

# The Community College Linkage Project: Summary

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## The Edvance Foundation:

The Edvance Foundation, incorporated on July 28, 2010, will operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes - a 501(c)(3) organization. This status was approved by the IRS on March 15, 2011.

Among its numerous purposes Edvance will:

- advance and support higher education
- foster collaboration between and among the public and private higher education sectors and with K-12 education
- develop programs to increase access, choice and degree completion for college-bound students
- strengthen relationships between colleges and universities in their localities and regions

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## The Edvance Foundation:

### The Officers of the Board:

Ms. Lydia M. Logan	Senior Director, The Broad Foundation Director
Dr. Brian C. Mitchell	President (retired), Bucknell University Project Director, The Community College Linkage Project Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Arthur J. Rothkopf	Senior Vice President (retired), U.S. Chamber of Commerce, President <i>Emeritus</i> , Lafayette College Chair
Mr. Kurt M. Thiede	Vice President for Enrollment (retired), Bucknell University Executive Director, The Community College Linkage Project Vice Chair

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## The Community College Linkage Project:

**The *Community College Linkage (CCL)* program encourages, facilitates, and supports the enrollment of high-achieving community college students at independent four-year colleges and universities.**

**CCL is designed to contribute to the national goal of increasing college completion numbers.**

**Through CCL programs and services, community college students will gain access to member four-year institutions; receive academic, social, and personal support to prepare for this transition; and establish a social network with other community college scholars.**

**At the same time, CCL will work closely with four-year institutions to influence policy, practices, and campus culture to establish and sustain the integration of these students into their campus communities. CCL seeks to assist students whose lives will be transformed by this opportunity while they themselves help transform the learning communities at these four-year schools.**

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### **The Community College Linkage Project:**

**CCL will be a national network comprising a number of regional consortia whose members are community colleges and four-year colleges and universities.**

**Students participating in the program will have access to the four-year schools within the national network.**

**A national office will coordinate the activities of the network.**

**The CCL concept is based on the successful program in place at Bucknell University since 2006; a program supported by a five-year grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation as part of its Community College Transfer Initiative.**

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### **The Community College Linkage Project:**

**The following two diagrams provide a visual rendering of what we intend the CCL Project to look like when it is fully operational.**

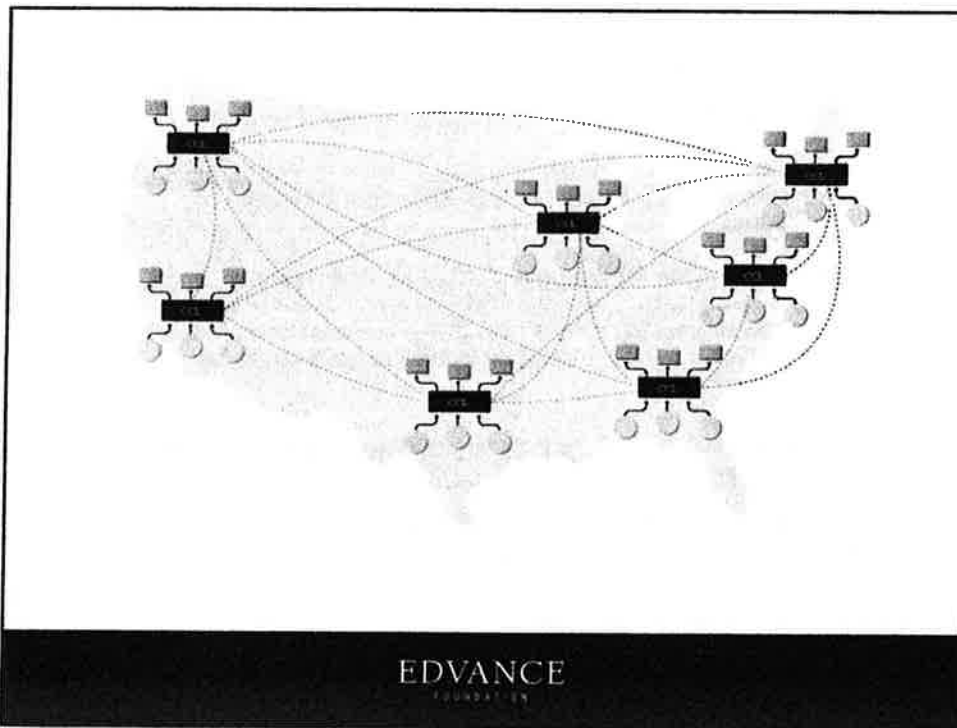
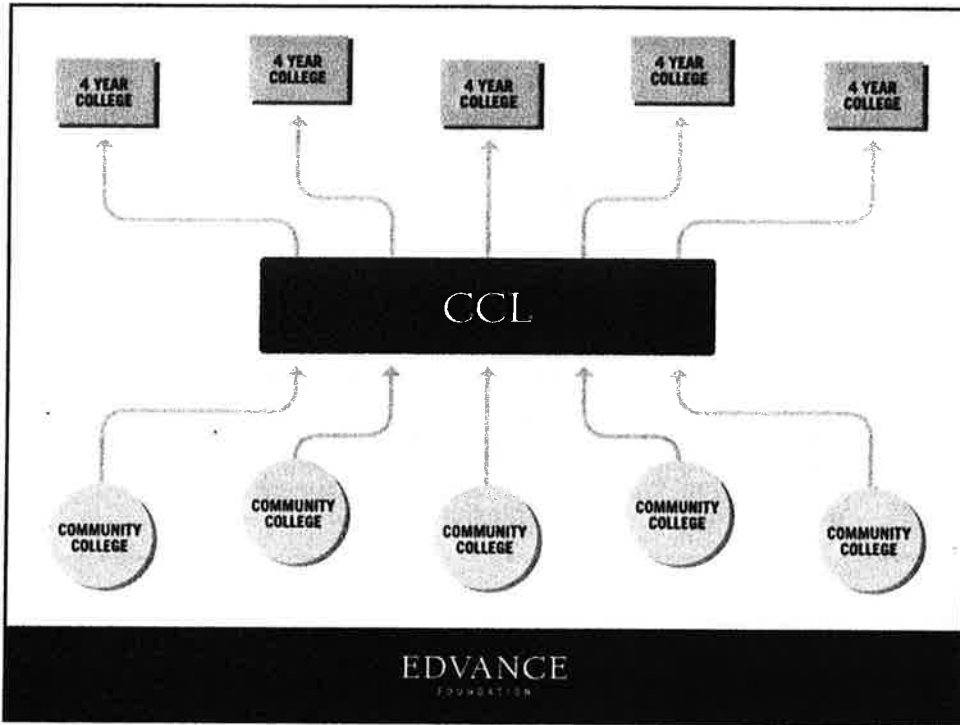
**The first diagram illustrates the structure of a regional center.**

**The second diagram shows how these regional centers will be placed around the country (final locations have yet to be determined).**

**There will be connections between and among the regional offices to benefit students.**

**The efforts of these regional centers will be coordinated by a national office located in Boston.**

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## The Community College Linkage Project:

### **Services available through each CCL regional consortium office:**

- Partner institution identification and solicitation
- Student identification
- Articulation agreement standards
- Course equivalency standards
- Program-to-Program transfer standards
- Financial aid planning coordination
- Guidance and support to facilitate a smooth transition into the 4-year campus community
- Enrollment planning assistance
- Advising assistance
- Student network
- Faculty network
- Staff network
- Best practices library
- Regional fundraising

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## The Community College Linkage Project:

### **Services available through the national CCL office:**

- Establish and manage the regional consortia offices
- Secure funding to support the establishment of each regional office
- Lead national fundraising efforts
- Manage ongoing improvements to the regional programs
- Coordinate the national network of regional consortia
  - Leverage all the applicable practices of the participating consortia
- Establish and support the national social network of students involved in the CCL program
- Program assessment on a regular basis
- Marketing and communications, including media relations

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## **The Community College Linkage Project:**

**With the initial effort focused on enrolling four-year independent colleges and universities into the CCL effort, we anticipate that - once this phase of the program is in full operation - 35,000-50,000 community college students will gain admission to these member institutions annually.**

**As public institutions are invited to join, we anticipate that up to 100,000 community college students will gain admission to member institutions annually.**

**Most of these types of students, we believe, are not considering enrolling at a four-year institution at present.**

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## **The Community College Linkage Project:**

**The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is providing planning funds to develop the CCL concept into a working model.**

**The proposal for this grant was supported by:**

- The American Association of Community Colleges**
- The College Board**
- The Council for Independent Colleges**
- The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities**

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**The Community College Linkage Project:**

The Edvance Foundation seeks \$8 million over a 3-year period to support the establishment of the regional *CCL* centers and its national office.

- \$2.5m in Year 1 for two centers and national office
- \$3.25m in Year 2 for three additional centers
- \$2.25m in Year 3 for two additional centers

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**The Community College Linkage Project:**

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1st regional office

↳ where the interest is

↳ set-up on a college campus