

2014-15 Service Area Program Review

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM	Financial Aid
DESCRIPTION/PURPOSE	The Financial Aid Office at Imperial Valley College is comprised of a team of dedicated professionals committed to supporting student success by providing assistance with educational expenses to all eligible students. We strive to provide students and their families with courteous and efficient service while complying with all federal and state regulations as well as college policies. We encourage teamwork, cooperation, and innovation as well as continual professional development.
SUBMITTED BY:	Lisa Seals
AREA DEAN/DIRECTOR	Sergio Lopez
AREA VICE PRESIDENT	Todd Finnell

I. INSTITUTIONAL GOALS

INSTITUTIONAL GOAL 1	INSTITUTIONAL GOAL 2	INSTITUTIONAL GOAL 3	INSTITUTIONAL GOAL 4
INSTITUTIONAL MISSION AND EFFECTIVENESS – The College will maintain programs and services that focus on the mission of the College supported by data-driven assessments to measure student learning and student success. 1.1 Develop systems and procedures that establish the mission of the college as the central mechanism for planning and decision making. 1.2 Develop an institutional score card to assess student learning that drives integrated planning and resource allocation. 1.3 Develop systems and procedures to ensure that the college maintains a collegial and self-reflective dialogue that improves effectiveness. 1.4 Develop systems that are inclusive, cyclical, and understood by all stakeholders.	STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES – The College will maintain instructional programs and services which support student success and the attainment of student educational goals. 2.1 Ensure that all instructional programs, regardless of location or means of delivery, address and meet the current and future needs of students. 2.2 Review program learning outcomes annually (or biennially) to assure currency, improve teaching and learning strategies, and raise student success rates. 2.3 Ensure that all Student Services programs, regardless of location or means of delivery, address and meet the current and future needs of students. 2.4 Ensure that all Student Services programs engage in a process of sustainable continuous quality improvement by annual review of Service Area Outcomes, and annual Program Review. 2.5 Ensure that the Library meets as closely as possible that "Standards of Practice for California Community College Library Faculty and Programs" of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges. 2.6 Ensure that instructional labs continue to collaborate in sharing financial and human resources, thus maintaining continuous quality improvement.	RESOURCES – The College will develop and manage human, technological, physical, and financial resources to effectively support the College mission and the campus learning environment. 3.1 Develop and implement a resource allocation plan that leads to fiscal stability. 3.2 Implement a robust technological infrastructure and the enterprise software to support the college process. 3.3 Build new facilities and modernize existing ones as prioritized in the facility master plan. 3.4 Design and commit to a long-term professional development plan. 3.5 Raise the health awareness of faculty, staff, and students.	LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE – The Board of Trustees and the Superintendent/President will establish policies that assure the quality, integrity, and effectiveness of student learning programs and services, and the financial stability of the institution. 4.1 Review all Board policies annually to ensure that they are consistent with the College mission statement, that they address the quality, integrity, and effectiveness of student learning programs and services, and that they guard the financial stability of the institution. 4.2 Maintain a clearly defined Code of Ethics that includes appropriate responses to unprofessional behavior. 4.3 Ensure that the Board of Trustees is informed and involved in the accreditation process. 4.4 Ensure that processes for the evaluation of the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent/President are clearly defined, implemented, and publicized. 4.5 Establish a governance structure, processes, and practices that guarantee that the governing board, administration, faculty, staff, and students will be involved in the decision making process.

II. PROGRAM GOALS

A. PAST – EVALUATION OF PREVIOUS CYCLE OBJECTIVES/PROGRAM GOALS (SET IN PREVIOUS YEAR)

List your previous objectives/goals and associated Institutional Goals. All program goals must address at least one of the institutional goals.

		INSTITUTIONAL	
1	PAST PROGR	GOAL(S)	
	(Select one primary goal.)		
Identify Program G	☐ 1 Mission &		
(Section II C):			Effectiveness
Auto-packaging of Fir	nancial Aid Awards		☐ 1.1 ☐ 1.3
			1.2 1.4
Met	Partially Met	Not Met	2 Student
		_	Learning
Describe how this i	program goal increased student achieveme	ent and/or program effectiveness in 2014-	Outcomes
2015:			2.1 2.4
	g process was implemented this Spring in tin	ne for the 2011/15 award year	2.2 2.5
Processing time for	3 Resources		
beginning of semester was significantly higher than in years past (see Auto Packaging Comparisons			3.1 3.4
Table). Faster processing can only contribute to student success if students are able to access their funds			3.2 3.5
earlier in the semester when they need them for educational expenses. So in addition to			3.3
implementation of auto-packaging, disbursement dates were moved up and students were paid their			4 Leadership
initial disbursement prior to the start of the term. Second and third disbursements were moved as well			& Governance
	4.1 4.4		
	are paid out midway through the semester		4.2 4.5
earlier in the year s	should contribute to fewer drops and stress	on students due to financial problems.	4.3

PAST PROGRAM GOAL #2 GOAL(S) (Select one primary) Identify Program Goal and Budget request, if any, from the Program Review completed in 2013-2014 1 Mission 8	
Identify Program Goal and Budget request if any from the Program Poview completed in 2012-2014 🔠 🗖 1 Mission S	<u> </u>
identity Program Goal and Budget request, if any, from the Program Review Completed in 2013-2014 1 wission of	
(Section II C): Effectiveness	
Banner SAP Calculations	
	.4
Learning	
Describe how this program goal increased student achievement and/or program effectiveness in 2014- Outcomes	4
2015 : □ 2.1 □ 2.1 □ 2.2 □ 2	
Auto-packaging would not have been effective without setting up Banner to automatically calculate	-
Satisfactory Academic Progress which had been a largely manual process. Financial Aid and IT staff met 📗 3 Resource	S
with SIG consultants to set up Banner to properly evaluate student academic history against IVC 3.1 3.1 3.	.4
established SAP standards in order to determine eligibility for financial aid. Once Spring grades were	.5
posted, we ran the new SAP process and were then able to run the packaging process of all files	
completed to that point. We were able to package over 3000 files by the first week in June where it	ip
would normally take us until mid-August to get to that point.	غ خ
$ig \qquad \qquad$	
ig 4.2 $ig $ 4.3 $ig $ 4.3	.5

3	PAST PROGRAM GOAL #3		
Identify Program G	(Select one primary goal.) 1 Mission &		
(Section II C):		Effectiveness	
Student Employme	ent move to HR Department	1.1 1.3 1.2 1.4	
Met	Partially Met Not Met	2 Student	
		Learning	
2015: Moving the Studen resources to the properties to the properties of the properties of the Value of the V	t Employment Program to a more appropriate department allowed for more occessing of student financial aid. Workstudy Coordinators, who are also Financial Aid to spend a significant amount of time administering the Student Employment program Vorkstudy Program. During peak processing, they were unable to contribute to d processing. This year, they were able to work on general financial aid processing d year which contributed to faster processing times and more timely delivery of funds	Outcomes 2.1 2.4 2.2 2.5 2.3 2.6 3 Resources 3.1 3.4 3.2 3.5 3.3 4 Leadership & Governance 4.1 4.4 4.2 4.5	

B. PRESENT – DATA ANALYSIS AND PROGRAM HEALTH – ACCREDITATION

1. Use data pertinent to your program/department. Include qualitative and quantitative data. Use survey-evaluation results and other relevant data to assess program/department effectiveness. Evaluate the strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities, providing thorough interpretation of data. Narrative only. **Attach electronic excel file with graphs or trend data, do not include them** in the narrative below.

a. Strengths

Discuss what you do well in your program/department.

We have an experienced staff with many years of service in the financial aid program. The staff performs as a collaborative team, able to problem solve and open to developing new processes to best serve students and contribute to departmental and institutional goals. The department has a great working relationship with IT and benefits greatly from support and guidance from Dean and VP. The staff is dedicated to serving students and participates in various outreach programs with high school counselors, administrators, parents and the community in general.

b. Weaknesses

Discuss areas in your program/department that need improvement.

Although we have made great strides in the automation of manual processes, there are more that need to be addressed such as Cal Grant reporting, verification processing and paper file handling. Student self-service requires improvement with respect to "ease of use" and also electronic submission of documents. Students continue to lack understanding of the requirements to maintain financial aid, specifically in the area of Satisfactory Academic Progress standards. Disbursement services require improvement in terms of "ease of use", reduced fees and increased access to funding.

c. Opportunities

Discuss opportunities for program improvement.

Dedicated IT support or consulting services to further improve automation of manual processes such as Cal Grant reporting, verification processing and paper file handling. Improve Student Self-Service. Now that many manual processes have been automated, the time saved can be used to improve outreach and student education efforts to inform them of information necessary to complete their file, how to maintain financial aid, and how to manage their funding to pay for educational expenses. Change third party servicer disbursement servicers to streamline delivery of funds to students, reduce fees and provide greater access.

d. Challenges

Discuss obstacles/barriers that may influence program improvement.

BOG Fee Waivers will decline once academic progress limitations are imposed which will in turn reduce BFAP funding. These limitations will also lead to reductions in student enrollment. Contract issues with current third party disbursement servicer may delay necessary changes for service improvement with respect to financial aid disbursement services.

e. Program changes

What program changes, if any, do you expect to have a positive effect on students?

Auto-packaging, Auto-SAP calculations and earlier disbursements have all been recently implemented and we expect that these changes will have a positive effect on student enrollment. We expect that fewer students will need to drop due to financial issues. Improvement in outreach and student education efforts should increase the number of students who are eligible for disbursement and contribute to student retention. Changes in disbursement services will streamline access and reduce fees for students.

2. Summarize revisions, additions, deletions, and alternate delivery methods to your program based on the last program review.

Auto-packaging and Auto-SAP calculations have contributed to faster processing times and reduction in processing back-logs, see the see Auto Packaging Comparisons Table. Funds were disbursed to students earlier in the semester, see the Disbursement Comparisons Table.

C. FUTURE – LIST OF "SMART" (Specific Measurable Attainable Relevant Time-limited) PROGRAM OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR TO ADDRESS PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT, GROWTH, OR UNMET NEEDS/GOALS. ALL PROGRAM GOALS MUST ADDRESS AT LEAST ONE OF THE INSTITUTIONAL GOALS.

	FUTUR	RE PROGRAM GOALS		INSTITUTIONAL		
	GOAL(S)					
You are not required to list 3 goals. Only list/identify goals that are viable in one year's time or can be carried over a number of program cycles.						
_	Objectives should either: 1. Increase work efficiency; 2. Reduce costs; or 3. Contribute to student enrollment and/or success.					
1	1 2015-2016 PROGRAM GOAL #1					
		Budget Priority #1		GOAL(S)		
Identify Future Gl	obal Goal: Maintain Financia	al Aid Secretary Position		☐ 1 Mission &		
				Effectiveness		
Objective: To main	ntain work efficiency and se	rvices to students by retaining the Fir	nancial Aid Secretary	1.1 1.3		
_	•	h respect to BFAP funds. Financial Aid	•	1.2 1.4		
-		uld be considered supplanting as this		2 Student		
	_	n of one FA Officer position will provi	-	Learning		
request and elimin	Outcomes					
l request and emm	2.1 2.4					
		☐ 2.2 ☐ 2.5 ☐ 2.3 ☐ 2.6				
	Resources					
	☐ 3 Resources					
				3.2 3.5		
Task(s)				3.3		
Δ Describe ta	ask and select the resource (committee that will review your enha	nced hudget request (if	4 Leadership		
applicable)		committee that will review your child	meed budget request (ii	& Governance		
		cer position toward the Financial Aid	Secretary position No.	4.1 4.4		
	4.2 4.5					
net increas	<u></u> 4.3					
Facilities						
Timeline: July 1, 2	015					
Expense Type		Funding Type	Budget Request			

One-Time Recurring	General District Categorical (Specify)	\$
B. Describe task and select the applicable)	resource committee that will review	your enhanced budget request (if
Facilities Marketing	Technology Profession	nal Development Staffing
Timeline:		
Expense Type	Funding Type	Budget Request
One-Time Recurring	General District Categorical (Specify)	<u>\$</u>
C. Describe task and select the rapplicable) Facilities Marketing	resource committee that will review y	rour enhanced budget request (if
Timeline:		
Expense Type	Funding Type	Budget Request
One-Time Recurring	General District Categorical (Specify)	\$
How will this objective be measure	d? No elimination of services to stude	ents
support is crucial as it is our secretar with students, and provides several	ry that updates and maintains our we other support functions to staff and s	
who are the responsible party(les)	and assigned user(s)? Financial Aid a	na Finance.

You are not required to	INSTITUTIONAL GOAL(S) (Select one primary institutional goal)			
2	2	015-2016 PROGRAM GOAL	. #2	INSTITUTIONAL
		Budget Priority #1		GOAL(S)
Identify Future Glo necessary to compl Objective: To incre	☐ 1 Mission & Effectiveness ☐ 1.1 ☐ 1.3 ☐ 1.2 ☐ 1.4 ☐ 2 Student			
		RESOURCE PLAN		Learning
		(Check all that apply.)		Outcomes
Facilities	Marketing Techr	nology Professional Develo	opment Staffing	☐ 2.1 ☐ 2.4 ☐ 2.2 ☐ 2.5 ☐ 2.3 ☐ 2.6
Task(s)				3 Resources
A. Describe task and select the resource committee that will review your enhanced budget request (if applicable) Develop outreach and student education plan Facilities Marketing Technology Professional Development Staffing				3.1 3.4 3.2 3.5 3.3 3.3 4 Leadership & Governance 4.1 4.4 4.2 4.5
Timeline: End of Fa	all 2014			4.3
Expense Type		Funding Type	Budget Request	
One-Time Recurring		General District Categorical (Specify)	\$	
B. Describe task and select the resource committee that will review your enhanced budget request (if applicable)				
Implement				
Facilities Timeline: Spring 20		nology Professional Develo	opment Staffing	

Expense Type		Funding Type		Budget Request		
One-Time Recurring		General District Categorical (Specif	Ty)	\$	-	
C. Describe task and select the resource committee that will review your enhanced budget request (if applicable)						
Facilities M	1arketing	Technology	Profession	al Development	Staffing	
Expense Type		Funding Type		Budget Request		
One-Time Recurring		General District Categorical (Specif	Ty)	\$	-	
		!? Increase in number ces one year after imple	•		t by 10% and red	duce number of
made aware of the re to complete the file i standards they must their schedules or ma Who are the respons	How will the completion of tasks identified improve work efficiency, reduce costs, or improve student success? If students are made aware of the requirements necessary to complete their file and how to satisfy those requirements, they will be more likely to complete the file in a timely manner and be eligible for disbursement earlier in the semester. If student s are aware of the standards they must meet to maintain financial aid and the consequences of not meeting standards, they are more likely to plan their schedules or make better decisions Who are the responsible party(ies) and assigned user(s)? Responsible party: Director of Financial Aid. Assigned users: financial					
aid staff.						
FUTURE PROGRAM GOALS (Describe future program goals. List in order of budget priority.) You are not required to list 3 goals. Only list/identify goals that are viable in one year's time or can be carried over a number of program cycles.				INSTITUTIONAL GOAL(S) (Select one primary institutional goal)		
3 2015-2016 PROGRAM GOAL #3 Budget Priority #1			INSTITUTIONAL GOAL(S)			
Identify Future Globa	al Goal: Improve	e financial aid disburser	ment services t	o students		☐ 1 Mission & Effectiveness

Objective: To increase work efficiency, reduce staff time with current identification process and improve				1.1 1.3 1.2 1.4	
delivery of funds to students.					2 Student
	RESOURCE PLAN				
	(Check all that a				Outcomes
Facilities Marketing					
	гесппоюду		Development		2.2 2.5
Took(a)					─ ○ 2.3 ○ 2.6
Task(s)					3 Resources
A. Describe task and select the	resource committee th	at will review you	ur enhanced budge	et request (if	3.1 3.4
applicable)					3.2 3.5
Contract to be signed by Fin	ance				☐ 3.3
					4 Leadership
Facilities Marketing	Technology	Professional	Development	Staffing	& Governance
Timeline: By end of Fall 2014 pendir			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		☐ 4.1 ☐ 4.4 ☐ 4.2 ☐ 4.5
	<u> </u>				4.3
Expense Type	Funding Typ	oe	Budget Re	equest	
One-Time	General	District	\$		
Recurring	Categori	ical (Specify)			
B. Describe task and select the r	esource committee tha	nt will review vou	r enhanced budge	t request (if	
applicable)		, , ,			
Develop implementation pla	an for Summer 2015 (p	ossibly Summer	2016 depending o	n contract	
status)	un 101 0uninner 2020 (p				
Statusy					
Facilities Marketing	Technology	Professional	Development	Staffing	
Timeline: Spring 2015 (pending con-	Timeline: Spring 2015 (pending contract status)				
Expense Type	Funding Type	E	Budget Request		
			-		
One-Time	General District	ς ,			
Recurring	Categorical (Speci	fy)			

applicable)	resource committee that will review nent servicer Summer 2015 (pending		et request (if		
		,			
Facilities Marketing	Technology Profession	nal Development	Staffing		
Timeline: Summer 2015 (pending co	ntract status)				
Expense Type	Funding Type	Budget Request			
One-Time	General District	\$			
Recurring	Categorical (Specify)				
How will this objective be measured? Increase in "excellent" survey ratings regarding IVC Debit card refund process in year following implementation by 10%.					
How will the completion of tasks identified improve work efficiency, reduce costs, or improve student success? Students will not need to go through cumbersome identification process which can cause a delay in access to funding. Funds will be more easily accessible with lower fees.					
Who are the responsible party(ies) and assigned user(s)? Responsible Parties: Director of Financial Aid and VP of Finance Assigned users: business office and financial aid staff					