

Action Research and Program Implementation for International Student Transfers from Community Colleges to Selective American Universities – Proposal Code “Beca2017”

A call for proposal by the Global Beca Foundation ®
IRS 501 3(c)

RATIONALE

Increasingly both domestic and foreign students are considering community colleges for the purpose of transferring to universities. Domestic students have long leveraged transfer opportunities although research remains equivocal about the factors that contribute to their success. The transfer research base is particularly scant for international students, most of whom are from countries where transfer does not exist and where transfer sometimes is construed as a pathway only for poor performing students. Many international high schools follow US curriculum and counseling models but have neglected to inform potential transfer students about the opportunities available in American community colleges. The result is that foreign transfer students can arrive in this country with little knowledge of the transfer process or possess transfer readiness behavior. While research is scant on successful domestic student transfer behavior, there is no current research focusing on international students. How to identify and prepare students with unique circumstances yet high aspirations for successful transfer is a key focus of this request for proposal.

The development of a model for international transfer requires action research that focuses on the efficacy and efficiency of all aspects of transfer. The successful bidder will be expected not just to synthesize transfer research germane to international students but to implement a comprehensive support model to increase international transfer rates for international students who have started their pathway to transfer at one of the three colleges comprising the San Mateo Community College District.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Global Beca Foundation is interested in funding a pilot program that helps students enrolled in the San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley who are interested in transferring to highly selective universities, such as UC Berkeley. The funding will be provided to efforts involving a community college and university partnership, including pre-existing partnerships that share the purpose of transfer student success. The partnership cannot be a guarantee transfer relationship that is practiced often in California. The funds will be used to develop a work plan to include dedicated staff support. The work plan will comprise two academic years commencing in the fall semester of 2017 and terminating at the conclusion of spring 2019.

The successful grantee is encouraged to use grant resources to develop an innovative and student focused approach for transfer. To the extent possible, the grantee will use these resources to supplement existing space, staff, and resources to support the work plan.

The successful proposal will include both process and outcome components. The work itself shall include the entire transfer student lifecycle that starts with identifying prospective students from among the three colleges, to registering them in the program, to providing engaging, innovative assistance all the way to the time at which the students submit their transfer applications.

CONDITIONS

Deadline for submitting the proposals is Friday, September 28, 2017. Proposals must address the objectives found in this RFP with timelines, deliverables, and outcome measures. In addition, the proposal must include a project lead or co-leads, specify the use of resources, and expertise in the area of focus. Proposals may include partners, but cannot include for-profit entities and must make attempts to avoid conflict of interest. Proposals meeting these criteria will be reviewed by the board of directors of the Global Beca Foundation in the month of September and one winning proposal will be announced no later than end of September.

In order to develop a learning community and to better management cohort based approach, the grantee shall agree to using technology assisted programs, including iivia, a phone based app for organizational communication.

Proposals must be submitted by email in Microsoft Word using Arial or Times New Roman fonts, type 12, double spaced. All citations, if any, must follow the APA style.

FUNDING

The grantee must plan for and commit to the proposed activities to take place during two full academic years based on semester system, to include two transfer application cycles to American universities. Funding for each academic year, depending on the starting date of the grant, cannot exceed \$85,000 for a total of \$170,000 and is inclusive of all project costs. Funding for Year One is released upon the acceptance of the grant by the grantee and funding for Year Two is released at the satisfactory conclusion of Year One.

COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Unless otherwise noticed, all rights to the name(s) of the program(s) associated with this proposal and activities developed by the grantee belong to the grantee. Access to the program intellectual property defined as methods, knowledge, data, and organizational structure, and reports will belong to the grantee but will be shared with the funders throughout the grant period and thereafter.

CONTACT

Please send all questions and communications to, and reference Beca2017:

Rick Voorhees, Ph.D.
Board Member, the Global Beca Foundation
rick.voorhees@gmail.com