MCC ARRA SMARTHINKING Proposal

1. **Project description:** MCC began using SMARTHINKING, an online tutoring service, during the 2008-2009 academic year in conjunction with The Learning Center’s face-to-face tutorial program and MCC’s Online Writing Lab (OWL). With a 300% increase in tutorial appointments in the past four years and a 110% increase in distance learning testing in the past year in The Learning Center, SMARTHINKING augmented TLC’s tutorial program and provided students enrolled in live classes, in distance learning classes, and at outreach sites (Molokai, Lanai, Hana, and Lahaina) with academic assistance in the following subject areas: writing, mathematics (basic skills-calculus II), statistics, accounting, economics, introductory finance, general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, biology, introduction to human anatomy and physiology, and Spanish. By the end of the academic year, student usage had exceeded the allotted 800 hours. For academic year 2009-2010, MCC was able to purchase 630 hours of SMARTHINKING. With a 35% increase in student enrollment, MCC would like to seek funding for 450 additional hours for the spring and summer 2010 semesters to meet expanding student needs.

For more information on SMARTHINKING, go to the following link: http://smarthinking.com/

2. This is an ongoing project.

3. In fall 2008, 230 students utilized SMARTHINKING of which 79 or 34% were remedial/developmental students. Of the 79 students, 71 or 90% passed the class in which they were tutored by SMARTHINKING. In spring 2009, 213 students utilized SMARTHINKING of which 56 or 26% were remedial/developmental students. Of the 56 students, 52 or 93% passed the class in which they were tutored by SMARTHINKING. Identified by their COMPASS scores, remedial/developmental students enrolled in English 22, LSK 30, Math 1, Math 22, Math 23, Communication 145, Business 120, Geography 102, Speech 151, Sociology 100, and Accounting 124 classes accessed SMARTHINKING.

4. SMARTHINKING has been used at Maui Community College, Kapiolani Community College and Leeward Community College. Although there are no CC partners at this time, students from other campuses who are enrolled in MCC distance classes have access to SMARTHINKING. Subsequently, MCC would like to collaborate system wide to support future use of SMARTHINKING.

5. UH Strategic Outcome 2.3 (Increase Developmental Success)

6. For sustainability, funding will be requested for academic year 2010-2011 from the MCC Technology Fee, student fees collected to augment instructional technology and technology infrastructure at MCC. In addition, MCC will research other funding sources to support SMARTHINKING.
7. As the SMARTTHINKING data above shows, the average retention rate for remedial/developmental students using SMARTTHINKING is 91%, well above the 74% retention rate of MCC’s general population in academic year 2007-2008. Evaluation will continue to be measured with higher student retention rates of those using SMARTTHINKING compared to MCC’s general population as well as in student readiness in subsequent math courses.

8. This project reduces delivery costs and readiness time for students by enabling all students, including distance and outreach students, to get appropriate accessible, individualized, direct feedback that supplements classroom instruction.

### Proposed Budget for SMARTTHINKING Proposal

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMARTTHINKING Hours (450 hours@$30.00/hr)</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Budget Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
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