



SWP Round 10

Application Guidance Document



ROUND 10 SWP REGIONAL PROJECT GUIDANCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction to LARC & Strong Workforce Regional Funding	2
2. Round 10 Regional Project Timeline	3
3. Regional Project Application Checklists	
a. Core Initiatives (Formerly Cornerstone Projects) Checklist	4
b. New & Continuing Regional & sub-regional Project Development	5
4. Core Initiative (Formerly Cornerstone Project) Overview	6
5. Regional Project Development & Approval Process Overview	7
6. Regional Project Ideation & Development Collaborative	8
7. Regional & Sub-regional Project Overview	9
8. Regional Project Lead Eligibility Requirements	10
9. Budget Workbooks	11
10. Completing a NOVA Application	12-13
11. Application Review, Scoring, & Approval	14
12. Appendix	15-16
a. Equity Strategies	
b. LMI Guidance	

Key Links

- [Round 10 Portfolio: Proposed Project Overviews](#)
- [Round 10 SWP Regional Project Budget Overview & Workbook Links](#)
- Project Development Resources
 - [Logic Model Workshop Resource Folder](#)
 - [Developing a Proposal Resource Folder](#)
 - [Workplan Development Resource Folder](#)
- [LARC Governance Model](#)
- [2024-27 LARC Regional Plan](#)
- [Strong Workforce Program Legislation](#)
- [Vision 2030](#)
- [COE Sub-regional Profiles](#)

INTRODUCTION TO STRONG WORKFORCE REGIONAL & LARC

Introduction to LARC

LARC is a consortium of LA's 19 community colleges working collectively to deliver on a promise that California community colleges are accessible and affordable to all who seek opportunities to realize a better future. LARC collaborates with K-12 partners, high-road employers, and priority industries to align impactful curriculum and workforce training programs, creating a seamless pathway for college and career readiness. LARC applies quantitative and qualitative data and research to identify high-growth, emerging, and economically critical industries, analyze the gap between labor market demands, and respond to workforce needs, serving to bridge the gap between workforce preparedness and the employers fueling LA's cutting-edge economy.

Introduction to Strong Workforce Program (SWP) Regional Projects

Strong Workforce Regional funds are part of California's Strong Workforce Program (SWP), which is intended to scale and bolster career and technical education at California Community Colleges ([SWP Ed Code](#)). SWP Regional funds support collective efforts between the LA-19 community colleges to address workforce gaps and industry needs, ensuring that students are prepared for high-demand, high-wage careers. LARC invests in strategic regional projects that support a collaborative approach to expand career pathways, student services, and curriculum alignment for our community college partners. These investments prioritize data-driven outcomes, mobilizing cross-sector collaboration and supporting equitable economic recovery. SWP Regional funds are managed by LARC and distributed according to the [approved governance structure](#). A revised governance structure was approved by the LARC CEO Board as of March 2025. An overview of key bylaw and regional project process changes [may be accessed here](#).

LARC regional projects are divided into three groups: Core Initiatives, SWP Regional Projects, and SWP Sub-regional Projects.

Core Initiatives (Formerly Cornerstone Projects)

Core Initiatives, formerly Cornerstone Projects, guide LA-19 institutions to consider foundational pathway objectives regarding infrastructure, student supports, academic integration, and evaluation through the lens of established metrics. Core Initiatives are evaluated annually by the LARC CEO Board to determine continuation. If the board approves the continuation of the Core Initiatives, they do not need to participate in the competitive application process. See the [Core Initiatives Overview](#) section (p. 6) for additional information.

SWP Regional Projects

Los Angeles Strong Workforce Program (SWP) Regional Projects are defined as "Projects of Regional and Equitable Employment Significance" that are executed through the Los Angeles community colleges and lead to career awareness, living-wage and/or high-demand jobs, and/or advancement opportunities for identified Geographies and/or populations of Los Angelenos. Regional Project participation must be open to all 19 LA community colleges. See the [Regional & Sub-regional Project Overview](#) section (p. 9) for additional information.

SWP Sub-regional Projects

Beginning in Round 10, colleges may submit applications for sub-regional projects. These new projects will allow colleges within specific subregions to propose projects aligned with their location's unique economic and workforce priorities. All applications must demonstrate alignment with labor market gaps, industry requirements, economic trends in their subregion as outlined in [COE's LA Sub-regional Profiles Project Reports](#). All projects must be directed toward impactful, high-need initiatives. See [Regional & Sub-regional Project Overview](#) section (p. 9) for additional information.

ROUND 10 SWP REGIONAL PROJECT TIMELINE

Timeline and process subject to change according to the requests and needs of the region.

Round 10 SWP Regional Project Development & Submission Timeline	Round 10 Dates
Deadline for the ongoing project lead to decline leadership of the respective Core Initiative (formally Cornerstone)	April 1, 2025 (March 1st for Round 11)
SWP Round 10 Project Proposal Application and Guidelines Released	April 7, 2025
Project Collaboration & Development	April - early June 2025
Project Leads Complete Project Overview Slide for College Partner Review	June 6, 2025
Core Initiative (formerly Cornerstone) Budgets Due for All Colleges	June 6, 2025
Proposed Projects Presented at the June 2025 LAWC Business Meeting	June 12, 2025
Opt-in/-out Deadline	June 18, 2025
CEO Virtual Review & Feedback for Proposed Projects	June 23-27, 2025
LARC Staff Communicates with Project Leads to Provide CEO Feedback. NOVA project application shells provided to Leads by PMs.	June 30, 2025
SWP Round 10 NOVA Applications Released <i>DO NOT officially submit your NOVA application. Budgets must be completed by project leads and participating colleges in the separate budget workbooks.</i>	July 11, 2025
LA Workforce Council Collaborative Discussion Regarding Proposed Projects	July 17, 2025
Round 10 Budget Workbooks Released for Project Leads & Participating Colleges	July 17, 2025
SWP Round 10 NOVA Applications & Budget Workbooks Completion Deadline <i>DO NOT officially submit your NOVA application. The project lead and participating colleges must provide detailed budgets via the provided budget workbooks.</i>	Aug 1, 2025 Deadline
Project Presentations at 2025 CEO Retreat	Aug 8, 2025
Adjust Projects as Recommended by CEOs Prior to Scoring	Aug 11-13, 2025
Scoring by Outside Evaluators	Aug 18-29, 2025
LAWC Final Recommendations of R10 Projects for CEO Board Action	Sept 18, 2025
CEO Board Approval (NEW DATE)	October 3, 2025
Revise Budgets of Approved Projects (if needed) & Finalize New Projects in NOVA	Sept 29- Oct 17, 2025
SWP Round 10 Applications Certified in NOVA	Oct 31, 2025 (CCCCO Deadline)

ROUND 10 REGIONAL PROJECT APPLICATION CHECKLISTS

Please follow the current [Round 10 Timeline](#) for all deadlines.

CORE INITIATIVES (FORMERLY CORNERSTONE PROJECTS) CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Project Lead Selection & Project Refinement:**
The project lead must confirm continuation (or a new project lead must be selected). Once the project lead is confirmed, they should, in collaboration with the LARC Program Managers, update the project's goals, ensure continued alignment with regional and state priorities, and finalize anticipated work plan activities. See [Core Initiative Overview \(Formerly Cornerstone Projects\)](#) section (p. 6).
- ☐ **Budget Workbooks:**
Once work plan activities have been finalized, the project lead and LARC Program Managers will work with the LARC Grant Project Coordinator to ensure that a budget workbook is created according to project needs. See [Budget Workbooks](#) section (p. 11).
- ☐ **College Participation:**
The project lead and LARC Program Managers must determine which colleges will participate in the project (all colleges must receive the option to participate). All participating colleges must receive the link to the respective budget workbook and complete a budget. The project lead should provide any guidance regarding acceptable planned expenditures, allocation maximums, etc. See [Budget Workbooks](#) section (p. 11).
- ☐ **NOVA Application:**
The LARC Program Managers will create an application in NOVA for completion by the project lead. The project lead must only enter the narrative sections; the LARC team will input budgets into the application. All project leads must complete an application in NOVA by the deadline set forth in the Round 10 Timeline, although the application should not be submitted. See [Submitting a NOVA Application](#) section (pp. 12-13).

NEW & CONTINUING REGIONAL & Sub-regional PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Collaborative Discussion:**
 Present your regional project idea to the Regional Project Ideation and Development Collaborative for discussion and recommendations and to ensure regional interest. See [Regional Project Ideation & Development Collaborative](#) section (p. 8).
- ☐ **Confirm Project Lead Eligibility:**
 The project lead must verify that all eligibility requirements for leading a project are met. See [Regional Project Lead Eligibility Requirements](#) section (p. 10).
- ☐ **Project Development:**
 In collaboration with the LARC Program Managers, the project lead must develop the project's goals, determine alignment with regional and state priorities, and finalize anticipated work plan activities. If a maximum budget will be provided to colleges, this should be determined. See [Regional & Sub-regional Project Overview](#) section (p. 9).
- ☐ **College Participation:**
 The project lead and LARC Program Managers must determine which colleges will participate in the project by the opt in/out deadline (all colleges must receive the option to participate). All participating colleges must receive the link to the respective budget workbook and complete a budget. The project lead should provide any guidance regarding acceptable planned expenditures, allocation maximums, etc. See [Budget Workbooks](#) section (p. 11).
- ☐ **Project Presentation:**
 The project lead must present the project to the LA Workforce Council and LARC CEO Board as requested, ensuring that any project summaries are provided by the deadlines set forth by the LARC team. The [Round 10 Project Overview Portfolio](#) serves as the central location for project summaries. The project plan should be revised according to guidance received by the governing bodies.
- ☐ **NOVA Application:**
 The LARC Program Managers will create an application in NOVA for completion by the project lead. The project lead must only enter the narrative sections; the LARC team will input budgets into the application. A [logic model](#) must be completed and uploaded to the LMI section of your NOVA application. All project leads must complete an application in NOVA by the deadline set forth in the Round 10 Timeline, although the application should not be submitted. See [Submitting a NOVA Application](#) section (pp. 12-13).
- ☐ **Budget Workbooks:**
 The LARC Grant Project Coordinator will develop a budget workbook according to the information provided by the project lead. The project lead and participating colleges must complete their detailed budgets no later than the deadline provided. See [Budget Workbooks](#) section (p. 11).

CORE INITIATIVE OVERVIEW (FORMERLY CORNERSTONE)

Core Initiatives (formerly Cornerstone Projects) Description

Core Initiatives, formerly Cornerstone Projects, guide LA-19 institutions to consider foundational pathway objectives regarding infrastructure, student supports, academic integration, and evaluation through the lens of established metrics. In order for a regional project to be eligible as a Core Initiative, it must have maintained a high ranking for at least three consecutive voting rounds and will not require reapplication.

Approved Core Initiatives

- **Noncredit Career Pathways:** Enhances workforce readiness for adult learners
- **Job Placement and Employment Success Project:** Bridges students into employment opportunities
- **Career Pathways Partnership:** Supports the creation of CTE TK-14 alignment, including Dual Enrollment Pathways that create seamless transitions between high school, college, and careers

Core Initiative Continuation

In December of each year, the CEO Board will assess the Core Initiatives to decide on project continuation. All Core Initiatives that are elected to continue, will complete a budget workbook and NOVA application. Budgets will be set according to the below guidance. Core Initiatives do not undergo the competitive regional project approval process or external committee scoring.

Progress Reporting

- **Progress Updates:** Each Core Initiative will submit progress updates bi-annually via the reporting tool and be evaluated at the end of each funding cycle by the LA Workforce Council and the CEO Board.
- **Fiscal Reporting:** Colleges must maintain the current LARC process in alignment with the State Chancellor's Office SWP reporting and expenditure timelines, following the established procedures set by LARC (PACCD Fiscal). Colleges must follow the LARC Budget Modification process to ensure compliance.

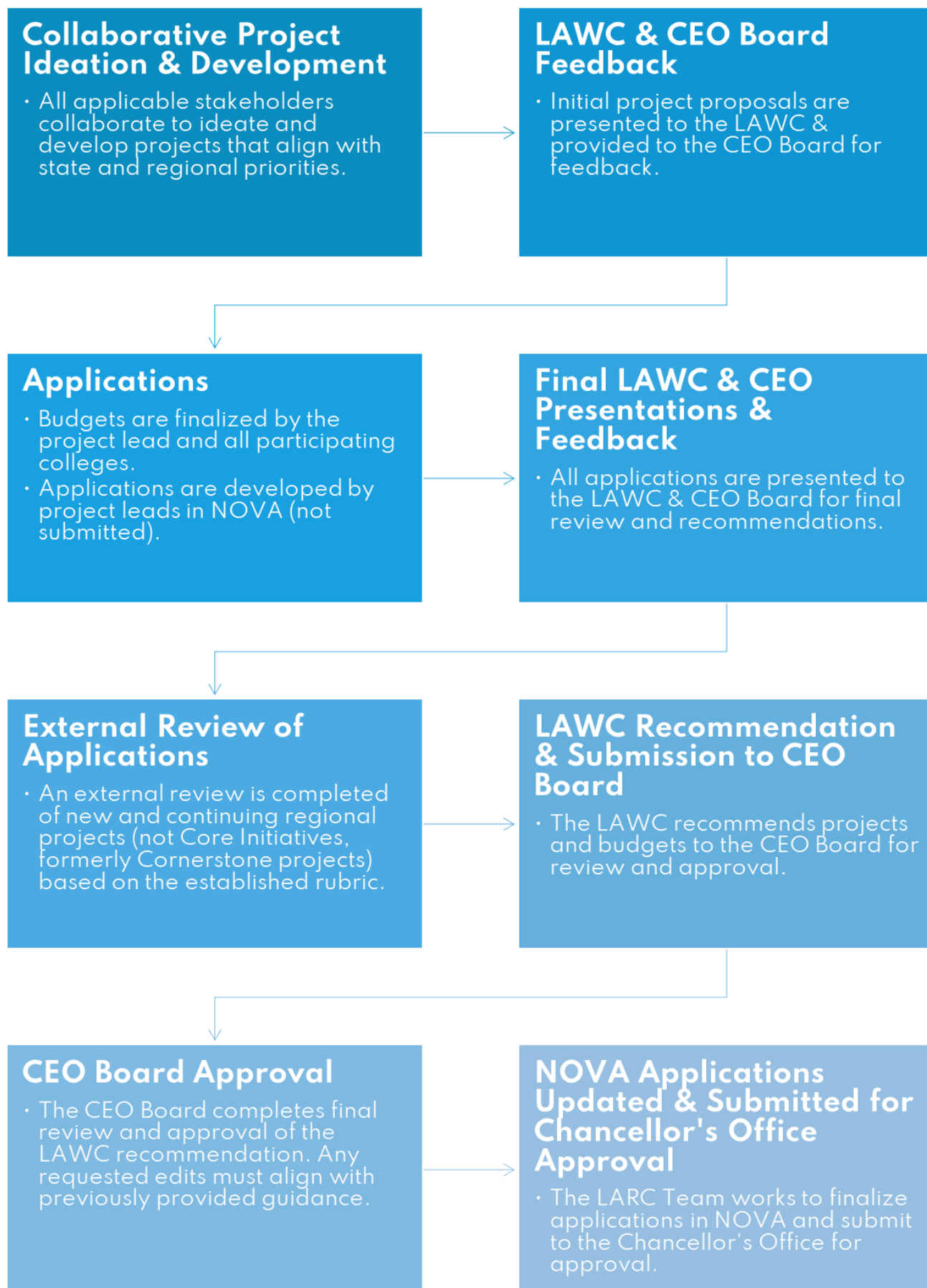
Project Leads

- **Leadership:** The Core Initiative community college project lead will have the first right of refusal to continue leading their project. If a community college project lead is unable or chooses not to continue, they must notify the LARC Chair by April 1, 2025, and March 1 of each year going forward.
- **Eligibility:** Project leads must meet [all eligibility criteria](#) in order to lead the project.
- **Budget:** \$100,000 maximum budget (allocated from the SWP Regional 95%)

Participating College Funding

- **Foundational Funding Allocation:** \$500,000 maximum total budget
- **Participation:** Colleges are not required to participate in all Core Initiatives.
- Based on institutional needs, colleges may determine how they will allocate their maximum budget of \$500,000 between the Core Initiatives in which they are participating.

REGIONAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & APPROVAL PROCESS



REGIONAL PROJECT IDEATION & DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATIVE

Regional Project Ideation & Development Collaborative Description:

The Regional Project Development and Innovation Process serves as a framework for regional project development, industry engagement, and workforce alignment. All relevant stakeholders will participate in a single collaborative body throughout regional & sub-regional project development. All new and continuing regional and sub-regional projects must be brought to the collaborative for discussion and development.

Members:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| - CEO Board | - Deans | - Industry |
| - LA Workforce Council | - Faculty | Representatives |
| - Chief Instructional Officers | - Career Services Staff | - LARC K14 TAP |
| - Vice Presidents | - Project Leads | - LARC K12 Pathway |
| - College Leadership | - LA Center of Excellence | Coordinators |
| | - Employers | |

Meeting Structure:

- **Chair:** LARC Chair/Assistant Vice President
- **Operational Support:** LARC Program Managers
- **Meeting Schedule:**
 - Scheduled on an as-needed basis
 - Whenever feasible, integrated into existing LAWC business meetings, regional planning sessions, and other regional summits

State & Regional Priorities Informing Project Development:

Includes, but is not limited to the following:

- [Labor Market Data](#)
- Regional Workforce Needs
- Strong Workforce Metrics ([SWP Legislation](#))
- Employer Engagement
- [LARC Regional Plans](#)
- [COE Sub-regional Profiles](#)
- [Vision 2030](#)
- CTE Master Plan
- Additional strategic input from the LARC CEO Board and LAWC
- [Equity Strategies](#)

REGIONAL & Sub-regional PROJECT OVERVIEW

Round 10 Regional Project Overview Portfolio

Regional Project Definition:

Los Angeles Strong Workforce Program (SWP) Regional Projects are defined as “Projects of Regional and Equitable Employment Significance” that are executed through the Los Angeles community colleges and lead to career awareness, living-wage and/or high-demand jobs, and/or advancement opportunities for identified geographies and/or populations of Los Angelenos. Projects and outcomes must align to the Strong Workforce Program legislation. To be considered for funding, Regional Project participation must be open to all 19 LA community colleges, combined with the following:

1. Recommended majority of college partner participation;
2. Must demonstrate broad regional impact with a focus on data-driven outcomes;
3. Focus on new, emerging sectors; pilot projects; and/or those with an emphasis on innovation and risk-taking.

Sub-regional Projects:

Beginning in Round 10, colleges may submit applications for sub-regional projects. These new projects will allow colleges within specific subregions to propose projects aligned with their location’s unique economic and workforce priorities. All applications must demonstrate alignment with labor market gaps, industry requirements, economic trends in their subregion. All projects must be directed toward impactful, high-need initiatives. [COE’s LA Sub-regional Profiles Project Reports](#) may assist in demonstrating sub-regional need.

Project Leads:

- **Eligibility:** Project leads must meet [all eligibility criteria](#) in order to lead the project.
- **Budget:** \$50,000 maximum budget (allocated from the SWP Regional 95%)

Progress Reporting

- **Progress Updates:** Each regional and sub-regional project will submit progress updates bi-annually via the reporting tool.
- **Fiscal Reporting:** Colleges must maintain the current LARC process in alignment with the State Chancellor’s Office SWP reporting and expenditure timelines, following the established procedures set by LARC (PACCD Fiscal). Colleges must follow the LARC Budget Modification process to ensure compliance.

State & Regional Priorities Informing Project Development:

Includes, but is not limited to the following:

- [Labor Market Data](#)
- Regional Workforce Needs
- Strong Workforce Metrics ([SWP Legislation](#))
- Employer Engagement
- [LARC Regional Plans](#)
- [COE Sub-regional Profiles](#)
- [Vision 2030](#)
- [CTE Master Plan](#)
- Additional strategic input from the LARC CEO Board and LAWC
- [Equity Strategies](#)

REGIONAL PROJECT LEAD ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All proposers must meet the following eligibility criteria to be considered for Strong Workforce Program Regional base and incentive funding. By submitting an application, you verify your commitment to each of the criteria.

- ☐ Lead Proposer must possess full capacity to meet SWP deliverables and work plan.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must possess expertise in managing externally-funded projects.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must possess expertise in developing, tracking, managing, and reporting budgets and expenditures
- ☐ Lead Proposer shall commit to preparing and submitting invoices and supporting documentation on or before the set deadline.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must commit to tracking and reporting all required narrative reporting for lead college/district and all collaborative partners on or before the deadline that is established by the LARC Office.
- ☐ Lead Proposer shall provide respective LARC directors access to event calendars and invitations to all project meetings and activities throughout the project's life cycle.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must commit to completing all required templates in the SWP Toolkit.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must commit to convening quarterly meetings for all collaborative partners to provide and get status updates on progress of project, stay abreast of challenges and opportunities from lead college and collaborative partners, and keep all partners on track with project deliverables and completing work plan.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must commit to providing status updates and presentations on the project if called upon.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must incorporate activities and plans to address regional priorities.
- ☐ Lead Proposer must secure a signature from their college president/CEO and CIO to participate as a lead or collaborative partner for each project.

All regional projects must align with the following:

- [Labor Market Data](#)
- Regional Workforce Needs
- Strong Workforce Metrics ([SWP Legislation](#))
- Employer Engagement
- [LARC Regional Plans](#)
- [COE Sub-regional Profiles](#)
- [Vision 2030](#)
- [California CTE Master Plan](#)
- Additional strategic input from the LARC CEO Board and LAWC
- [Equity Strategies](#)

BUDGET WORKBOOKS

[Round 10 SWP Regional Project Budget Overview & Workbook Links](#)

Overview

All project leads and participating colleges for Core Initiatives, regional projects, and sub-regional projects must complete a budget worksheet, providing detailed information regarding planned expenditures for requested funds. Budget workbooks will be provided to participating colleges once requested by the project lead. All budget links are available in the [LARC Round 10 SWP Regional Project Budget Overview & Workbook Links](#) document. The finalized budgets will be entered into the respective NOVA application by the LARC Team. A recorded walkthrough of the Round 10 budget overview and workbooks [is available here](#). Please reach out to the LARC Grant Project Coordinator at grakow@pasadena.edu with any questions or concerns. Round 10 budget support office hours are available on Wednesdays, 12pm-1pm, via [Zoom](#) through August.

Project Lead Guidance

A tentative budget based on the maximum allocation per participating college must be provided by the July 11, 2025, application deadline. Budget workbooks for new and continuing regional and sub-regional projects will be issued on **July 17, 2025**, based on the information provided in the NOVA application (i.e. workplan activities) and [Round 10 Project Overview Portfolio](#) (i.e., maximum allocation per college, participating colleges). Project leads and participating colleges must provide their detailed budgets via the respective workbooks no later than **August 1, 2025**.

Project Lead Budget Guidance

- The budget may not exceed the maximum budget. No exception requests will be granted for Round 10.
 - Core Initiative Maximum Project Lead Budget: \$100,000
 - Regional/Sub-regional Maximum Project Lead Budget: \$50,000
- Allowable Expenditures: Funding may cover personnel, operational costs, and related activities essential to these initiatives in order to provide subject matter expertise, coordinate meetings, and convene colleges quarterly. Budgets should not duplicate the project management, data reporting, and coordination services [provided by the LARC Operations team](#).

Participating College Budgets

- **Core Initiatives**: \$500,000 maximum total budget between all Core Initiatives
- **Regional/Sub-regional**: Maximum budget set by the respective project lead

Additional Guidance for All Budgets:

All budgets must be certified as complete in the “Budget Completion Certification” tab of the respective budget workbook. Only white or red cells may be edited. Please ensure alignment with all requirements.

- Budget POC: Please ensure that a budget point of contact is indicated on the budget workbook.
- Salaries: For all project lead and participating college budgets, all positions funded by the project must include the percent funded/stipend per staff member. Only one position may be included per line item.
- Workplan Activities: An approved NOVA workplan activity must be selected from the dropdown list for all budget line items.
- Convenings & Events: Colleges must prioritize on-campus venues for convenings and events. Meeting locations should be selected with accessibility, cost-effectiveness, and project goal alignment in mind.
- Software Purchases: Software purchases must be pre-approved by the district and include justification, cost analysis, and plan for renewal. The pre-approval may be linked at the bottom of the budget worksheet.
- Equipment Maintenance: Equipment maintenance may not be covered by regional project funds.
- Non-duplicative of LARC Support: Budgets should not duplicate the project management, data reporting, and coordination services [provided by the LARC Operations team](#).

Additional Resources:

- [Training: Round 10 SWP Regional Budget Overview & Workbooks](#)
- [SWP Regional Funds Investment Reminders: General, Food, Promotional Materials](#)
- [SWP Regional Project Lead Guidance: Additional LARC Event Budget Support](#)
- [SWP Regional Project Management Crosswalk: Role Overview](#)
- [LARC Programmatic Support Overview](#)

COMPLETING A NOVA APPLICATION

Background

All regional projects, including Core Initiatives, regional projects, and sub-regional projects, must develop applications in NOVA for scoring and review. The applications should demonstrate sustainability for the proposed project. Please ensure that you consider the approved [Round 10 Rubric](#) that will be utilized by the external scoring committee when completing the application.

Requirements

If you have met the minimum criteria for a Regional Project and received CEO approval to lead the project by June, you are eligible to complete a Round 10 project application draft. Regional Project participation must be open to all 19 LA community colleges, combined with the following for regional projects: (1) recommended majority of college partner participation (2) must demonstrate broad regional impact with a focus on data-driven outcomes (3) focus on new, emerging sectors; pilot projects; and/or those with an emphasis on innovation and risk-taking.

Project Lead Instructions

1. Let your LARC Program Manager know that you are ready to begin the application. You will be sent a link to your application draft. To access the application you must log into [NOVA](#). To request NOVA access, [click here](#).
2. Complete all applicable sections of the application (see below).
3. DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION. Once the application has been completed, please alert your assigned LARC Program Manager.

NOVA Application Overview

For continuing applications, some sections may not need to be updated.

NOVA Application Section	Round 10 Application Instructions for Project Leads <i>Applications must be completed by August 1, 2025, 11:59 pm</i> <i>DO NOT submit the application until instructed.</i>
Plan Details	Update Plan Title (must follow the following format) LA-25[LEAD COLLEGE ACRONYM]: PROJECT TITLE [- Continued (if applicable)] DRAFT
	Funding year should remain as 2024-25 until NOVA has been updated to allow 2025-26 submissions
	Enter Lead Institution
Project Summary	The summary/description should include justification/alignment with the 2024-27 LARC Regional Plan .
Partner Institutions	Ensure all participating college partners are included.
Employer Partners	Complete as applicable.
Contacts	Each project in NOVA requires key contacts for submission and certification. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Project Lead Contact</u>: At least one should be identified; can edit, submit and decertify the plan; can edit, submit and uncertify/unsubmit fiscal reports. - <u>Institution Project Fiscal Reporter</u>: At least one should be identified; can edit, submit and uncertify/unsubmit fiscal reports for assigned institutions. - <u>Fiscal Approver</u>: At least one should be identified; will review and approve the submitted plan.
LMI	A logic model must be completed and uploaded to the LMI section of your NOVA application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Logic Model Template: Fillable PDF, Google Doc - Resources from the 2025 LAWC Summit (logic model and other resources)
Allied Health	Complete as applicable.

NOVA Application Section	Round 10 Application Instructions for Project Leads <i>Applications must be completed by August 1, 2025, 11:59 pm</i> <i>DO NOT submit the application until instructed.</i>
Metrics	Provide information regarding your project's alignment with Vision 2030 and SWP metrics.
Workplan: Objectives	Develop workplan objectives that are clear, measurable, aligned with SWP goals, and directly support regional priorities, outcomes, and implementation strategies. Be sure to include a minimum of one objective that supports our commitment to DEIA. For ideas, click here.
Workplan: Activities	Develop workplan activities with detailed actions, timelines, responsible parties, and alignment with student success and SWP metrics. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please ensure that any allowable expenditures under the project for the project lead and participating colleges will tie to one of the workplan activities. NOVA requires that all budget line items are tied to one NOVA plan activity. - Please be sure to include a minimum of one activity that supports our commitment to DEIA. For ideas, click here.
Budget	<i>No Action: The LARC Team will complete this section. Please ensure your separate budget workbook is finalized no later than the August</i>
Forecast	<i>No Action: The LARC Team will complete this section. Please ensure your separate budget workbook is finalized.</i>
Success Story	<i>Optional</i>
Preview & Submit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You may preview your application's contents on this tab. - You can share a PDF/HTML version of the application from this tab (top/right). - DO NOT hit the submit button until instructed.

Round 10 SWP Regional NOVA Application Links <i>Refer to the Project Overview Portfolio, as needed.</i>	
Core Initiatives	
1	[DRAFT] LA-25: LATTC - LA Regional Job Placement and Employment Success - Continued
2	[DRAFT] LA-25: MTSAC - Noncredit Career Pathways - Continued - Continued
3	[DRAFT] LA-25: RHC - Career Pathways Partnership - Continued
Proposed Regional/Sub-regional Projects	
4	[DRAFT] LA-25: WLAC - Advanced Manufacturing in the Space Economy
5	(DRAFT) LA-25: WLAC- Advancing Healthcare Education
6	[DRAFT] LA-25: LBCC - AI Literacy & Innovation
7	(DRAFT) LA-25: SMC - Blue Economy and Climate Action Pathways (BECAP 2.0) - Continued
8	[DRAFT] LA-25: LATTC - BUILD HOPE After the Wildfires
9	(DRAFT) LA-25: SMC - Entertainment Consortia
10	[DRAFT] LA-25: LAMC - Strengthening Workforce Education

APPLICATION REVIEW, SCORING, & APPROVAL

Overview

All submitted applications, not including the Core Initiatives (formerly Cornerstone Projects), undergo a review and external scoring prior to final determination by the LARC CEO Board and LA Workforce Council. This process allows us to select the most promising projects that align with our goals and priorities. The involvement of representatives from diverse sectors, and an agreed upon [rubric](#), ensures a well-rounded evaluation and selection process. A visual of the full selection process [may be accessed here](#).

Review, Scoring, & Approval Process

1. **Internal Review:** After the submission of applications, all projects will be presented to the LAWC and CEO Board for review and feedback. Applications may be revised according to recommendations received.
2. **External Committee Evaluation:** After final revisions have been made, applications will be scored by an external scoring committee. A panel of external committee members, comprising representatives from community colleges, K12 LEAs, industry/business sectors, and any other applicable stakeholders will diligently assess the project applications. The committee will score assigned applications through utilizing the rubric approved by the LAWC and CEO Board to ensure fair and comprehensive evaluations.
3. **Project Ranking and Presentation:** Projects will be ranked based on their scores. Only projects scoring an average of 80 points (out of 100) will be considered for funding. The scored projects will be presented to the LAWC for discussion.
4. **LAWC Recommendation:** The LAWC will make a recommendation to the CEO Board regarding projects that should be funded and their subsequent budgets.
5. **CEO Board Approval:** The ultimate authority for approving Round 10 Regional projects for funding rests with the CEO Board. The board will review the recommendations made by the LA Workforce Council and make the final determinations regarding funding allocation. If further refinement of projects is necessary, all requested adjustments must align with the originally provided regional project guidelines.
6. **Revisions of NOVA Applications & Budgets:** If any NOVA applications or budgets require modifications after final approvals, the LARC team will work with the project lead and participating colleges to ensure that all required adjustments are completed.
7. **Final NOVA Plan Submission:** Once all NOVA applications have been finalized, the LARC team will submit for Chancellor's Office approval.

APPENDIX

Equity Strategies

The LARC regional plan emphasizes our commitment to embedding diversity, equity, and inclusion practices (DEI), into its regional SWP projects in an effort to reduce equity gaps among underserved and under-resourced students. (See [LARC Regional Plan, Title 5 Regulations Regarding DEI Statement, California Community College Chancellor's Office—Vision for Success Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force Summary Report - February 2020, Community College League of California](#)). We recommend college only target one or two strategies per application.

Examples of how equity strategies can be implemented or addressed within your project:

- Equity-mindedness and data literacy in teaching and learning (e.g., using equity gaps data to inform teaching and learning)
- Inclusive curriculum (e.g., using a race-conscious, equity-minded, and/or decolonized lens to review curriculum)
- Inclusive pedagogy/andragogy (e.g., creating intentional professional development opportunities on diversity, equity, inclusion practices)
- Review of local CTE/CE program paths (e.g., understanding learning barriers in current paths and adjusting practices according)
- Review of local scheduling practices (e.g., identifying gaps that harm underrepresented and minoritized students)
- Educate industry and employer partners (e.g., developing free or low cost short-term, noncredit, community education programs for employer partners)
- Empower race-conscious, equity-minded industry and employer partners (e.g., creating a community of practice within the workforce development framework for these partners to address systemic barriers to employment)
- Increase the sense of belonging by establishing a “caring campus” culture, providing faculty, staff, and administrators with professional development in culturally inclusive and trauma-informed practices
- Improve coordination and communication by developing institutionalized processes and tools to help students meet their basic needs and complete their academic/career goals
- Identifying viable student support interventions that increase completion of adult students
- Work closely with employers to develop “transformative employment opportunities” and diversify representation in high-wage, high-demand CE/CTE occupations and programs
- Develop targeted recruitment and retention strategies for program with significantly underrepresented groups

Consider:

- How will this/these strategy(ies) be implemented or addressed.
- How will data be collected for these outcomes? How will this/these strategy(ies) be measured?
- What outcomes will you focus on that demonstrate these strategies have been achieved?
- Can you identify the underrepresented/under-resourced student population?

What are California Community Colleges' and LARC's diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility priorities?

- We measure progress on our DEIA journey in four core outcomes: cultural diversity, promoting equity, fostering inclusion, and improving accessibility.
- Cultural diversity: Commitment to culture/policies that support people in all the ways their lives differ.
- Promoting equity: Removing advantages/barriers to provide everyone the same opportunity access.
- Fostering inclusion: Students/employees feel supported/valued and can be their authentic selves.
- Improving Accessibility: Ensures everyone, regardless of ability or resources, can fully engage with facilities, technology, programs, and services. It involves designing and maintaining these elements to remove barriers and provide equal access to opportunities.

LMI Supporting Evidence Documentation:

Examples of LMI documentation that may serve as evidence to support investments in an occupational cluster and/or demonstrate the meeting of SWP requirements include:

- More than 50% of students attained a living wage as evidenced within the LaunchBoard
- LMI library of curated labor market research compiled by the Centers of Excellence
- Validated employer input via Employer Survey or Employer Advisory (local or regional)
- Labor market need has been verified through a regional program approval process
- Labor market need has been verified through a regional planning process where this need was an identified regional priority
- The local biannual program review process was completed within the last two years and justified labor market need to expand
- Supply and demand data provided by the Labor Market Research Centers of Excellence