

To: Mayor Steve Adler, City of Austin
From: Steve Jackobs
Date: August 15, 2016
Re: City of Austin Funding

Over the fiscal last year, Capital IDEA worked hard on innovations, efficiencies, and scaling. Capital IDEA increased the number of completers starting good careers last year by 22 percent. Last year's graduates maintained high annual starting earnings of \$40,600 (tripling their pre-Capital IDEA earnings.) Capital IDEA increased the number of supported students by nearly 10 percent from the year before, to 721 as of August 8.

The efficiencies below will to support up to 200 additional students next fiscal year with no new case management staff; this will reduce their annual cost by 40 percent to \$3,000 per student for the tuition, fees, books, transportation, child care and placement services. The budget request you added to the concept menu is what is needed to proceed.

- An "IT Career Expressway" with ACC accelerating time-to-completion for information technology occupations with a consecutive, seven-semester sequence and placing students in paid internships so they have work experience on their resumes when they graduate.
- "On Ramps" from high schools seamlessly transitioning newly-graduated high school seniors into ACC career tracks.
- "Tiered" case management identifying students as High, Medium, or Low need and allowing more efficient and intensive allocation of staff time.
- Vigorous, pro-active marketing to low-income adults, doubling response to career opportunities.
- Group Career Navigation and Enrollments sessions to create more peer support.
- "Block scheduling" of prerequisite courses for nursing and other health careers to reduce "time to completion."
- "Stackable Credentials" so that participants can qualify for semi-skilled employment and improved wages before completing their degrees

Thank you for your guidance and support. Please feel free to contact us with questions.

CC: Juan Garza, Chair
Bob Batlan, Vice Chair