

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) TWO-YEAR PROGRAM REVIEW

Program: Coop Work Exp **Planning Year:** 2016-2018 **Unit:** Work Experience

Cluster: WED **Last Year of CPPR/Voc. Ed Review: (Estimated) 2014**

NARRATIVE:

This section of the CTER relates to the Cooperative Work Experience program (WEXP). This program offers students the option of acquiring college elective units for working in either a paid position or unpaid volunteer or internship position. It is important to note that students in this program are already actively employed and are learning new skills while in their jobs. The number of units earned is based on the number of hours that a student works during a given semester period of 15 weeks. The program guides students through the process of earning these units by allowing students and their employers to develop meaningful and challenging learning objectives that will benefit the student's individual professional and career growth as well as hopefully improve the working relationship and the job performance of the student and his/her employer.

A brief written summary relative to important labor market and training program indicators for the Cooperative Work Experience program is provided as follows.

I. Meets a documented labor market demand, <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>.

In San Luis Obispo County, the unemployment rate is relatively low at 3.1% as of December 31, 2017. This rate is significantly less than the national rate of 4.1% and the California rate of 4.6%. As shown in Exhibit A, the rate of unemployment in San Luis Obispo County has shown a continuous decline since 2014.

Exhibit A: Unemployment Rates (Labor Force)

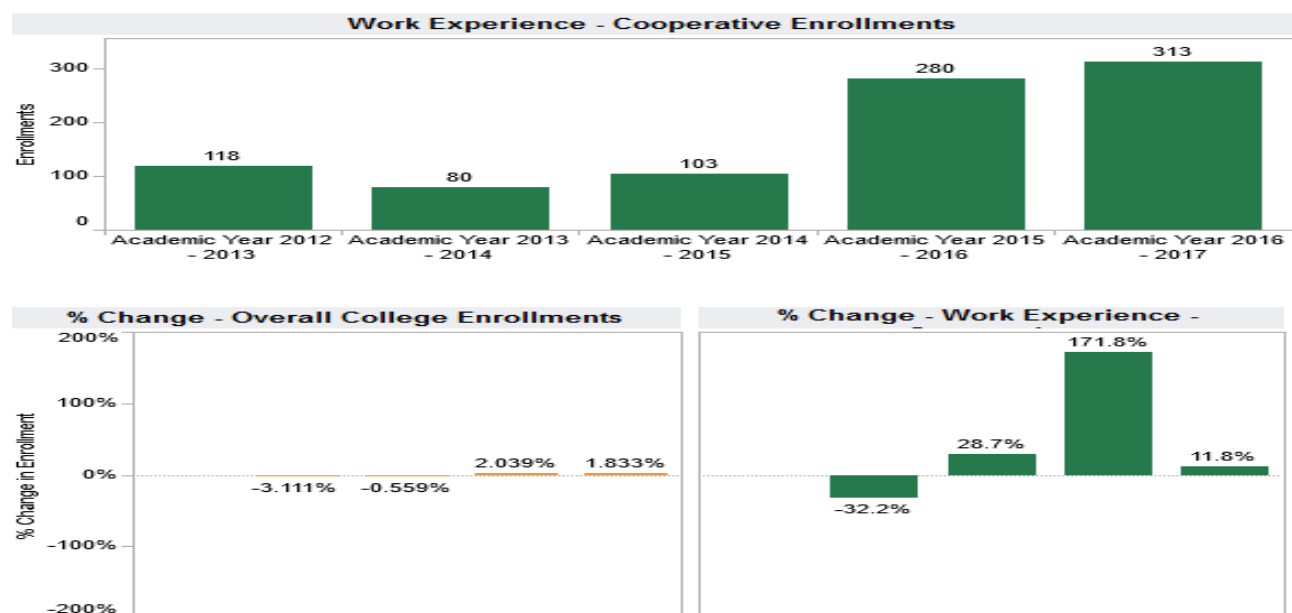
▲ ▼	Year	▲ ▼	Period	▲ ▼	Area	▲ ▼	Adjusted	▲ ▼	Preliminary	▲ ▼	Unemployment Rate
	2016		Annual		San Luis Obispo County		Not Adj		Not Prelim		4.3
	2015		Annual		San Luis Obispo County		Not Adj		Not Prelim		4.7
	2014		Annual		San Luis Obispo County		Not Adj		Not Prelim		5.6

Exhibit B: Occupations with the Most Job Openings

Employment Development Department		2014-2024 Occupations With the Most Job Openings					
Labor Market Information Division		San Luis Obispo-Paso Robles-Arroyo Grande Metropolitan Statistical Area					
Published: March 2017		(San Luis Obispo County)					
SOC Code*	Occupational Title	Total Job Openings 2014-2024 [1]	2016 First Quarter Wages [2]		Education and Training Levels [4]		
			Median Hourly	Median Annual	Entry Level Education	Work Experience	On-the-Job Training
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,550	\$12.12	\$25,201	8	None	ST OUT
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	1,840	\$12.83	\$26,687	8	None	ST OUT
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	1,830	\$9.51	\$19,783	8	None	ST OUT
41-2011	Cashiers	1,710	\$9.90	\$20,581	8	None	ST OUT
45-2052	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	1,600	\$10.37	\$21,568	8	None	ST OUT
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	1,450	\$11.19	\$23,260	8	None	ST OUT
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	960	\$34.38	\$71,522	7	≥5 years	None
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	930	\$42.13	\$87,629	3	≥5 years	None
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	820	\$14.04	\$29,195	8	<5 years	MT OUT
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	790	\$10.23	\$21,272	8	None	ST OUT
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	790	\$14.51	\$30,179	7	None	ST OUT
29-1141	Registered Nurses	750	\$44.84	\$93,262	3	None	None

Cuesta College provides the entire county with educational opportunities for students and working adults in pursuit of a 2-year degree, transferability to a 4-year institution, or technical and vocational education. To that end, enrollment in Cooperative Work Experience helps to serve those students who are already employed. Through this educational elective, students can further development existing skills and gain new, job-related knowledge. These endeavors are classified into three specific areas of personal and/or professional development, technical skills development, or career development initiatives. As shown in Exhibit B, the top twelve occupational fields currently found in San Luis Obispo County range from retail positions to hospitality, farming and healthcare. About 95% of the students enrolled in in WEXP currently hold jobs in those occupational sectors, demonstrating that these students are also receiving further training and skill development that can carry them forward into the future in occupational areas that are projected to remain as having the most job openings over the next ten years. To that end, this program definitely aligns with future labor market demands.

Exhibit C: SLOCCCD Historical Data Relative to WEXP Enrollments



As shown in Exhibit C, the enrollment in WEXP at Cuesta College continues to grow in popularity amongst students since 2014.

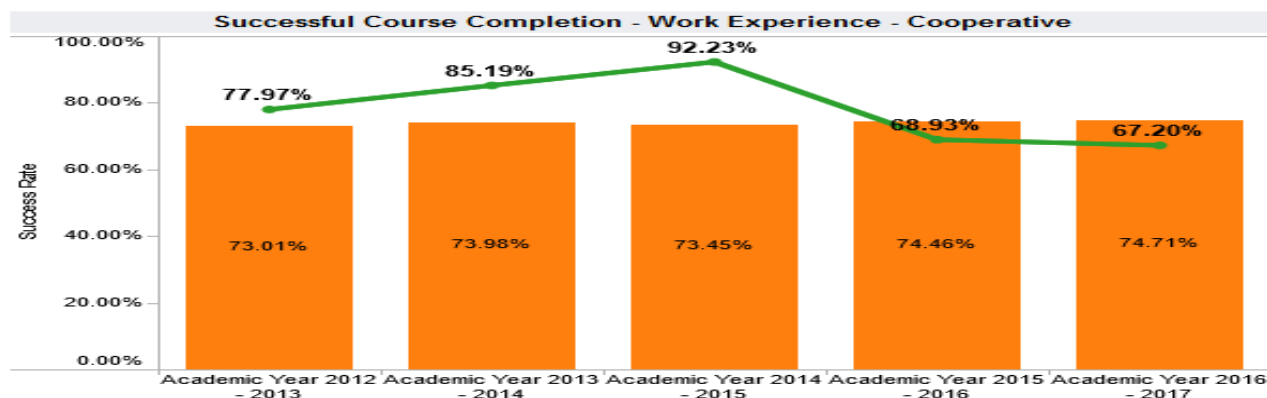
II. Does not represent unnecessary duplication of other manpower training programs in the area.

This program is a State of California sanctioned program for secondary and college-level educational institutions. Students throughout the county are taking advantage of the program as way of working while earning college credits. This type of program is not duplicated by other manpower training programs.

III. Is of demonstrated effectiveness as measured by the employment and completion success of its students.

Students come to this course employed in some capacity while pursuing their academic goals at Cuesta College. Jobs can range from five hours per week to 20+ hours per week throughout a 15-week semester period. Therefore, data relative to effectiveness measurement by employment success is not relevant. However, completion success rates are shown in Exhibit D below. Overall college rates are shown in the bar diagram while program success data are shown in the line designator. Completion success rates have declined over the past two years due to structural changes in the program to closely align and comply with State of California requirements for Cooperative Work Experience programs. More structure in the program and the hiring of qualified faculty advisors to mentor students in a more standard fashion as well as the development of more formal documentation from students and employers have enhanced the professionalism and accountability of the program. As such, some decline can be expected until the expectations from students and employers becomes more accepted and practiced.

Exhibit D: Successful Course Completion for WEXP Program



Work Experience - Cooperative Success Rate Table					
	Academic Year 2012 - 2013	Academic Year 2013 - 2014	Academic Year 2014 - 2015	Academic Year 2015 - 2016	Academic Year 2016 - 2017
Department Success..	77.97%	85.19%	92.23%	68.93%	67.20%
Total Enrollments	118	81	103	280	314

Resources: State of California Employment Development Department

January 19, 2018

Labor Market Information Division

<http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>

Cuesta College

Institutional Research

Program Review Data

<http://www.cuesta.edu/about/depts/research/programreviewdata.html>