

The Los Angeles Community College District announced on Wednesday, May 27 the cancellation of summer session classes at its nine colleges that begin on or after July 1. The district's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to cancel the summer sessions during a regularly scheduled meeting.

This action is unprecedented within the district's last two decades of operation and was taken in anticipation of vast reductions in revenues from the state to the district for the 2009-10 academic year. Board members were told to expect a budget reduction of from \$60 million to as much as \$80 million.

The Board's action to eliminate an entire summer session will mean the cancellation of more than 1,600 classes and will impact as many as 35,000 to 40,000 students. Kelly Candaele, president of the LACCD Board of Trustees, stated, "the Board is mindful of its fiscal responsibility and must insure the viability and stability of its colleges. Uppermost in our minds has been the need to continue to offer quality educational programs for our students and community. We deeply regret having to make this decision."

Classes which will be eliminated will be general education, transfer as well as vocational, including such basics as English, Math and history. Colleges will offer classes during the first summer session and will continue with a full complement of classes for the fall semester.

The district had already taken measures to reduce expenditures. In January, colleges as well as the Educational Service Center began cost cutting measures to reduce their expenditures. As a result, the District experienced savings of more than \$20 million. Savings came from decreased class offerings, reductions in purchasing and travel to implementation of a hiring freeze. In March, all academic administrators received notices that their employment for the 2009-10 year would be modified to include the possibility of a furlough of up to 15 days or a deferral of salary in like amount.