

**Letter of Partnership
Between Chabot Las Positas Community College District
and California State University East Bay
East Bay College Agile Network Initiative**

Introduction:

The East Bay College Agile Network (EB CAN) is a collaborative project between California State University East Bay (CSUEB) and Chabot Las Positas Community College District (CLPCCD) that focuses on greater transfer agility by supporting students to find their best college path forward. Our goal is for every student to successfully complete their educational pathway with focused services and support. EB CAN will include concurrent enrollment; opportunities to complete programs on each campus; coordinated outreach to students and their families; and an integrated care approach across the network to allow students to reach their individual higher education goals. We plan to implement a culture shift across our institutions by switching from an individualized institution approach to a collaborative network crossing traditional institutional boundaries.

Our regional employers increasingly need skilled workers with Bachelor's degrees, Associate's degrees, as well as recognized Certificates of Achievement issued by our colleges. Our communities need higher incomes and career pathways, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis. Given that Chabot College and Las Positas College are among CSUEB's top five community college feeder schools, EB CAN is vital to the region's economic development to provide clear pathways to certificates and degree programs. Collectively, our students often feel uncertain, especially as they attempt to transfer from community college to university, and vice versa. For example, EB CAN will more intentionally support students who drop out of the university to apply CSUEB credits toward completing an Associate's Degree at Chabot College or Las Positas College, few students realize this is possible. EB CAN will purposely clarify pathways between college and university and create a transparent "wrap around" integrated care approach to support student transitions.

The goals of EB CAN are to increase college completion rates, decrease time to graduation, and narrow the equity gap by creating clearer pathways to degrees at CSUEB and CLPCCD to ultimately achieve upward socio-economic mobility for all students. The EB CAN will achieve this by making navigation easier, increasing targeted services at "stuck points" in transitions, and aligning communication to students and their families across our region. Collectively educating 58,000 post-secondary students each year, our systems contribute substantially to our region's skill-base and economic vitality. Implementing the strategies of EB CAN will assist our regional economy, which is even more critical at this time of economic recovery due to COVID-19.

Term of the Partnership:

To further strengthen pilot projects and collaboration, this Letter of Partnership between CLPCCD and CSUEB formally recognizes the progress to date and formally establishes this partnership in 2021. Each partner has identified the collaborative leadership to guide the EB CAN initiative and revisit annual goals by the completion of each spring term. An evaluative analysis will follow at the end of three years, approximately June 30, 2024. It is the intent of both parties to fully commit to the goals of EB CAN, develop resources to support an innovative intersegmental pilot, and to work through challenges that may arise in the attempt to develop a collaborative network crossing traditional institutional boundaries. This agreement may be extended and/or modified by mutual agreement by the signing of a new Letter of Partnership. This agreement may also be terminated by either of the partners upon notice of 30 days. To date, EB CAN is supported by the Koret Foundation, ECMC Foundation, and an implementation and expansion grant draft proposal is near completion.

Mutual Responsibilities:

CSUEB and CLPCCD agree that they will work together to:

- 1) Develop data and technology processes for supporting a holistic network for students between CSUEB and CLPCCD through dual enrollment, reverse transfer, shared support systems, and articulated pathways so that students can complete degrees and certificates more efficiently in a network of available options and coordinated support
- 2) Create seamless pathways designed to meet students' educational goals
- 3) Coordinate academic, transfer, and financial counseling across institutions to ensure timely planning and transferring to CSUEB to ensure the awarding of all available public financial aid
- 4) Allow students to remain on their "home" campus while using resources available at another campus, thereby accelerating degree completion
- 5) Share analytics across campuses to equip advisors/counselors with the information needed to provide proactive support and intervene when students veer off track
- 6) Implement sustainable systems which measure impact and allow for continuous improvement
- 7) Conduct fundraising/grant writing, as appropriate, to provide additional funds for the East Bay College Agile Network project
- 8) Jointly collaborate on marketing, media announcements, outreach, and promotion
- 9) Provide reports as needed to funding agencies

California State University, East Bay Commits To:

- 1) Provide specific leadership to this project: Collaborating with Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Student Success, CLPCCD Chancellor and College Presidents, and appointed executive staff
- 2) Strengthen advising and support at CSUEB for our transfer students from CLPCCD
- 3) Develop individualized pathways for CSUEB students who are reverse transfers to CLPCCD who may decide to seek certificates, alternative degrees, and/or may eventually return to CSUEB
- 4) Collaborate with CLPCCD to create a soft landing at the community college with direction toward a completion or re-entry to the CSU
- 5) Develop and pilot a pre-matriculation degree audit for transfer students from CLPCCD
- 6) Explore sharing data agreements to enable a more seamless experience for any student wishing to move to another campus within the Agile Network

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District Commits To:

- 1) Provide specific leadership to this project: Collaborating with CSUEB President and Provost, and designees, regular updates to the CLPCCD Chancellor and Board of Trustees
- 2) Develop aspects of a robust support network across both Chabot College and Las Positas College that is adaptive to student educational needs, improves pathways designed to help students meet their educational goals, and pro-actively support students who demonstrate readiness to transfer to CSUEB
- 3) Host CSUEB advisors to develop strong CSUEB transfer student identity while attending Chabot College and Las Positas College
- 4) Establish a soft landing for CSUEB student leavers to pursue educational continuity with CLPCCD
- 5) Focus efforts and measure outcomes to achieve greater transfer equity by examining effectiveness of EB CAN, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, gender, age, and special population status such as Veterans
- 6) Explore shared data agreements to enable a more seamless experience for any student wishing to move to another campus within the Agile Network.

Reciprocal General Indemnity

Each entity agrees to indemnify, defend and save harmless the other, its officers, agents and employees from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any other person, firm or corporation furnishing or supplying work, service, materials or supplies in connection with the performance of this Contract, and from any and all claims and losses accruing or resulting to any

person, firm or corporation which may be injured or damaged in the performance of this Contract.

EB CAN Lead for Cal State East Bay:

Dr. Maureen Scharberg, Dean of Academic Programs & Services, California State University East Bay Office of Academic Affairs, 25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard | Hayward, CA 94541-3021 | 510-885-2990 | maureen.scharberg@csueastbay.edu

EB CAN Lead for Chabot-Las Positas Community College District:

Dr. Theresa Fleischer Rowland, Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Student Success Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, 7600 Dublin Blvd., 3rd Floor, Dublin, CA 94568 | (925) 485-5244 | trowland@clpccd.org

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed by and on behalf of the parties

Ronald P. Gerhard

08/20/2021

Ronald P. Gerhard, Chancellor
Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

Cathy Sandeen

Cathy Sandeen, President
Cal State East Bay

Jonah R. Nicholas

Jonah R. Nicholas (Aug 20, 2021 09:46 PDT)

08/20/2021