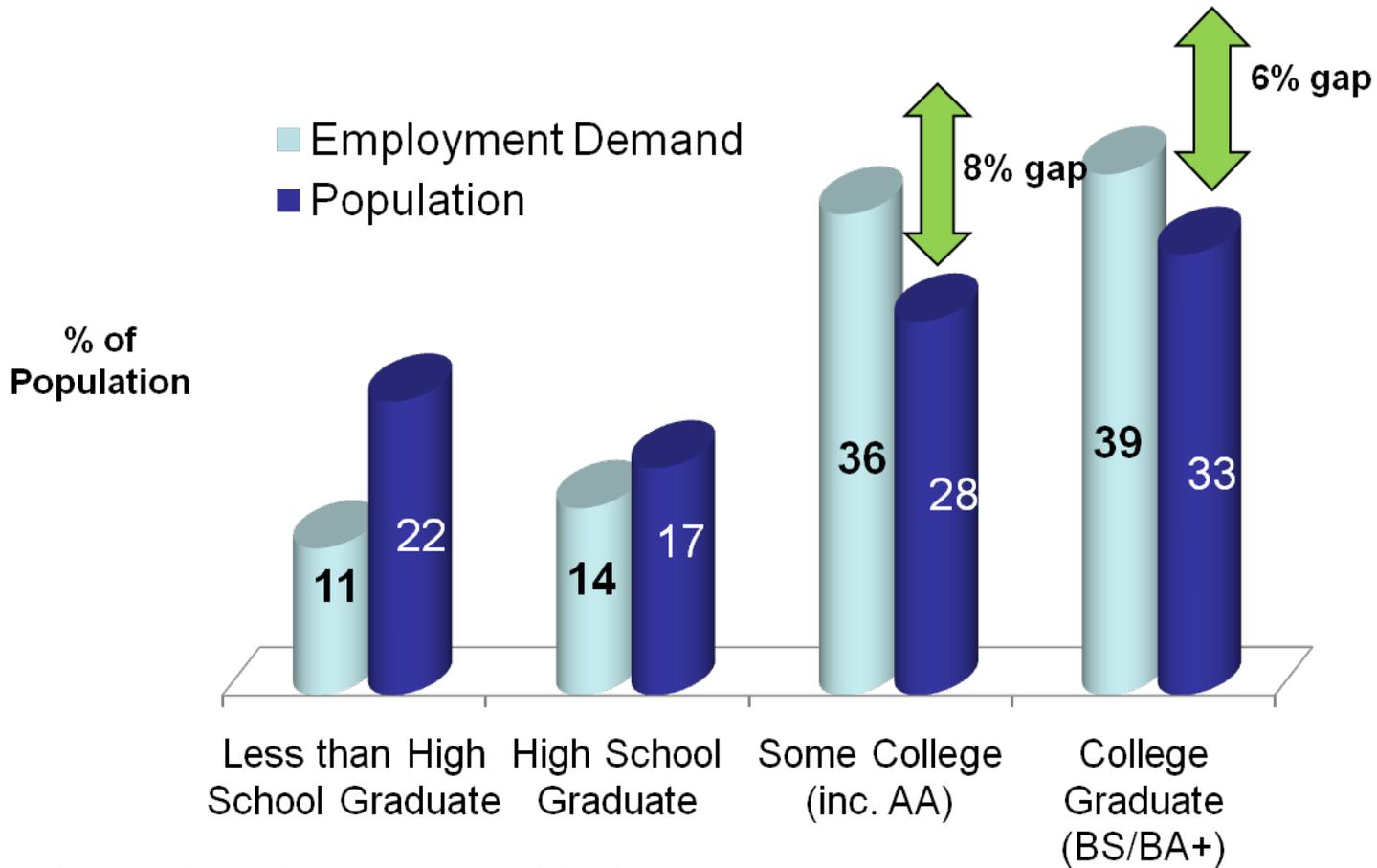
[www.californiaedgecampaign.org](http://www.californiaedgecampaign.org)

In 66 percent of low-income working families in California, no parent has had any postsecondary education. **This ranks dead last among the 50 states.** *Working Poor Families Project*

Today, more than four million (about 18 percent) of adult Californians 18-64 have not earned a high school diploma. **In 2020, that number will swell to 22 percent of the working-age population.**

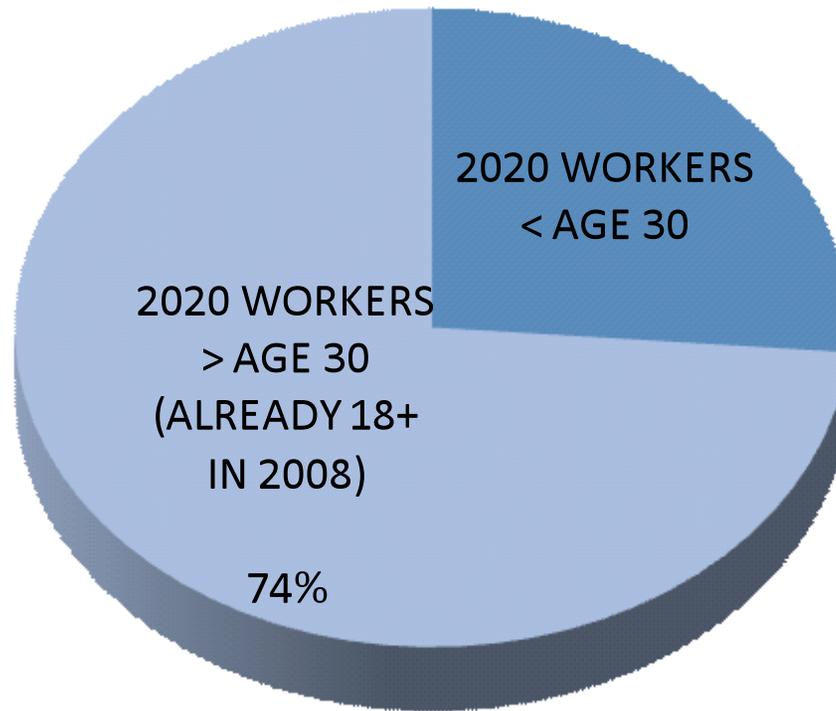
*National Commission on Adult Literacy, Public Policy Institute of California*

# Education Projections for 2020: Employment Demand and Population



Source: Public Policy Institute of California

# Percentage Of California Workforce In 2020 Already Beyond Secondary School Age



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, CA Dept. of Finance, Monthly Labor Review

# A Research Based Approach . . .

Many people learn better and faster, and retain information longer, when they are taught concepts in context.

- Makes it relevant
- Engages and motivates hard-to-reach students
- Increases learner confidence & enthusiasm
- Enhances interest in long-term goals & education

*Basic Skills as a Foundation for Student Success  
in CA Community Colleges, p. 58.*

# Contextualized Teaching & Learning

- Strategies to link essential skills & academic or occupational content
  - concrete applications
  - specific context of interest to the student

## **Includes:**

- Design of curricula
  - integration of essential skills & content
- Teaching
  - use of cases, project-based learning and other student-centered practices
- Assessment
  - examining application of knowledge and the transfer of skills

# Transition Programs . . .

## Bridge

- Sequential
- Contextualized
- Two or more linked courses
- Learning communities
- Cohort-based

## Concurrent

- At same time
- Contextualized
- Two or more linked courses
- Learning communities
- Cohort-based

## Integrated

- Embedded
- Contextualized
- Paired instructors (Basic Skills/CTE)
- Team teaching
- Cohort-based



## **Fast Tracking Adults along College and Career Pathways**

**Washington: Integrated  
Basic Education and Skills  
Training (IBEST)**

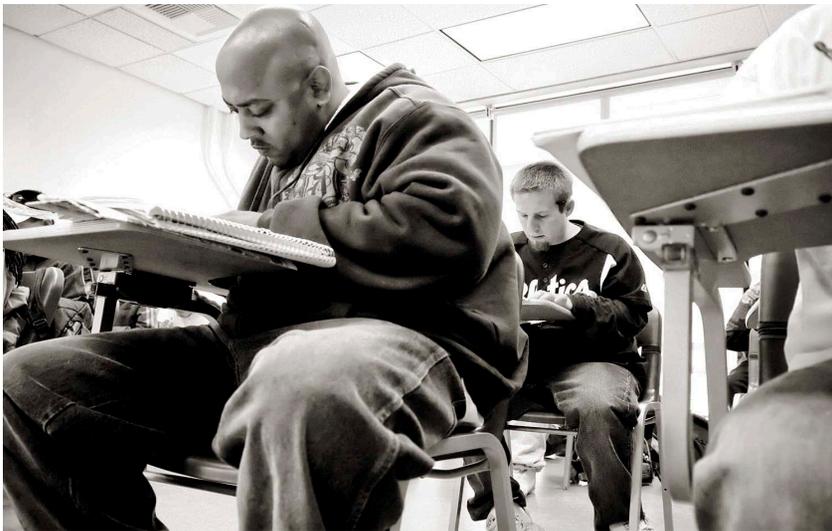
**Ohio: Stackable Certificates**

**Oregon: Career Pathways**



# Career Advancement Academies

Establish pipelines to college and high wage careers for disconnected, underemployed, underprepared young adults (18 – 30 yrs)







**Three Regions:** 26 colleges

East Bay

Central Valley

Los Angeles

**State investment:**

CCC System

Governor's CTE/SB70

\$5M per region over 3 yrs

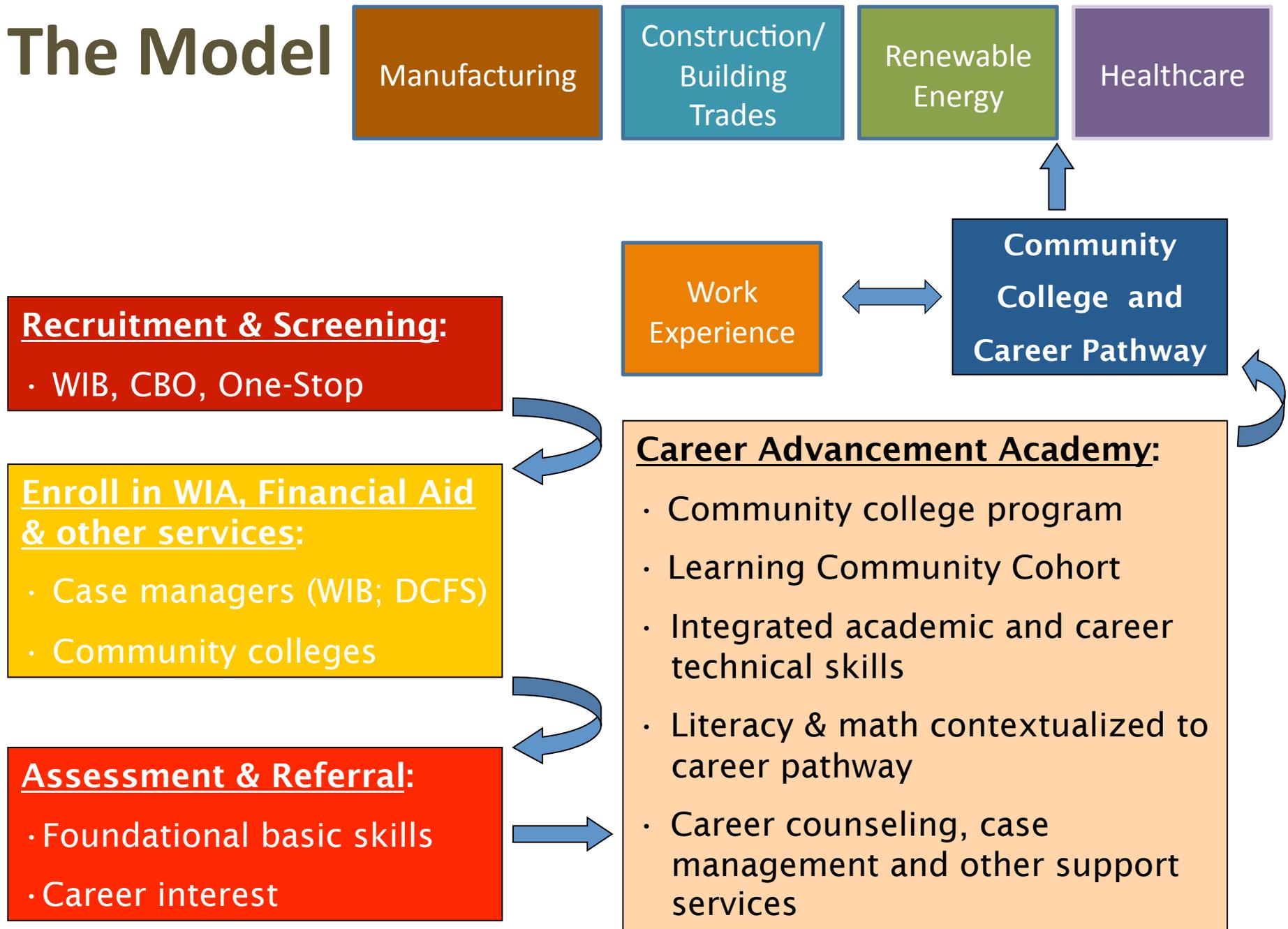


**Partnerships:** community colleges; employers; labor; workforce investment boards; social service agencies; community orgs; adult ed/ROCPs; philanthropy

# Key Design Elements . . .

- Broad outreach to underserved populations
- Partnerships to leverage public/private resources
- Transition programs – bridge to college & career
- Address basic skills **in context** of career
- Focus on high wage careers in demand in region
- Cohort-based, learning communities
- Intensive support services
- Clear transitions to continued education and career pathways

# The Model



# Additional Features . . . CAAs

- Community of learners across sites
  - Career Ladders Project / Philanthropy
  - Document and share effective practices
- Common Data and Evaluation:
  - CLP, Cal-PASS and Public Private Ventures
- CC System recently added \$1.5M to extend “Linking afterschool employment to career pathways” (in education and human services)
- Informing the CC System Basic Skills Initiative

# CCC System Strategic Plan

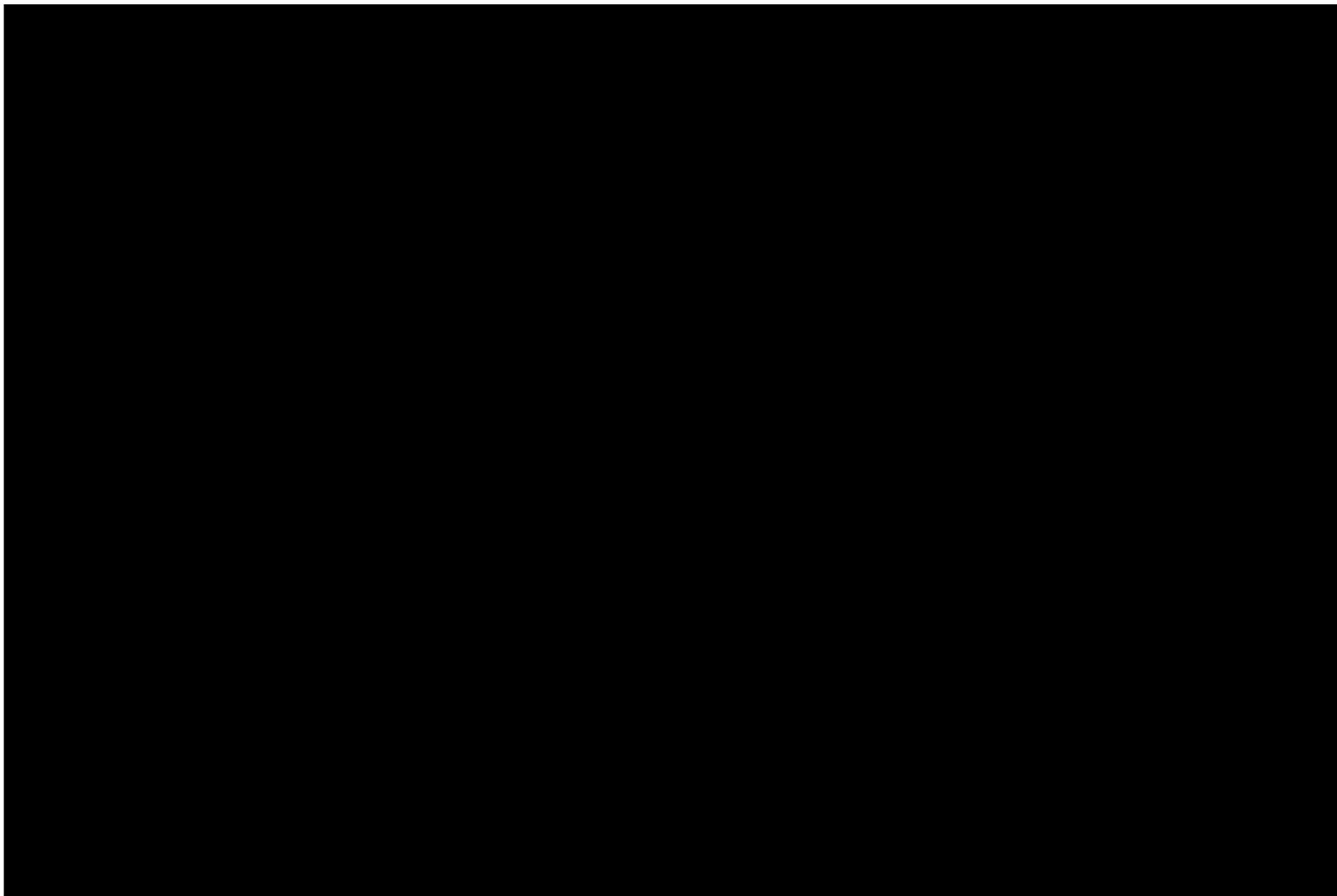
## Strategy C2: Career Pathways

**Sep 2007** Establish regional CAAs as pipelines to college and career for youth and adults

**Sep 2009** Share CAA results and effective practices

**Oct 2010** Expand and replicate successful models - addressing foundational skills and continued advancement





# Programa En Carpintería Fina

**Instruction includes:** Cabinet & Furniture Making for the Trades, VESL, Workplace English, Wood Tech Vocabulary, English Measurement, Shop Math

**Faculty:** Wood Tech, ESL, Math; Bilingual Assistant, Counselor

**Leading to:** Entry level crafts positions, continued education in Advanced Woodworking and Furniture Making

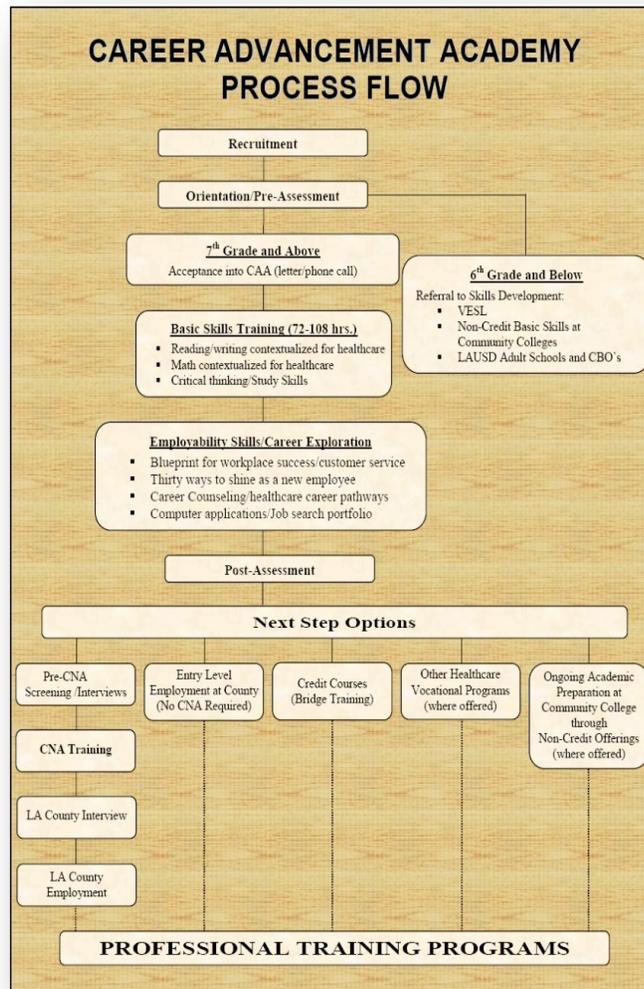
*A Partnership of the East Bay CAA, Laney College Wood Technology Department & the local woodworking industry*



# L.A. Healthcare CAA

## Bridge Core Curriculum

1. Basic Reading Comprehension & Writing for Healthcare Employees
2. Basic Math for Healthcare Employees
3. Critical Thinking & Rational Decision-Making for Healthcare Employees (Embedded in Curriculum)
4. Customer Service / Communication Skills
5. Computer Applications for Healthcare





**Funded in part by the  
Chancellor's Office for California  
Community Colleges**

**In partnership with:**

Foundation for CA Community  
Colleges

S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation

Evelyn and Walter Haas Jr. Fund

Walter and Elise Haas Fund

William and Flora Hewlett  
Foundation

James Irvine Foundation

Walter S. Johnson Foundation

David and Lucile Packard Foundation

The Women's Foundation of CA

Bay Area Workforce Funding

Collaborative

**Linda Collins**

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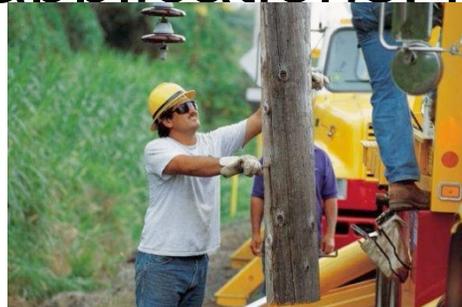
**Luis Chavez**

**LChavez@CareerLaddersProject.org**



# Utilities & Construction Prep

- Intensive, 8 week program to prepare students for entry-level jobs in the utilities industry and construction trades:
  - Workplace Fitness & Conditioning
  - Industry Overview, Softskills & Workplace Readiness
  - Workplace Reading & Computation Skills
  - Applied Construction Skills
- Hands-on training needed to succeed in work
- Assistance with job applications, interviews and placement



# WA “Tipping Point” Study

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## What did they find?

- Only 20% of basic skills students completed voc-ed program, certificate or credential
- One yr post-secondary ed .+ certificate is “tipping point” for meaningful earnings gains (\$7,000/year more)
- Strong job demand for that skill level
- 1-full year means student prepared for further higher education

## Why is it important?

- Research trusted & widely quoted (Ford Foundation; Columbia)
- Reframed discussion about education of under-prepared, low-income youth and adults
- Broad influence across state policy – “work first” short-term training won’t get to the “tipping point”
- Led to creation of new, contextualized programs and infusion of career pathways throughout state workforce training and education programs



# Integrated Basic Education And Skills Training

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## What is it?

- ▶ Paired ABE/ESL w/ CTE instructors: **basic skills in context**
- ▶ Full-time, cohort-based learning community
- ▶ For-credit instruction
- ▶ Support services & single point of contact
- ▶ One-year+ ed. programs so students reach 'tipping point'
- ▶ Programs require additional coordination and faculty time
- ▶ I-BEST students funded at 1.75 FTE



## Interim Basic Education And Skills

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### What did they learn?

- ▶ I-BEST students compared to other ESL/Basic skills students:
  - earned 5 times more credits
  - 15 times more likely to complete
- ▶ Results at 10 colleges led to enhanced FTES reimbursement & funding to expand program to other 24 colleges
- ▶ Led to additional state supports : Opportunity Grants (2007)
  - Student \$1,000 PLUS tuition/fees
  - Community College: \$1,500/FTES for support services & counseling
  - Students in job specific, high demand programs