



BROADBANDUSA

CONNECTING AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

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Organization:	Foundation for California Community Colleges
Project Name:	California Connects
Project Type:	Sustainable Broadband Adoption
States:	California
Federal Award:	\$10,944,843

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The **Foundation for California Community Colleges**, in partnership with community colleges and other learning centers across an 18-county region in the Central Valley, plans to provide outreach, training, and learning support to increase digital literacy skills and broadband adoption, especially among low-income Hispanic residents in the region.

The project plans to distribute laptops to roughly 5,800 socioeconomically disadvantaged students currently enrolled in the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program at local community colleges. The equipment will help encourage and enable broadband adoption among students and their families, many of whom have not previously seen the need or had the resources to acquire computers, learn computer skills, or connect to the Internet. The project intends to track both the increase in library and public computer center use as a result of the program as well as household subscribership figures for MESA students.

California Connects also proposes to:

- Train as many as 61,100 residents by employing up to 3,000,000 hours of teacher-led digital literacy training.
- Partner with 33 community colleges, 136 public libraries, and other public computer centers across the 18 county region.
- Conduct a formal evaluation of subscribership and increases in digital literacy skills in partnership with the University of California, Santa Barbara.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Foundation for California Community Colleges, established in 1998, has been providing technology-related access and training in California for 12 years. The Foundation develops programs to promote excellence in education, and provide valuable learning opportunities for students throughout the state.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Regents of the University of California, Great Valley Center
- California Community Colleges Technology Center
- California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
- The K-20 California Educational Technology Collaborative

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

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