SB 1456 Background Information:
The Student Success Act of 2012 (Senate Bill 1456), Lowenthal) was signed by Governor Brown on September 27, 2012 and was purposed to provide the basis for implementation of the Student Success and Support Task Force recommendations. The SSTF recommendations addressed in Senate Bill 1456 are:

- 2.2 Mandating Core Matriculation Services
- 2.5 Requiring Students to declare a Course of Study early
- 8.2 Repurposing the Matriculation Program by targeting funds for provision of Orientation, Assessment and Counseling, advising and other Student Education planning services.
- SB 1456 renamed the Matriculation to Student Success and Support Program.
- 3.2 Establishing academic conditions for the Board of Governors Fee Waiver.

The Chancellors office convened implementation workgroups to develop proposals and implement SB 1456 provisions related to the Student Success and Support Program. A Title 5 Workgroup charged with review of existing title 5 regulations and development of a proposal for implementation of provisions related to SB 1456.

A funding proposal taskforce related to Data elements was charged with review of current matriculation data elements to determine if any changes are needed and if so develop and implement a new funding proposal that accounted for student population and services provided to allocate Student Success and Support Program funds to the colleges.

As required by 1456 the proposed credit funding formula includes the following elements:
- Establishes a 40/60 split for the allocation of funds based on headcount enrollment and services provided:
- Provides base funding to ensure a level of funding protection for smaller colleges and providing proportionate share of funds for colleges with larger student populations.
- Phases in funding formula changes over four years

WLAC Student Success and Support Program Response:
The Student Success and Support Task Force as part of the Student Success and Support Program Advisory Committee has been diligently working on a model that would assist the college is responding to the new SB 1456 policies and regulations that are rapidly coming forward to the LACCD and the individual colleges from the State Chancellors Office Student Success and Support Program (formerly Matriculation). One of the most recent policy changes has been around “Priority registration”.

The California Community Colleges Board of Governors approved system-wide enrollment priorities designed to ensure that students seeking Transfer, earn a degree or receive job training would have access to classes they need to complete their educational goals. Active duty military and veterans, current and former foster youth, followed by students in EOPS, DSPS will have first priority for registration if they are in good standing (not on academic or progress probation). Students will be allowed to appeal the loss of their registration priority but only for extenuating circumstances.

Information Workshops:
The Student Success and Support Program contacted active student on academic and progress probation and students close to the 100 units limit to invite them to the “Information Workshops” that detailed the New Priority Registration Policy. These workshops were offered from January through March 2013 through the Assessment Center. Students were given information on what action they needed to take given the new policy and the impact on their registration opportunity for Fall 2014.

Sonia Ortiz-Mercado Dean of Student Services at the State Chancellors Office released a video-blog detailing the new policy. This video blog was posted on the WLAC website in January 2013 and is also available on the Student Support and Success Webpage for students to reference.
West ExpressWay:
In response to the SB 1456 proposals the Student Success and Support Program at WEST which includes representatives from Counseling, Admissions, Transfer, Financial Aid, and Outreach has launched a new program entitled the “West ExpressWay” to assist students more rapidly through the matriculation process and the acquisition of College Assessment, Orientation and an abbreviated Student Educational Plan. The West ExpressWay is a portal by which a student has access to pertinent information that is critical to student success. This information is disseminated by faculty and staff from critical student services contact point areas such as: Admissions, Financial Aid, Assessment and Counseling through a series of in-person and online workshops culminating to an individual appointment with a Counselor.
Every student that submits an application to the college is invited to the “West ExpressWay” and upon completion will have access to:
- High Level Registration Opportunity
- Student Educational Plan
- Student Educational Portfolio

First Semester College Experience:
The structure of the ExpressWay works in collaboration with the College Outreach services and the “ATD Student Success Kick-off as providing the first point of contact with students”. Directly following the students submission of the Application of Admission of the college, students will be guided to the “West ExpressWay” webpage www.wlac.edu/expressway/. Here students will enter the Express portal to access the:
- Online Orientation
- College Online Orientation
- FAFSA
- Educational Preparation Presentation

They will then be guided to the West ExpressWay appointment where they will be given an Academic and Student Services Presentation, Assessment, and Individual Counseling Appointment to obtain an abbreviated Student Educational Plan. Counselors will encourage students to step into the Personal Development course to continue their educational planning and also enroll in Math and English pre-requisite courses their first semester full time students if possible.

Pilot Group:
A pilot student population completed the West Expressway the week of April 8, and April 22 allowing for constructive feedback for revision and growth in the program. An additional eight student groups will go through the Pilot to completion in May where feedback from surveys will be reviewed and reported.

Data:
The Student Success and Support Program has been working with West IT in the gathering of data to report on those students who have completed Assessment, Orientation and SEP’s over time to assist students when the Priority Registration is in effect.

Contingencies:
The Success of the West ExpressWay is contingent upon:
1. Additional support to the Counseling Department via enhancements of Counseling Assignments from ten to twelve months to ensure Counselor presence during the summer months.
2. Additional support for the Admissions Department to expedite student application process and thereby allowing more time for student preparation for matriculation
3. Additional Staffing support for Assessment Center.

This is an Ongoing Effort:
A special “Thank you” goes out to our Institutional Effectiveness Graphic Design Guru- Michelle Long-Coffee and IT Director- Nick Dang, who continue to bring the West ExpressWay to manifestation along with all of our awesome Student Services Departments. The Student Success Support Program & Services is working with the Curriculum Committee to Develop a Counseling ExpressWay course that will feed into a Counseling course (PD 1/PD 5) for students to complete their educational planning process. Special thanks to Alma Narez-Acosta for her assistance with this effort.

The West ExpressWay is in the process of continuous development. As we meet with students and receive their feedback, we are making changes to suite their needs and to refine the model to meet student need and SB1456 regulations.