This memo provides information related to the restoration of funding for the Library Services Platform (LSP) subscription and operational services in the annual state budget for fiscal year 2021-22, and the distribution of these funds to colleges to support access to these crucial services.

**Background**

The LSP project and integrated library services are a critical component of the Chancellor’s Office strategy of providing all California Community College students with equitable access to services that can improve course success, persistence and completion. Libraries enhance the student learning experience by providing access to digital and analog text resources, computers and/or printing, and advisory services that complement faculty assignments.

In the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2017-18, the LSP project received $6 million in one-time Proposition (Prop) 98 funding to fundamentally reshape the California Community College libraries’ instructional capabilities, services and operations. That funding was part of the Chancellor’s Office Shared Infrastructure Program (SIP) grant that was administered by the California Community Colleges Technology Center (Tech Center) at the Butte-Glenn Community College District. The LSP project was collectively supported by the Tech Center, Council of Chief Librarians, and the Community College League of California (CCLC), which resulted in a successful bidding process and the selection of a subscription service vendor, ExLibris.

In January 2021, CCLC took over the management of the LSP subscription service and provided operational support to the colleges due to a lapse in state funding. Colleges entered into
individual participation agreements with CCLC to cover the costs of both the subscription and support services. CCLC has a direct contract with ExLibris for the subscription services.

**Restoration of LSP Funding**

In the annual budget for fiscal year 2021-22, $4 million in ongoing Prop 98 funds were restored to support the LSP and ancillary management services. Because of the pre-existing CCLC agreements and the restrictions on the distribution of the new state Prop 98 funding, a new statewide agreement that supports direct payment for the library subscription and services cannot be in place before colleges are required to make payment to CCLC under their respective participation agreements (i.e., January 1, 2022). In an effort to avoid interruption of the subscription services for students and colleges, the Chancellor’s Office is prepared to reimburse colleges directly for the basic ExLibris subscription service, effective July 1, 2021. The Chancellor’s Office will also review the proposed enhancements to the subscription service, and the administrative and management services provided by CCLC, and consider whether expenditures related to these items should also be reimbursed. Once the Chancellor’s Office has completed its review, colleges will be advised on the scope of reimbursement beyond the basic subscription service.

The Chancellor’s Office is grateful for CCLC’s ongoing support and leadership, and plans to work with CCLC to ensure that the system is maximizing these new ongoing investments for direct services to colleges. For any additional questions about this memo, please do not hesitate to contact the SIP Grant Project Monitor, Information Specialist II, Mr. Gary Bird at: gbird@cccco.edu.

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