Keeping California Competitive, Creating Opportunity
The EDGE Coalition (partial list of > 130 endorsing organizations)

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

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Keeping California Competitive, Creating Opportunity:

1. Invest in regional workforce and economic development strategies.

2. Provide all Californians access to high quality postsecondary education and skills training.

3. Provide working adults with opportunities to move up the skill ladder.

4. Link workforce programs and institutions to create pathways to high wage jobs.

5. Align program goals and measures to achieve a shared vision and ensure accountability.

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EXAMPLE: State of Washington

Research Report
No. 06-2

Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges

Building Pathways to Success for Low-Skill Adult Students: Lessons for Community College Policy and Practice from a Longitudinal Student Tracking Study (The “Tipping Point” Research)

April 2005

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INTEGRATED BASIC EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

What is it?

- Pilot program pairing ABE/ESL with professional/technical instructors to provide support and develop basic skills in context
- Full-time, cohort learning environment
- The majority of the instruction is for-credit
- Support services and single point of contact to navigate college systems
- Focus on one-year and/or high-wage training programs to enable students to reach ‘tipping point’
- I-BEST students are funded at the equivalent of 1.75 FTE (capped #)
- Programs require considerable coordination and faculty time

Why is it important?

- Resulted from research into student outcomes
- I-BEST students earned five times more college credits on average and were 15 times more likely to complete workforce training than traditional ESL students
- Results from first 10 colleges led to enhanced FTES reimbursement and funding to expand program to the other 24 colleges via planning grants and training institutes
- Led to additional supports/programs
  - Opportunity Grants (2007)
    - Student: $1,000 PLUS tuition/fees
    - Community College: $1,500/FTES for support services and counseling
    - Students in job specific, high demand programs
  - Career pathways becoming integrated throughout all state grants

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Systems Change Focus

Address Workforce Needs of Industry Sectors and Regional Economies

- Expand funding/incentives for regional workforce planning
- Support regions in using labor market information to identify skills gaps and link economic and workforce development
- Support capacity building for workforce intermediaries
- Leverage and align resources

Improve Californian’s Access to and Success in Career Education & Training

- Effectively integrate basic skills into workforce education and training
- Ensure programs are designed to address needs of working adults
- Provide bridge and career technical programs that prepare Californian’s for high wage careers.
- Expand financial aid, career counseling and supportive services to improve educational and career advancement.

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## EDGE Campaign Goals for ‘08

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<th>Build deeper understanding of issues and solutions</th>
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<td>• Hold regional convenings and conduct outreach to better understand issues and develop policy proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Review promising practices in other states</td>
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<td>• Develop white papers or briefings on solutions that resonate</td>
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<th>Expand regional EDGE coalitions and support for specific policy solutions</th>
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<td>• Expand EDGE Build on and mobilize EDGE Coalition in regions (SV, Bay Area, LA, San Diego, and San Joaquin Valley)</td>
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<td>• Identify specific state-level policy reform proposals</td>
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<th>Educate Policymakers, Other Stakeholders, and Media about Consensus Reform Proposals</th>
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<td>• Outreach and education on policy and administrative practice proposals</td>
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<td>• Build champions among policymakers and key opinion leaders</td>
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<td>• Develop a media strategy to communicate the workforce crisis and solutions</td>
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Discussion: Where do we go from here?

- EDGE has momentum across constituencies, however, state budget through 2009 very challenging – no new money to experiment, incentivize change, etc.
- How can we continue to make progress in policy and practice during this challenging budget period?
- From your perspective, what are the most important messages we need to convey to policy makers?
California EDGE Campaign

With thanks to EDGE funders:
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The San Francisco Foundation
The Walter & Elisa Haas Fund

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ENDORSE THE CAMPAIGN at
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