ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION/REPORT

The administration recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the purchase of consulting services for eLearning strategic planning, implementation, and market assessment from iBridge Group, Inc for the instructional innovation and support department.

BACKGROUND

Online learning offerings at the College, as a percentage of overall offerings, have increased significantly since Fall 2019. In the Fall 2019 semester, 21 percent of contact hours were generated by fully online offerings. The numbers provided by daily enrollment reports show that 39 percent of contact hours for Fall 2022 were generated by fully online learning. In addition, a Spring 2022 review of offerings indicated 26 associate degrees and 34 certificates are available fully online. Based on the continuing demand and interest for online offerings, the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) made the decision to market online offerings under the name of San Jac Online beginning December 2022.

Expansion and support of fully online programs require the involvement of all areas across the College. To ensure quality and equitable delivery of programs and support for faculty and students, intentional decisions must be considered related to student expectations, personnel, service levels, other resource requirements, and operational responsibilities and practices. The SLT believes an outside consultant is needed to assist in evaluating these considerations in a timely manner.

iBridge has a contract through The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) cooperative contracts program to provide consulting services, contract number 210101, that complies with competitive procurement requirements per Texas Education Code §44.031(a)(4) and is permitted through Texas Government Code §791.001(g).

IMPACT OF THIS ACTION

Through the iBridge contract, San Jacinto College will work with Anthology to develop a three-part eLearning strategy that includes strategic planning, implementation of the strategic plan, and assessment of progress at designated checkpoints. In conjunction with the eLearning strategy, work will also be performed to research and prioritize online programs for investment and development based on student and employer demand trends.

BUDGET INFORMATION (INCLUDING ANY STAFFING IMPLICATIONS)

The estimated expenditure for this request is $240,000 and will be funded from the instructional innovation and support department's 2022-23 operating budget.

MONITORING AND REPORTING TIMELINE

Each of the components of the agreement will be monitored as they are developed. Monthly

reports will be provided to the SLT for review and input.

ATTACHMENTS

None

RESOURCE PERSONNEL

Laurel Williamson	281-998-6182	laurel.williamson@sjcd.edu
Niki Whiteside	281-991-2660	Niki.Whiteside@sjcd.edu
Farrah Khalil	281-998-6326	Farrah.Khalil@sjcd.edu