

Core Commitments Needed for States
Interested in Replication of

California's Early Assessment Program

Key Concepts in the
Development of Statewide College and Workforce Readiness

Central Problem: Up to 70% of the nation's college-bound high school graduates are not ready for college according to common readiness standards (ACT, 2005)

Goal: All students ready for college and/or the workforce

Core Solution: To have all schools within a state teaching all students to meet effective, statewide college readiness standards. This requires that each state make a commitment to the following principles:

- Specific readiness standards adopted as part of the curriculum standards required statewide;
- All school teachers understand the performance expectations of these state standards (beyond content description to level of performance required);
- Have any state school and student accountability assessments include these readiness standards; and
- Recognize that the keys to increasing readiness lie in the school classroom.

Needed Steps:

- 1. Statewide, state-level leadership and policy direction are needed. Every statewide agency/organization and individual leader should be included to ensure that full implementation can occur with every public school, university, and related parties. No statewide player can be left out of this initiative.**
- 2. Statewide, common college readiness standards must be identified and adopted by all public higher education and recognized by the public school system.**
- 3. The statewide college readiness standards must be embedded and aligned with the state-adopted high school standards and approved curriculum.**
- 4. College readiness assessment must be implemented as a part of the regular high school testing program.**
- 5. High school intervention (pre-assessment and 12th grade) must be planned and aligned with the adopted standards, and fully aligned with proficiency standards.**
- 6. Teacher and faculty professional development must be coordinated and available statewide, ensuring that all teachers are aware of the appropriate standards, the expected levels of proficiencies, and the best ways of ensuring student success.**