FOA-152: Version 1.0

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# Abstract

FOA-152 is a grant which mandates a site for workforce retraining. In the 1.0 version of this site, we have implemented the requirements through the extensive usage of JavaScript. While much of this will have to be reworked into PHP, I felt it vital that we document how each function works prior to updating for future usability.

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# Introduction

While early PHP implementation has begun, further implementation will be needed. For the time being, Javascript is utilized in order to allow for a “quick” method to achieve the requirements mandated in the grant.

Upon first entering the site, Index.PHP will load. This displays a small horizontal menu which will lead to resource pages. As of 1.0, this menu leads to the front page, and to lists of schools for University of California, California State University, and the California community colleges.

# The PHP Template

Support\_functions.php contains the majority of the templating information for the site.

## Support\_functions.php

### getHeader

This function defines the HTML header for all pages. It builds an HTML string. This HTML string loads jscript.js as well as the required CSS files.

### getSide

This function defines the Resources sidebar for each page. This sidebar is important in order to give credit to the companies, commissions, and other institutes which are contributing to the grant.

### getNav

This function defines the horizontal menu directly under the header image. In order to create a drop-down, it has one “master” unordered list (which is what displays horizontally). The lines which have drop-down options have nested ULs.

### getFooter

Defines the footer. This will need to be altered in order to contain disclaimer information.

## Common Page Template

We can use index.php as an example of a “common” page template.

First, support\_functions.php is included. Then, each function used on the page is called. You will notice that just before getFooter();, the content is called through a function.

At the bottom of each page is the individual function which the page will use. This is generally a string of HTML that is echoed.

# CSS

Three main files are used for CSS. These include grid.css, nav.css, and style.css.

## Grid.css

Grid.css is a common and downloaded grid template. While we initially worked with our own grid, 960.gs provided a much better grid system that is open-source. Further, it is better to not reinvent the wheel.

The specific grid we are using is a 16 column grid. You can find documentation on it at 960.gs, therefore I will not discuss its technicalities.

## Nav.css

Nav.css is a stylesheet designed for the drop-down menus and horizontal navigation. This defines the behavior for the nested unordered lists in the horizontal navigation as well as a few IE bugfixes.

## Style.css

Style.css is the stylesheet that would be edited the most in the event of a site redesign. It inherits from grid.css and nav.css, but because it is loaded last, will override both of these.

# JavaScript

JavaScript provides most of version 1.0’s current functionality.

## Jscript.js

This file provides every JavaScript function utilized in the site. While this is a very bloated method, it makes it much easier to find each function and edit it.

### addClasses

This is a preliminary function. During the beginning stages of the site, most of the work went into displaying each school based upon what system it happened to be in. This function loads several strings full of information and then calls each string when a specific school is selected.

### addClasses2

This function is not utilized. It was initially created in an effort to make calling the classes more of an object-oriented approach.

### Drop-Down Menu Functions

These functions are used to populate drop-down menus in each filter. They were created with the High School Graduates filter in mind.

#### showInterest

When the region drop-down menu changes (user selects a region), the drop-down menu for their area of interest becomes active.

#### showProgram

When an area of interest is selected, the list of available programs is displayed.

#### enableSubmit

Once each menu is filled, the submit button can be pressed. Changes its text to “Submit”.

#### submitFilters

After pressing submit, the information from the form is sent to this filter. The specific form (what page it happened to be on) is sent by a hidden input. Additionally, the value of each selected index is recorded and the error div is added to a variable.

Following this, the filter checks for what page it happens to be on, and then compares what values ought to be in the form. If one of the select menus do not contain an actual value (nothing was selected), then an error is displayed. Otherwise, each filter is loaded into a variable, which will display a certain div depending on what the user has selected.

# Folders

Upon cloning the repository, a multitude of folders will appear. These contain several levels of data ranging from design of the site, to images utilized by the site. I will briefly describe each. Contents change dynamically; therefore, documenting each item in each folder would not be logical.