



Immigrant Student Success Is Critical to College Completion and US Competitiveness

Increasing college and credential completion among the fast-growing immigrant population is critical to improving overall community college completion rates and maintaining a strong competitive workforce in the U.S. Yet, many immigrants, especially those in low-income communities, lack the basic literacy and English language skills to succeed in college and build careers. Other foreign-educated, skilled immigrants in the U.S. are unemployed or languish in low-wage jobs because their foreign credentials and experience are not recognized.

Community colleges are ideally positioned to be change agents in boosting educational and career opportunities for immigrants, but they face significant challenges in addressing the needs of a diverse immigrant population. Against this backdrop, the need to transform immigrant student success in community colleges is clear.



CCCIE Mission and Vision

Mission: CCCIE builds the capacity of community colleges to accelerate immigrant and refugee success and raises awareness of the essential role these colleges play in advancing immigrant integration in our communities.

Vision: New Americans have full access to higher education and success in community colleges across the nation and are provided the resources to attain their educational, career, and personal goals; thus supporting high and rising wages and living standards for all Americans while strengthening U.S. competitiveness in the global economy.

CCCIE's strategic partnerships both within and outside the community college sector provide a strong foundation for our success. As thought leaders, researchers, advocates, and technical experts, we have made significant progress in raising the visibility of immigrant education issues on the national agenda and establishing ourselves among influential partners and stakeholders in the immigrant integration, adult education, and workforce development fields.



We invite you to take a look at CCCIE's accomplishments in 2015 and our strategic priorities for 2016...

CCCIE Accomplishments in 2015

Conducting Action-Based Research and Exchange of Promising Practices

National Survey on Increasing Opportunities for New Americans at Community Colleges

As part of a yearlong strategic planning process, CCCIE launched a [national survey](#) in March 2015 that has shed new light and further understanding of colleges' capacity for supporting immigrant students, including strongest areas of investment versus clear gaps in services.

Bridging the Gap for Foreign-Educated Immigrants: A New Online Resource

CCCIE partnered with WES Global Talent Bridge to develop this new [online toolkit](#) that community college and CBO practitioners can use to integrate foreign-educated students into college programs and careers. It includes best practices, success stories, videos, checklists, and other interactive tools.

Providing Technical Assistance to Community Colleges and Other Key Stakeholders

Skills and Opportunity for the New American Workforce

The National Immigration Forum, CCCIE and Miami Dade College were awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the Walmart Foundation to develop a scalable, sector-wide contextualized [English language learning program](#) that will help retailers build stronger career pathways for their employees.

CCCIE partnership—2015 National Council for Workforce Education Conference

CCCIE partnered with NCWE to organize the October 2015 conference, *Workforce Education for All!* in Portland, Oregon, the best attended in NCWE history, attracting over 400 community colleges, workforce development agencies, government officials, community organizations, and others. A conference track devoted exclusively to immigrant education issues significantly increased community colleges' participation and focus on college and career success for immigrant students.



Expanding Advocacy and Policy Reach

Recommendations to the White House Task Force for New Americans

In February 2015 CCCIE submitted [recommendations](#) and [best practices](#) to the [White House Task Force on New Americans](#) on a range of programs and resources for strengthening community colleges' capacity to serve low-skilled adult ESL learners, refugees, undocumented and DACA-mented students, and skilled immigrants. We now see more explicit references to both low and high skilled immigrants as eligible populations that can be served under federal discretionary grant programs, due to recommendations of CCCIE and several other immigrant-serving groups.

Participation in IMPRINT

CCCIE is a founding member and serves on the steering committee of [IMPRINT](#), a national coalition of organizations that works closely with business, government, higher education and other partners to raise awareness about the talents and contributions of immigrant professionals and influence policy issues relating to professional immigrant integration.

Networks for Integrating New Americans

CCCIE serves as technical advisor and subject matter expert for this [national initiative](#), funded by the US Department of Education's Office for Career, Technical, and Adult Education and focused on improving immigrants' access to effective English language programs, paths to citizenship, and career development.

Strategic Priorities for 2016

At a time when community colleges are dealing with diminishing resources at all levels, CCCIE can play a critical role to help colleges reinvent themselves and build capacity of the sector to address the completion agenda through improved immigrant student outcomes. Our efforts will focus on helping college presidents and their leadership teams craft a course that draws on their college's strengths, maximizes their existing resources, and helps colleges develop targeted services to accelerate academic and career success of immigrant and refugee students. Our priorities for 2016 include:

Leveraging Our Community College Survey: CCCIE's national survey elicited responses from 160 community college representatives in 33 states, that taken together, account for well over 80% of the nation's foreign-born residents. Through the dissemination of key findings, CCCIE will help colleges identify steps to advance immigrant education and benchmark their capacity to serve immigrant students against the survey results.

Enhancing Use of Data to Track Immigrant Student Success: Three-quarters of survey respondents said they lack adequate capacity to track immigrant student success through better data collection. CCCIE launched a Data Metrics Working Group drawn from its Blue Ribbon Panel member colleges that are developing standardized definitions, key indicators, and best practices to help colleges create a data-driven culture to advance immigrant student success.

Disseminating Toolkits for Educators and Students: CCCIE and WES Global Talent Bridge will disseminate our new online toolkit, designed to help community college practitioners and their CBO partners advise foreign-educated students on how to navigate educational and career pathways at their colleges and in their communities. Work is also underway on an *Immigrant Student Guide*, which will equip students with information they need to become their own advocates as they choose their path to success.

Expanding Our Memberships: CCCIE will continue to expand its Blue Ribbon Panel and will launch a new national membership network that more actively engages community college practitioners in our initiatives. In addition, through the launch of a *College Presidents Campaign*, we will secure the commitment of college presidents who pledge to implement specific initiatives and develop a culture of supporting immigrant student success as part of an overall college completion agenda.

Building Communities of Practice: Our call to action is to form teams or communities of practice comprising cross-functional community college and cross-sector stakeholders to organize for action—taking best practices and key learnings from ideas to implementation and transforming the immigrant-serving community college sector to produce better outcomes.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Download CCCIE's [summary annual report](#) and visit cccie.org.

BLUE RIBBON PANEL MEMBERS

CCCIE's work is guided by a Blue Ribbon Panel of community college leaders and experts in the field of immigrant education. Current BRP members represent over 50 colleges serving an estimated 1.2 million students. Students with an immigrant background represent approximately 25% of the student population at community colleges. We are expanding our BRP memberships to extend our national reach and strengthen the movement toward immigrant student success. Current BRP members include:

American Association of Community Colleges, D.C
Alamo Community College District, TX
ALLIES (Alliance for Language Learners' Integration, Education and Success), CA
Bluegrass Community and Technical College, KY
Bunker Hill Community College, MA
City Colleges of Chicago, IL
City College of San Francisco, CA
Johnson County Community College, KS
Highline College, WA
LaGuardia Community College, NY
Literacywork International, NM
Miami Dade College, FL
Migration Policy Institute, D.C.
Montgomery College, MD
National Community College Hispanic Council, CA
Northern Virginia Community College, VA
Palm Beach State College, FL
Pima Community College, AZ
Rio Hondo College, CA
South Texas College, TX
Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges, WA
Westchester Community College, NY
World Education Services, NY

The Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education is a national network of community colleges and other organizations committed to supporting immigrant education and integration through colleges' innovative programs and services. Our thanks to the J.M. Kaplan Fund, which has provided CCCIE with its major financial support since its founding in 2008, and to the Kresge Foundation, which supported the development of CCCIE's Strategic Plan. CCCIE is hosted and led by Westchester Community College in Valhalla, New York. Please explore our website at www.cccie.org and subscribe to our mailing list to receive our E-alerts and resources.

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