

2023 State of the District

Report to LACCD Board of Trustees



Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Presentation to the Board: October 4, 2023



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INTRODUCTION

I present the 2023 Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) State of the District Report. Guided by the LACCD Board of Trustees, this report is meant to act as a reflective and inflection point recognizing our institution's achievements and successes over the past academic year, and potential growth and improvement areas. The report acts as a guide for organizational excellence to continue serving our most important constituency, our students.

As we build for the future, the District continues to be governed by an active and engaged Board of Trustees, who understands and supports our work. Their leadership propels us to achieve new levels of accomplishment. This past year we successfully strengthened the pillars of LACCD by building for the future through the successful reaffirmation of our 2023 Accreditation process; and the voter-approved passage of Measure LA, all while maintaining sound financial stewardship and further expanding our reach through robust advocacy at the local, state, and national levels.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Accreditation Reaffirmation for Seven (7) Years

Accreditation is how we ensure quality assurance to our public and our students. Following site visits earlier this year, the Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) acted to Reaffirm Accreditation for all nine colleges of the LACCD for an additional seven years.

There were no requirements for compliance with any of the Accreditation Standards noted at any of the nine colleges and many colleges received individual college Commendations. The LACCD received a District Commendation for its institutional efforts to advance equity and justice, stating:

"The Commission commends the Board and the District on the development and implementation of a Districtwide Framework for Racial Equity and Social Justice: Taking Action to Root Out Racism and Internalize Anti-Racist Policies and Practices at LACCD. The District has successfully built upon the strong legacy of social justice and equity work amongst the campuses, by embedding this framework into existing planning process, developing systems of accountability, and investing in local, regional, and statewide legislative advocacy to support statewide systemic reform to improve racial and social justice initiatives."

The next substantive accreditation report from the LACCD colleges will be the Midterm Report due in March 2027, with each college's full comprehensive review commencing in the Fall of 2029 and concluding with a Focused Site Visit during the Spring of 2030.

Work has already begun to ensure another successful accreditation process and outcome via the districtwide Accreditation Committee's regular meetings and robust conversations at the local shared governance committee meetings.

New Faculty Hiring

The District's commitment to student success and engagement includes a strong commitment to hiring diverse and experienced full-time faculty. To support this commitment, LACCD took the steps necessary to obtain the Emergency Conditions Allowance (ECA) in fiscal year 2023-2024. An Emergency Conditions Allowance increases a district's funded credit FTES, calculated per the Student-Centered Funding Formula, by holding the current year FTES to a prior year level. This funding gave LACCD the ability to hire an additional 129 full-time faculty, for a total of 222, which will enable LACCD to get closer to the state's commitment of establishing a ratio of 75% full-time faculty districtwide. The District's full-time faculty hiring plan also includes a Chancellor's supported cluster hire to increase the number of Noncredit/Adult Education and Ethnic Studies faculty.

Through hard work, collaboration, and the engagement of hiring committees that advanced in Summer 2023, the District has already hired 131 of the 222, and our recruitment and selection work will continue throughout 2023-24.

Expansion of Bachelor's Degrees at LACCD

West Los Angeles College currently offers the District's only active bachelor's degree program in Dental Hygiene. It is the most successful Bachelor of Science degree program at a two-year college in the State of California.

Effective Fall 2023, two additional LACCD Colleges were approved to offer a Bachelor's Degree program. West Los Angeles College was approved for a Bachelor of Science in Avionics and Los Angeles Valley College was approved for a Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy. In addition, Los Angeles Mission College just received approval for a Bachelor of Science in Biomanufacturing. In the next round of application submissions, several LACCD colleges are planning on submitting applications to offer bachelor's degrees that are new industry-focused curriculum that prepare students for careers in high-demand occupations.

Website Redesign

The District undertook a website redesign for our nine (9) Colleges and District office with a

cohesive student centric focus. The design is guided by the vision for a seamless navigation across all nine Colleges to provide the best user experience for our students and the general public. The college websites launched on the new platform in December 2022-January 2023 and the District website launched early July 2023.

The new website is intended to address the needs of LACCD's varied student demographic including full-time, adult learners, transfer students, or any student taking a single course. To ensure success, feedback from focus groups and students, staff and faculty members was incorporated in the design.

In addition to a modern design on a single technology platform, increased attention was given to accessibility. Compliance with readability, navigability, and other accessibility requirements established in Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794d (Section 508) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards set forth in the current Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA Conformance.

Measure LA Bond Measure

In November 2022, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure LA, a \$5.3 billion capital improvement bond measure for LACCD, while reducing operating costs and increasing clean energy alternatives through sustainable and resilient practices. Measure LA provides funding for desperately needed infrastructure and technology upgrades and increases the LACCD's investment in sustainability, athletics facilities, and other improvements throughout the District. Measure LA also provides capital funding to build affordable student and workforce housing.

The LACCD is committed to facilitating the best possible teaching, working, and learning environment. With the voter-approved funds for Measure LA, we endeavor to modernize and renovate instructional spaces and training facilities built before 1970.

All current bond expenditures have received clean performance audits. LACCD will continue its strict oversight, governance, accountability and transparency of our bond program. We have maintained excellent stewardship and project administration, while safeguarding the public's money, interests and trust.

Workforce and Economic Development

Our District is expanding our program offerings to meet the evolving needs of our regional workforce and university transfer partners. In collaboration with local industry leaders, we have expanded offerings in healthcare, technology, and renewable energy, ensuring that our students are well-prepared for their careers and to transfer. We will continue to forge strategic partnerships with local businesses and organizations to provide valuable internship and workforce opportunities for our students.

Our largest occupational programs are Business Administration, Registered Nursing, Administration of Justice, Child Development, and Accounting. Over forty percent (40%) of LACCD occupational students are in workforce programs leading to employment in high-earnings jobs. These are jobs that earn, on average, over \$72,800 per year based on 2020-21 earnings data compiled by the District. Moreover, nearly eighty percent (80%) are in programs leading to jobs with earnings, on average, over \$52,000 annually. The 2020-21 earnings data was assembled by the District for Fall 2021 and the LACCD students enrolled in occupational programs.


Adult Education and Career Technical Education Programs saw successful gains in 2022-2023. The LACCD Adult Education programs enrolled 20,287 students (53,338 total enrollments) in 2,366 course sections. This represented a 25% increase in enrollment over the previous year. Additionally, Adult Education students earned 3,445 noncredit awards. Those students 35-54 years of age made up the largest group of adult education learners at 39%, followed by 25-34-year-old students who made up 25% of the population. Our 55+ population was just over 14%.

We anticipate enrollments with this age group to increase over the next five years as more baby boomers retire and we provide additional lifelong learning opportunities for them. Over 60% of our Adult Education students identify as Latino, with Asian and White students making up about 29% of the population. Lastly, the majority of students enrolled in Adult Education programs are female (64.4%). All students included in the Adult Education dataset are 18 and over. *(Infographic provided)*

Los Angeles Community College District

Noncredit Adult Education Program Quick Facts for the 2022-2023 Academic Year

Enrollment Count: 53,338




Student Headcount: 20,287

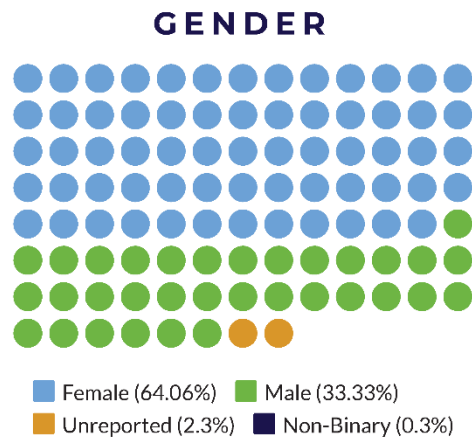
Number of Courses: 2,366

Number of Awards: 3,445

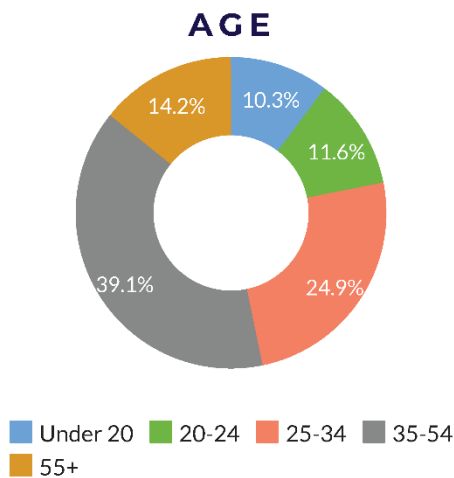
Overall Success Rate: 53%



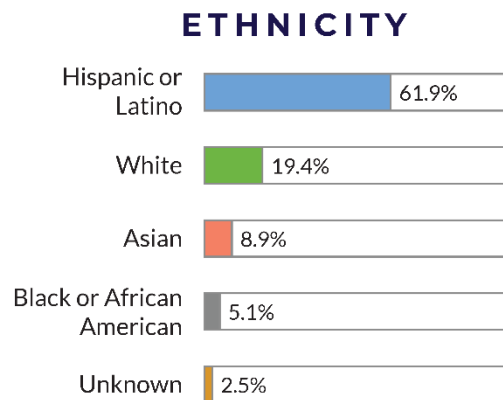
Subject	Enrollments	Headcount	Success Rate
Acad Prep	861	595	56%
Basic Skills	11,761	5,229	49%
Citizenship	233	191	57%
ESL	22,543	10,833	51%
ESL Civics	3,999	2,472	58%
NC Math	212	81	54%
Parent	21	16	67%
Voc Ed	13,708	5,507	57%



Students 35-54 years old make up the largest group (39%). The next largest group is ages 25-34 (25%).



Over 60% of students identify as Hispanic or Latino. Asian and White students make up about 29% of the student population.



Note: Filipino, Multiethnic, American Indian or Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander students made up less than 3% of the population served.

Source: LACCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness & Adult Education

Career Technical Education (CTE) Programs across the District enrolled 72,730 students, accounting for 112,192 enrollments. CTE program awards have continued to increase reaching 6,924 completions in the 2022-2023 academic year. This is a 20% increase in awards after experiencing a drop in 2019-2020 when 5,749 completions were awarded. The age groups of Under 20, 20-24, 25-34, and 35-54 make up 32%, 21%, 25%, and 18% respectively of all CTE learners. The smallest group is 55+ at just 3%.

Similar to Adult Education, over 60% of CTE students identify as Latino/a. White students make up about 14% of the learners and all other groups are below 10%. There are slightly more female students (50.65%) enrolling in CTE programs than males. Only students who chose a CTE program as their most recent educational plan and enrolled in at least one credit course during the 2022-2023 academic year are included in the dataset. *(infographic provided)*

The future is promising for CTE and Adult Education, and as a District, we are making an investment in full-time noncredit/adult education faculty. As the number of jobs in Los Angeles County continues to increase with employment growth expected to be over 300,000 jobs in the next five years, the LACCD is positioning itself to help fill the demand. With the state refocusing efforts on workforce development and career education through its Vision 2030 plan, State Plan for CTE, and Governor's initiative to increase apprenticeships exponentially there is ample opportunity for the District to continue strengthening its offerings.

Los Angeles Community College District

Career Technical Education Quick Facts for the 2022-2023 Academic Year



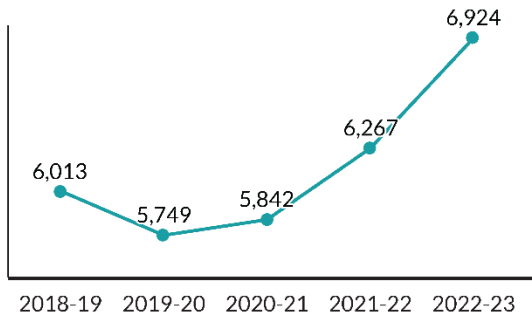
Student Headcount: 72,730*



Enrollment Count: 112,192**

The count of CTE program awards conferred has continued to increase for 2022-23 after experiencing a drop in 2019-20.

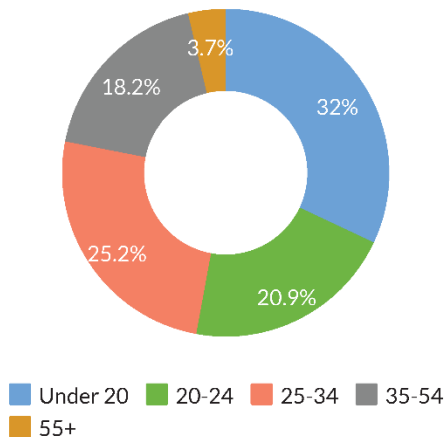
5 Year Award Trend



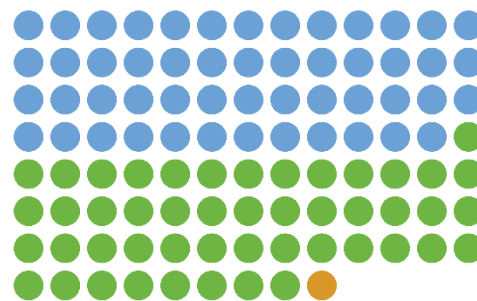
— Award Counts

The Under 20, 20-24, and 25-34 age groups are similarly represented. The smallest group is 55+ (3%).

AGE*



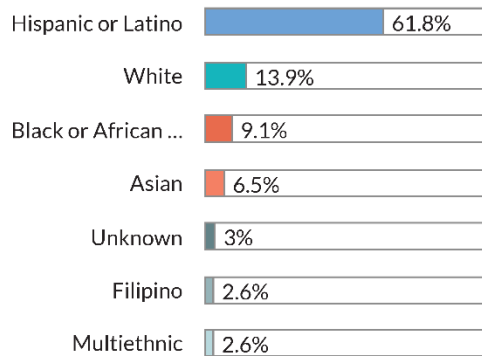
GENDER*



● Female (50.65%) ● Male (47.75%)
 ■ Unreported (1.1%) ■ Non-Binary (0.5%)

Over 60% of students identify as Hispanic or Latino. White students make up about 14% of students. Other groups fall below 10%.

ETHNICITY*



Note: American Indian/Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students made up less than 1% of the population served.

* Students included in these figures chose a CTE program as their most recent educational plan and enrolled in at least one credit course during the 2022-2023 academic year.

** These enrollments only include occupational courses taken by CTE identified students.

Source: LACCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness & Adult Education

RESTORING ENROLLMENTS

The Los Angeles Community College District, like most other community colleges throughout the nation, experienced a dip in enrollments during the earlier part of this decade. Despite the nationwide challenges, the District has remained committed to identifying and enrolling new students to experience the life-changing benefits of higher education. This mission to serve students led the District to seek out, market to, and strengthen student populations with potential for growth, including high school students through Dual Enrollment, Adult Education learners, and low-income students eligible for LA College Promise.

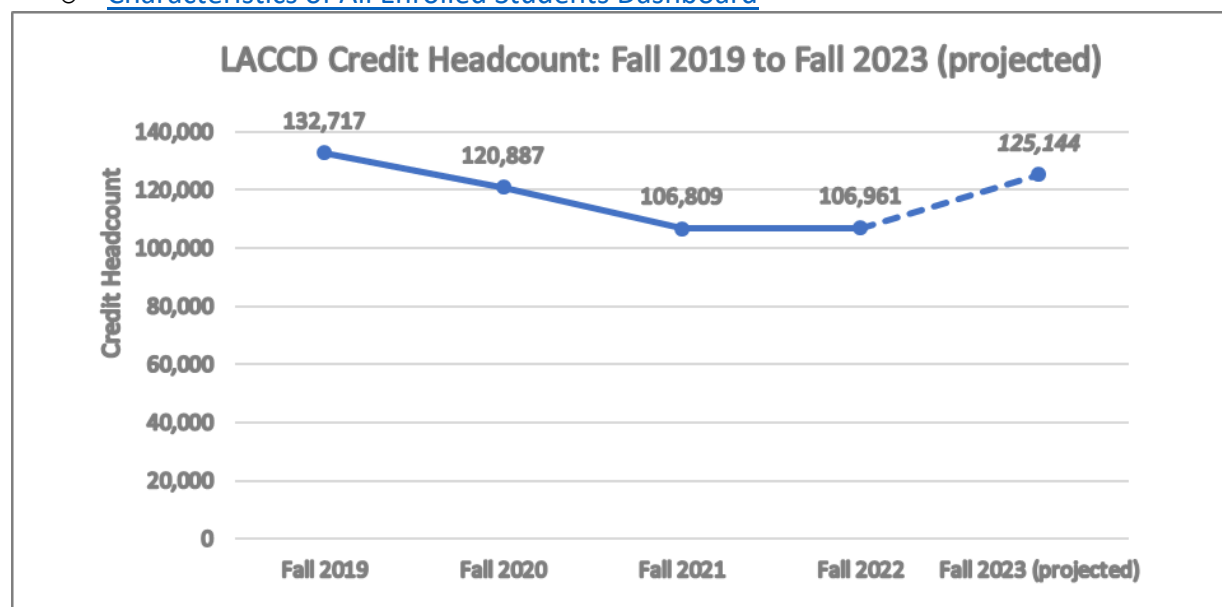
The District also strengthened student wrap-around supports including basic needs, retention, and educational services. As a result, the District is recovering its enrollment and is committed to reaching and supporting students in the following ways:

Fall 2023 Enrollments

This year's approved State budget provides continued financial protection and stability to the 116 California community colleges, including the LACCD.

This Fall, the LACCD is experiencing a strong recovery of its enrollment and student populations. Based on the most recent Fall 2023 data, student headcount, and duplicated enrollment increased by 16% from Fall 2022 to Fall 2023, with each of our colleges experiencing growth compared to last year.

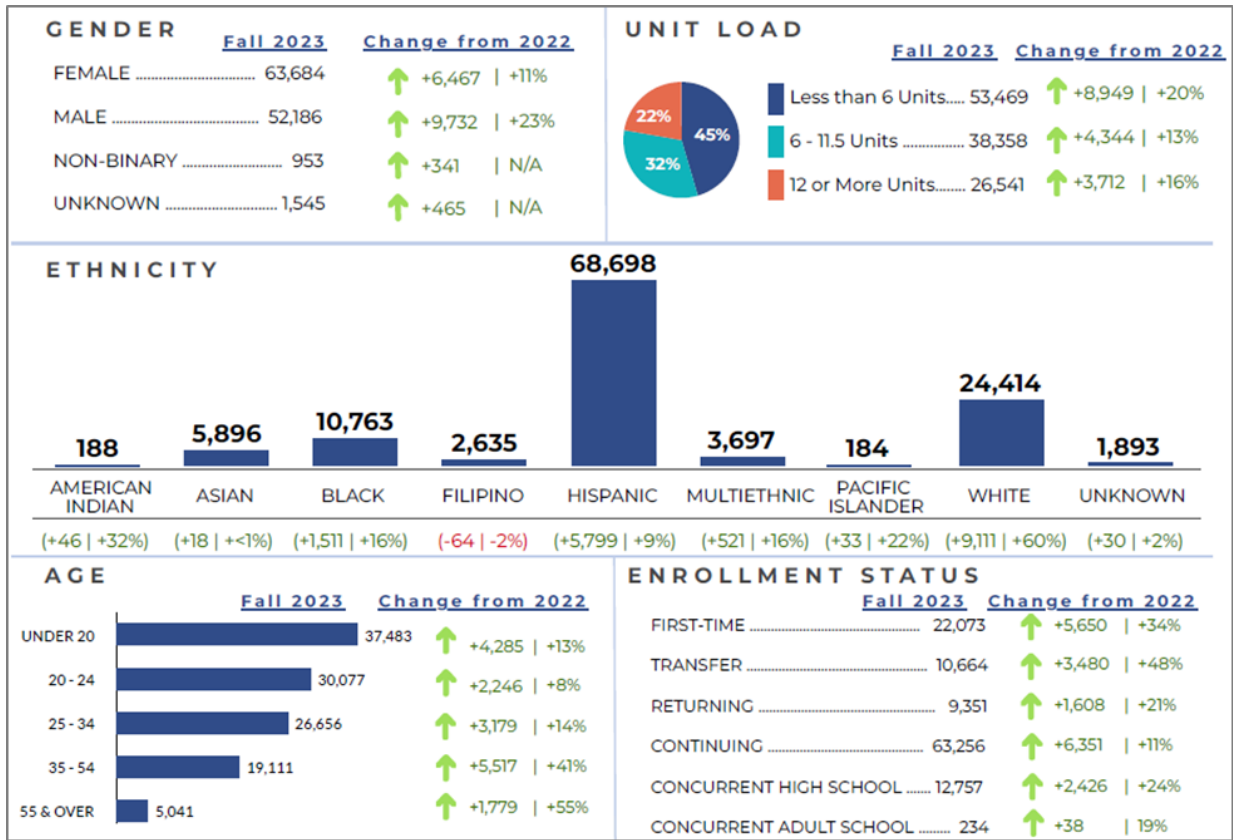
- [Characteristics of All Enrolled Students Dashboard](#)



As enrollment rebounds, many student populations are experiencing recovery, it is encouraging that some key student populations that had previously been in decline since Fall 2019 now display significant increases from Fall 2022 to Fall 2023. These populations include:

1. First-time students (+34%; +5,650 students)
2. Transfer students (+48%; +3,480 students)
3. Returning students (+21%; +1,608 students)
4. Continuing students (+11%; +6,351 students)
5. Concurrent High School students (+24%; +2,426 students)
6. Students Under Age 20 (+13%; +4,285 students)
7. Students Age 35+ (+43%; 7,296 students)
8. Male students (+23%; +9,732 students)
9. Full-time students (+16%; 3,712 students)
10. African-American students (16%; +1,511 students)
11. Latino students (+9%; +5,799 students)

Relative Day Comparison of LACCD Student Characteristics: Day 14, Fall 2022 vs Fall 2023



In-Language Pilot Program

During the Winter 2023 term, in response to a community survey conducted in 2022, several of the colleges participated in a pilot program offering fifteen (15) sections of in-language courses. Based on the positive response to the pilot, an increase in the number of course offerings was observed during the subsequent Spring (59 sections), Summer (21 sections), and Fall (87 sections) semesters. Courses offered span a wide variety of disciplines, such as early childhood education, business, and healthcare, in languages such as Spanish, Mandarin, Korean, and Russian.

Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment, which creates partnerships between high schools and community colleges that enable a broader range of students to take college-level courses through concurrent or dual enrollment, has seen a significant growth over the past year.

The 2016 legislation (AB 288) provides high school students access to college-level coursework and career education to enhance their current high school curriculum and improve college readiness. In addition to fostering a sense of belonging within a college community, it helps

close equity gaps, particularly for students limited by their high school curriculum or who may not be adequately prepared for college-level coursework.

Our colleges have increased outreach efforts to local high schools to increase the number of concurrently enrolled high school students at the LACCD. Five (5) Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with new K-12 Districts and charter schools were approved this year (Inglewood, Montebello, Accelerated Schools, New Designs Charter Schools, and STEM Preparatory Schools, Inc.). The District currently has twenty-nine (29) AB 288 agreements with high schools across Los Angeles County within its service area.

LACCD partnered with LAUSD in late September, to co-host a Dual Enrollment Symposium. Over 400 individuals from the two organizations came together to showcase best practices and brainstorm on improvements for the future.

Adult Education

LACCD has a long history of providing Adult Education Programs and is committed to increasing investment and growing this student population. LACCD collaborates with our K-12 partners through a local consortium that has developed regional plans to expand and improve adult education services. These plans include elementary and basic skills, classes for immigrants (e.g., English as a second language, citizenship, and workforce preparation), programs for adults with disabilities, short-term Career Technical Education Programs with high employment potential, and programs for apprentices.

To reengage adult learners post-pandemic, LACCD launched the first phase of its targeted Adult Education marketing campaign in August 2022 and invested \$1.2 million to promote and re-brand adult education across the LACCD.

We launched a short-term consumer awareness and marketing research campaign consisting of digital marketing, broadcast radio, and a newly created English, Spanish, and Chinese landing page. All emphasize three significant "adult education" programs in Business, Healthcare, and English as a Second Language. The District will collect metrics and data that will drive the subsequent phases to inform branding and a long-term marketing strategy.

College Promise

The Los Angeles College Promise Program (LACP)'s first cohort in the Fall of 2017 consisted of 4,067 students. To examine the impact of the LACP, we compared the outcomes of Fall 2016 LAUSD first-time, full-time entrants to Fall 2017 Promise students and found that full-time enrollment increased by fifteen percent (15%). The number of students who completed transfer-level English and math courses doubled. Fall to Fall persistence rates increased by twenty-three percent (23%), and students completing their program within three years increased by forty-three percent (43%).

In the program's second year, there was a thirty-three percent (33%) increase in enrollment of Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) graduates into LACCD colleges. From Fall 2017 to Fall 2022, over 30,000 students participated in the LA College Promise Program. LACP enrollment is projected to be over 5,500 students in Fall 2023.

Student Basic Needs

The pandemic unveiled the great need for student basic needs support, including food, housing, childcare, school supplies, emergency assistance, and transportation. With a student population in which nearly 50% of students report being low-income, the Los Angeles Community College District recognizes the challenges our students face outside of the classroom. Having a secure place to sleep, a guaranteed meal, or a reliable mode of transportation can be the difference between completing a degree or dropping out. As such, the District is committed to finding solutions for our students' basic needs so that they can focus on their education and make upward progress in their lives.

Community Partnerships for Unhoused Students

LACCD has partnered with nonprofit partners to provide a safe and clean shelter for its unhoused students. Throughout 2021, as the pandemic caused increased uncertainty and, incidents of housing insecurity surged. That year, LACCD lobbied the State to change policy to allow funding to be granted to nonprofit organizations and successfully advocated for \$100 million statewide for emergency assistance that could be used for housing and other basic needs.

Once state funding was secured, LACCD created nonprofit housing partnerships with local providers to ensure that unhoused students at all nine LACCD colleges could be served. LACCD signed formal agreements to fund five LA-based housing providers – LA Room & Board, Hope Housing for Students, Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services, Jovenes Housing, and the Seed House Project. Currently, LACCD is providing housing for more than 100 unhoused students.

The housing units range from dormitory-type housing to single-family residences and apartment-style housing units. Most housing locations offer shared living with common kitchens, activity rooms, and plenty of quiet study areas. The housing providers commit to providing three meals a day, internet access, and student support services, including enrollment guidance, application assistance, personal counseling, and mental health support. Various work options, internship referrals, and even small business set-ups are available to the housed students.

LACCD continues to look for additional ways to support students needing housing options. Feasibility studies are underway to explore future affordable housing options

for students. LACCD will maintain its commitment and advocacy efforts to help students as they seek a high-quality education.

Food Insecurity

Recognizing that students experiencing food insecurity are more likely to miss classes and fail to complete their education, the LACCD has committed to providing hungry students with resources both on-campus and in their communities. Each of the nine campuses operates their own version of a food pantry that gives students an opportunity to pick up a variety of fresh produce or non-perishable items. These same pantries often provide additional items including personal hygiene products, bookstore vouchers, gas cards, and clothing to help with inclement weather or professional job interviews. Oftentimes, these pantries act as a point-of-contact for connecting students with additional campus, community and local government services including mental health care, legal or immigration assistance, and counseling.

The colleges also work in partnership with local nonprofit agencies to help provide students with food assistance, such as the LA Regional Food Bank, the St. Francis Center Los Angeles, and Village Family Services.

Additionally, the college peer navigators and basic needs coordinators help students to navigate many of the county and statewide programs that are available to them. Each of the campuses provides support in signing up students for the CalFresh program which helps to provide low-income community members with financial support that can be used at their local grocery stores and supermarkets.

Transportation

Transportation can mean the difference between a student successfully pursuing their educational dreams or not being able to continue on. Over the years, LACCD advocated providing a fareless metro pilot for all 550,000+ Los Angeles Community College student riders across 21 colleges in the county. In 2022, and in response to the need for transportation, LACCD secured a Senate Directed Spending Appropriations request through the office of the late Senator Diane Feinstein. Senator Feinstein sponsored a \$1 million allocation to expand the Metro Fareless System Initiative Pilot Program (GoPass) in Los Angeles County to ensure all community college students can access reliable public transportation. As a result, today, 299,769 (K-14) students have registered for the GoPass program; countywide, 60,253 or twenty percent (20%) of those participants are community college students, and 27,997, over nine percent (9.3%) are LACCD students.

First-Year Experience

The First-Year Experience (FYE) ensures students receive wrap-around support throughout their academic journey. In Fall 2022, nearly 16,000 students were served

through the FYE program. Starting with two years of free tuition through the LA College Promise and educational support services all across the District, FYE has dedicated first-year cohorts that guarantee a seat for interested incoming students. FYE also offers Family and Community Engagement services to prospective students and their families to support them through navigating higher education. For example, the FYE at ELAC strives for every student to be Seen, Heard, and Connected.

- [Characteristics of First-Time LACCD Students Dashboard](#)

Umoja

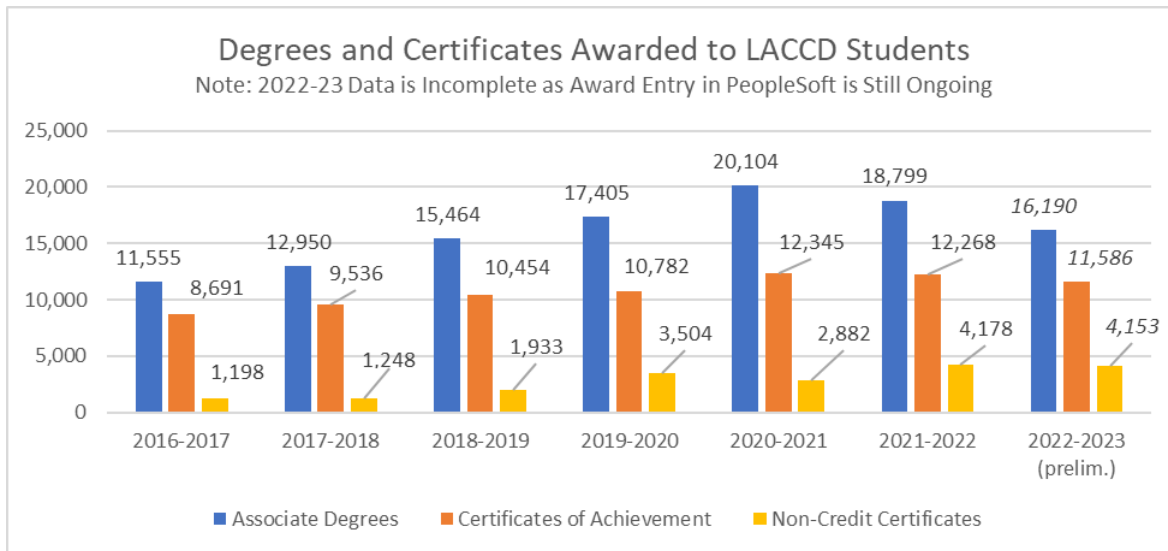
Umoja (a Kiswahili word meaning unity) is a community and critical resource dedicated to enhancing African-Americans' and other students' cultural and educational experiences. When the voices and histories of students are deliberately and intentionally recognized, the opportunity for self-efficacy emerges and a foundation is formed for academic success. Umoja actively serves and promotes student success for all students through a curriculum and pedagogy responsive to the legacy of the African and African American Diasporas. Nearly 2,000 students participated in Umoja programs at LACCD colleges in Fall 2022.

The UMOJA Coordinator's Council, a districtwide initiative, meets regularly to identify best practices in African American student outreach initiatives and plan events and activities to benefit all students. A product of this collaboration is the recently passed resolution to establish October 24, 2023 as the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) and Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Day.

REVIEWING OUTCOMES

Completions, Degrees, and Certificates

During the last seven years, LACCD has increased awards of degrees, credit certificates, and noncredit certificates, except for the academic years 2021 and 2022. Given the COVID-19 pandemic and enrollment decrease in the 2020 - 2021 and 2021- 2022 academic years, the decline in awards was expected, and plans are underway to increase both enrollment and academic awards. In addition, it should be noted that colleges are still entering their total completion data, and we are expecting a slight increase in the numbers reported on this chart for the 2022 – 2023 academic year.



Building workforce programs that establish a pipeline between community college and jobs is one way to strengthen the connection between education completion and careers.

Reducing Equity Gaps

LACCD colleges are firmly committed to achieving equitable student outcomes, as evidenced by the Chancellor’s LACCD Racial Equity Framework, college student equity plans, and college and district strategic plans. However, efforts to achieve student equity were significantly adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic disproportionately impacted LACCD students of color and this was reflected in a widening of some equity gaps during the pandemic years. The LACCD monitors student equity carefully and has developed dashboards to provide different views of student outcomes through an equity focus. Preliminary data for the Fall 2020 cohort of first-time students, tracked for three years, suggests that the District’s equity efforts are getting back on track as degree, certificate, and transfer completion rates displayed improvement for disproportionately impacted student ethnic groups. LACCD colleges will continue applying strategies and considerable resources obtained through state funding and federal grants to close equity gaps.

IESS Dashboards:

- [Successful Completions \(C or better\) by Year, Discipline, and Course Level](#)
- [Momentum Points of First-Time Students Entering LACCD](#)

SUSTAINING FISCAL HEALTH

2023-24 Final Budget

The District's adopted FY 2023-2024 Final Budget totals \$10.4 billion for all funds.

The District maintains a minimum of 6.5% General Reserve, a 3.5% Contingency Reserve, and a two percent (2.0%) Deferred Maintenance Fund, as mandated by LACCD Board Policy.

For 2023-2024, the District's financial outlook remains stable under the state-adopted Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF). It has benefited from the State Chancellor's Office Emergency Conditions Allowance (ECA), which brought additional one-time funds of \$45.4 million to the District. The budget reaffirms the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) hold harmless provision for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026. The District will remain prudent and strongly focused on increasing enrollments and providing an accessible, affordable higher education through our colleges.

For the longer-term fiscal health of LACCD, there remains a fiscal imperative to increase enrollments, bolster access and equity, improve persistence and retention rates, yield more transfer students and increase the number of degrees and certificates granted. In addition, to maintain fiscal stability, quarterly updates and projections will emphasize revenue generation and expenditure controls to prepare the District for the upcoming 2025-2026 SCFF funding changes.

Audits

An annual financial audit of the District is conducted every fiscal year by independent auditors and reported to the Board of Trustees. The District received an unmodified opinion on the Financial, Single Audits, and Bond Financial Audits for FY 2021-2022, as it has for years. An unmodified opinion means that the basic financial statements referred to in the audit present the District's financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The outstanding audits are a testament to our commitment to ensuring financial integrity, transparency and accountability. LACCD is now undergoing an FY 2022-2023 Audit and expects to receive the same unmodified opinion.

Bond Ratings

By way of our bond ratings, the District continues to receive excellent bond ratings from Moody's and Standard and Poor's as a result of our strong and stable financial position. In June of this year, the District met with the rating agencies, and both Moody's and Standard and Poor's reaffirmed the District's high ratings of Aaa and AA+.

EXPANDING OUR REACH: ROBUST ADVOCACY, STRENGTHENED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

LACCD, an organization as geographically large and ethnically diverse as the county it serves, has an influence not only in the communities where we educate, but more broadly across the entire region, state, and country. Given the diversity and size of the District, we view our legislative priorities through the lens of the students we serve. As such, we have used our reach, influence, and political access to advocate for LACCD's institutional needs and for our lowest-income, most vulnerable community college students statewide. This year, we stayed that course and successfully advocated for increased state and federal dollars to increase access and improve the educational outcomes for the students enrolled in California's community colleges.

Local Government Advocacy and Community Engagement

The Legislative and Government Relations Division, with the support and leadership from the Board's Legislative and Public Affairs Committee, had another successful year. The 2023 student-centered advocacy agenda focuses on our most underserved students, further positioning LACCD as an advocacy leader and champion for community college students statewide.

Federal Advocacy

At the federal level, LACCD successfully secured an unprecedented \$7.073 million in the FY 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, signed into law by President Joe Biden on December 29, 2022. In 2022 and 2023, our federal advocacy efforts brought in a total grant amount of \$13,373,000 million, which benefits LACCD's student programs and services. The 2023 grants included five (5) Federal Appropriations Grants for four of our LACCD Colleges and one District-wide grant.

The following is a listing of the FY 2023 House Community Project Funding and Senate Directed Spending appropriations grants:

- Rep. Brad Sherman sponsored \$2 million to expand Pierce College's Applied Biotechnology Baccalaureate Degree Program.
- Rep. Tony Cárdenas sponsored \$2 million to expand Mission College's STEM Workforce and Allied Health Programs to support non-English speaking foreign-born STEM workers and those new to STEM fields interested in STEM professions.
- Rep. Karen Bass sponsored \$1 million for the Innovation and Jobs Program at West Los Angeles College and LA Trade-Tech College. These funds will provide "Mobile Learning Innovations" at LATTC, including food truck entrepreneurship, and support the LACCD California Center for Climate Change Education.

- Senator Padilla sponsored \$1.323 million to establish the Climate Change Education Center at West Los Angeles College.
- Senators Feinstein & Padilla sponsored \$750,000 to bolster the academic pipeline of historically underrepresented students in STEM and medicine and connect dislocated workers to short-term credentials in science, technology, engineering, math, and medicine.

State Advocacy

At the State level, LACCD stands out as a statewide policy leader and influencer. Since 2015, LACCD has enacted twenty-six (26) policy and budget proposals that have been chaptered into law, bringing in hundreds of thousands of dollars to community colleges in California and over \$60 million to LACCD.

This year, the Los Angeles Community College District sponsored five (5) State Legislative bills. Three of these Bills were successfully passed by the Legislature. Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 1151 (McKinnor) and AB 1096 (Fong) as stand-alone bills. And SB 715 (Rubio) was incorporated into the 2023 State Budget. In addition, LACCD sponsored five (5) State Budget priorities in 2023, three (3) of which were adopted in the 2023 State Budget, including \$10 million for LGBTQ students, ongoing for three years for a total of \$30 million, and a \$2.5 million allocation for establishing the LACCD Small Business and Entrepreneur Center at East Los Angeles College.

Local Government, Community Outreach, and Partnerships Strengthen Advocacy at All Levels

The District has continued its outreach to thirty-eight (38) cities and eleven (11) school districts to inform and educate the community about LACCD course offerings and academic or certificate programs. This year, we outreached to six (6) cities to make presentations about LACCD during their public meetings.

Deep ties with several local government officials have helped the District spread the word about LACCD educational programs and student support services. LACCD continues to build strong community partnerships to advance our mission and agenda. The LACCD has intentionally strengthened its collaborations with the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles City Hall, cities and school boards in our service area, nonprofit partners, chambers of commerce, and the business community. As two examples, we garnered the support of over fifty (50) local and statewide organizations to support our AB 1096, and received endorsements for Measure LA from the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and the Los Angeles Times.

Working in collaboration with the community-based organizations and the stakeholders that they serve has enabled LACCD to sharpen its policy agenda, strengthen its advocacy reach, and increase awareness about LACCD and the benefits of a quality post-secondary education.

Strategic Communications

LACCD public relations efforts helped shape and maintain a positive image and reputation for the District. Total media impressions from January 2023 to September 2023 reached a total audience of 2.1 billion. This included online news and licensed content, blogs, television and print. The sentiment for the District was 88% positive. This coverage equaled an ad equivalency of over \$4.1 million from January through September – this encompassed online news, television and blogs. 94% of the mentions came from the United States with 210 stories headlining or featuring LACCD.

These public relations efforts play a crucial role in boosting District efforts by enhancing communication, increasing enrollment, building a positive image, engaging the community, managing crises, advocating for funding, promoting achievements, engaging stakeholders, managing media relations, fostering partnerships, and ensuring long-term goals of diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility.

Here are some of the news articles:

[Community Colleges Looking to Increase Enrollment](#)

CBS National News – Sept 6, 2023

Chancellor Rodriguez and LAVC were featured in a nationally broadcast story to over 400 television stations in the morning and afternoon broadcast. The story reached over 38 million people nationally through broadcast, online content and blogs.

[Becky G Teams Up With Cheetos For Scholarship Giveaway](#)

Billboard – September 20, 2023

[Hope Housing for Students helps provide stable environment for California community college students](#)

KABC – August 11, 2023

[Tony Cárdenas grants LA Mission College \\$2 million to boost healthcare careers](#)

Los Angeles Daily News – July 8, 2023

[LACCD receives district accreditation - Park LaBrea News/ Beverly Press](#)

Beverly Press/Park LaBrea News – June 29, 2023

[Everybody assumes that it's like the rest of California and it's not': Rural LGBTQ students and administrators describe campus strife](#)

Cal Matters – June 15, 2023

[Community colleges offer classes in students' native languages](#)

Spectrum News 1 – May 4, 2023

[Pierce College launches its first four-year degree, in biomanufacturing – Daily News](#)

Los Angeles Daily News – April 19, 2023

[A 'game changer' for immigrants: Job-ready college classes in their native language](#)

LA Times – April 3, 2023

[UPDATE: L.A. Community College District to increase adjuncts eligibility for health coverage](#)

EdSource – April 13, 2023

[LA's Cleantech Leaders Celebrate the Start of First-of-its-Kind Academy](#)

Le Lezard – March 28, 2023

[Was Online Learning A COVID Blip? What LA Community Colleges Learned From Three Years Of Pandemic Zoom](#)

LAist – March 10, 2023

[THE POWER Celebrates IWD with an Explosive Featurette and Essay Contest](#)

Yahoo! Lifestyle – March 8, 2023

[Los Angeles Community College District chancellor named to Bass transition team](#)

EdSource – December 27, 2022

CONCLUSION

At LACCD, we remain committed to fostering a diverse, inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students, and to actively engaging with our civic partners, elected officials, non-profit and community organizations, and philanthropy to serve this region, promote inclusivity and advance social justice.

Our District prides itself on providing affordable and accessible education to all who seek it. I want to express my deep appreciation for your dedication to the success of our students and for your continued support. Each student represents immense potential and opportunity.

Together, we have the power to unleash and harness that potential, to kindle the flames of curiosity, and to cultivate skills that will shape their lives and the world around us.

Thank you and I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead,



Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Chancellor