



LINKED LEARNING ALLIANCE

2013-14 Education Budget Highlights

Investments in Comprehensive Scaffolding for Linked Learning

The budget compromise between the Legislature and the Governor includes significant changes to education funding and policy, explicitly supporting college and career readiness and protecting funding for proven models of Linked Learning delivery. These investments represent a unique opportunity to scale Linked Learning programming and infrastructure at the school, district and regional levels. In addition to the priorities put forth through the Local Control Funding Formula and funding to aid schools in developing Local Control and Accountability Plans, over \$2 billion has been allocated to funds which can be used to support each of the key components of Linked Learning (see Figure 1).

2013-14 Education Budget Highlights:

Investments in Comprehensive Scaffolding for Linked Learning

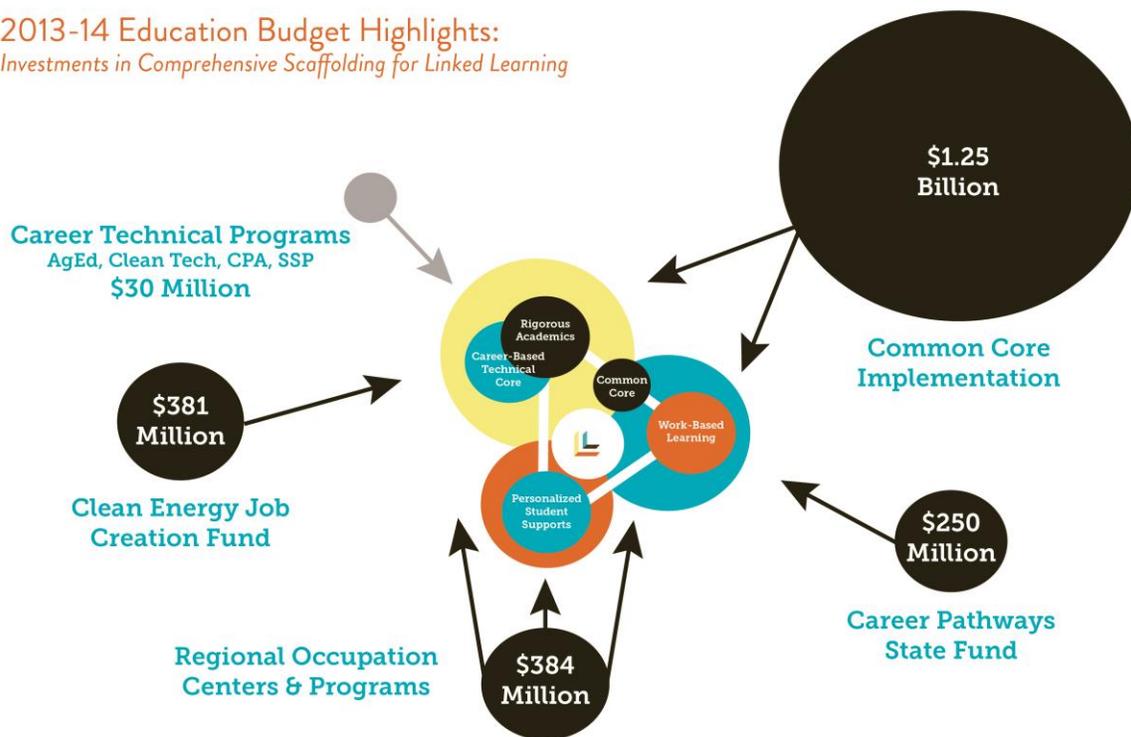


Figure 1: The 2013-14 State Budget allocates over \$2 billion to purposes which explicitly support college and career readiness. These funds have significant potential to support Linked Learning infrastructure across the state.

Local Control & Accountability Planning

\$2.1 Billion

The local control and accountability program will provide a base funding increase to most districts, and significant one-time funds to plan and prepare for the accountability shift (see *Figure 2*). Districts will have flexibility in deciding how funds are spent, but must address a number of priorities for grades 9 to 12 in their local accountability and control plans, which include completion of either: (1) the a-g course sequence, or (2) a Career Technical Pathway which meets the standards of a Linked Learning pathway, California Partnership Academy, or Regional Occupational Program sequence (see *Figure 3*).

Linked Learning districts will be at an advantage in this process, as they are already working towards both career technical and a-g sequence completion through an integrated, mutually reinforcing approach. Most Linked Learning schools and districts also meet the criteria for supplemental or concentration grants, providing extra funding to invest in infrastructure to engage students and support their success.

Local Control Funding Formula 2013-14: *Per Pupil Funding in Grades 9 to 12*

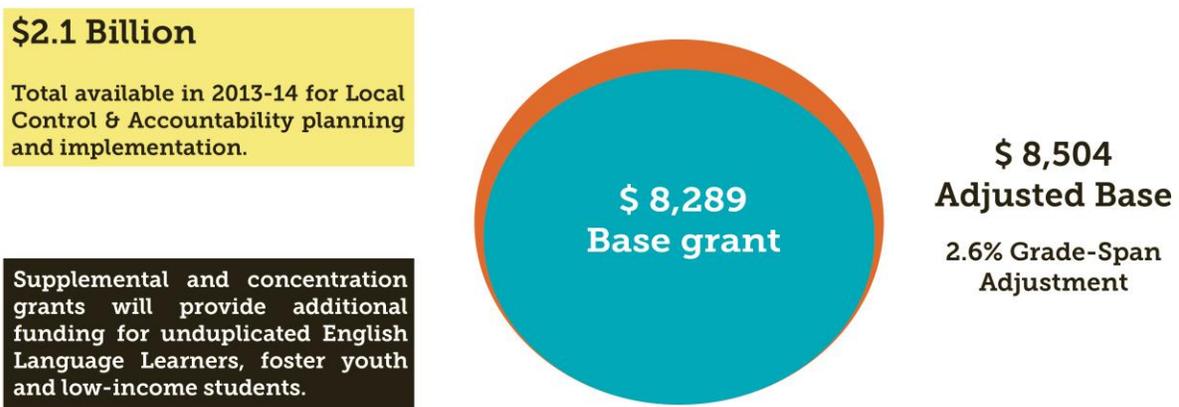


Figure 2: The Local Control Funding Formula includes a grade-span adjustment for grades 9-12. The 2013-14 Budget also sets aside funding to assist schools in preparing for the shift to local accountability and control.

Linked Learning & Local Accountability Planning:
Supporting College & Career Readiness



Figure 3: Local Control & Accountability Plans will require districts to address a number of state priorities.

Common Core Implementation

\$1.25 Billion

This one-time allocation will facilitate the adoption of curriculum, testing and professional development to implement the Common Core State Standards. This provides an excellent opportunity to align multiple funds to reinforce student mastery of the Common Core standards, through the application of theory to career and workplace practice.

Regional Occupational Centers & Programs (ROC/P)

\$384 Million

ROC/P provide career technical courses and play a key role in career counseling and work-based learning for many pathway programs. The continued investment in these centers and programs over the next two years, paired with additional appropriations, will be vital for building more sustainable economies of scale in the regions they serve.

Clean Energy Job Creation Fund

\$381 Million

While the details of how this fund will be allocated are currently being worked out in [Assembly Bills 39](#) (Skinner – D) and [114](#) (Salas – D), a portion of this funding will explicitly support programs which provide training to youth in clean energy and energy efficiency through priority recipient such as California Conservation Corps, Certified Community Conservation Corps, Youth Build, apprenticeship programs, and local educational authorities. This fund will thus provide additional funding opportunities for pathways which partner with such programs to provide their programs of study.

California Career Pathways State Fund

\$250 Million

[The California Career Pathways State Fund](#) will allocate competitive grants to local educational agencies to build stronger connections between K-12 schools and businesses. In order to foster workforce and economic development in communities of high need, priority will be given to proposals serving distressed communities with high dropout rates, and which attract capital and in-kind contributions from businesses. This fund will help to develop and expand the infrastructure needed to build sustainable career pathways at a systemic, regional level. The details of how this funding will be allocated will be addressed in [Senate Bill 594](#) by Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg.

Career Technical Programs

\$30 Million

The budget compromise maintains Agriculture Education, *California Partnership Academies*, *Clean Technology Academies*, and *Specialized Secondary Program* funding for 2013-14. The first three programs provide a backbone of funding for many Linked Learning pathways across the state, with Partnership Academies ensuring access for at-risk students in particular. The Specialized Secondary Programs fund enabled the piloting of Partnership Academies, and continues to provide a pool of money to support innovation in high school programs.