**Communications and External Relations - Office of the Chancellor** 

**NEWS RELEASE** 

## FOR MEDIA CONTACT

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## LACCD RECEIVES A SEVEN-YEAR REAFFIRMATION OF ACCREDITATION

LOS ANGELES— Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) is pleased to announce that it has received reaffirmation of its accreditation for seven (7) years from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) for each of its nine colleges that includes:

- East Los Angeles College
- Los Angeles City College
- Los Angeles Harbor College
- Los Angeles Mission College
- Los Angeles Pierce College
- Los Angeles Southwest College
- Los Angeles Trade Technical College
- Los Angeles Valley College
- West Los Angeles College

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.

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."

"This reaffirmation of LACCD's accreditation represents the unwavering dedication of our faculty, staff and administrators to maintaining the highest standards of educational excellence and ensuring student success," said Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez. "This thorough evaluation, which involves a comprehensive review of the Institution's Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) and an extensive on-site visit by a team of experienced evaluators, validates our efforts to provide a high-quality education to the communities that we are proud to serve."

LACCD began the process in June 2022. With the support and assistance of administrators, faculty, classified professionals, and students, the District and all nine colleges completed the review progression and submitted the ISER to ACCJC in October 2022. February 27 through Friday, March 10, the ACCJC conducted focused sight visits of all nine colleges as part of the standard process for reviewing and renewing college accreditation.

"The Board of Trustees is grateful for ACCJC's reaffirmation of LACCD. This vote of confidence illustrates the District and the college's commitment to successfully removing barriers for our students to ensure success and access," said LACCD Board of Trustees President, David Vela. "This affirmation proves that we are successfully meeting the rigorous standards set forth by ACCJC."

"For the past year, LACCD's focus has been to improve student learning and achievement," said Vice Chancellor of Educational Programs & Institutional Effectiveness, Dr. Nicole Albo-Lopez, who served as LACCD's Accreditation Liaison Officer. "This outside counsel was a successful confirmation of our mission to lead locally and nationally on issues related to student success, equity, and institutional effectiveness. The reaffirmation confirms that our continuous improvement efforts have paid off."

An ACCJC accreditation is significant and allows students to access federal financial aid programs, transfer credits to other accredited institutions, and assures employers that graduates have received a quality education. This seven-year reaccreditation ensures LACCD colleges are providing high-quality education and programming to the communities they serve.

ACCJC is one of seven regional accrediting commissions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The Commission evaluates community colleges and other two-year educational institutions based on rigorous standards and criteria, which encompass various aspects such as institutional mission, student learning programs, resources, governance, and institutional integrity.

The next accreditation report from the LACCD colleges will be the Midterm Report due on March 15, 2027, with each college's next comprehensive review beginning in the Fall 2029 and concluding with a Focused Site Visit in the Spring 2030.

For more information on LACCD's accreditation, please visit the <u>LACCD Educational Programs</u> and Institutional Effectiveness website.

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About the Los Angeles Community College District LACCD (www.laccd.edu) LACCD (www.laccd.edu) is the nation's largest community college district, educating about 210,000 students annually at its nine colleges that serve the residents of more than 36 cities and communities from 900 square miles of Los Angeles County. Since 1969, the District has been providing an important learning pathway for students seeking transfer to four-year colleges or universities while also offering two-year degrees and certificated training programs to Southern California's diverse workforce in many specialized trades and professions. Learn more about our L.A. College Promise program of free tuition at ourpromiseyourpath.com.

## \*\*\*LACCD Reaccreditation 2023\*\*\* | June, 2023

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