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For Immediate Release

L.A. PIERCE COLLEGE HONORED AS CHAMPION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TRANSFER TO UNIVERSITIES

Woodland Hills, Calif. – Los Angeles Pierce College has been named a 2020 Champion of Higher Education for exemplary work in implementing the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT).

“Your campus has seen one of the largest increases in ADT conferrals between the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years,” said Michele Siqueiros, President of the Campaign for College Opportunity. “We are proud to recognize your dedicated leadership in working to ensure a strong transfer pathway on your campus.”

L.A. Pierce College has created Associate Degrees for Transfer in thirty disciplines. Students get priority consideration from a California State University (CSU) campus for acceptance into their major to complete bachelor’s degrees after earning only 60 units at Pierce.

“It is an honor to be named a 2020 Champion for Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity,” said Los Angeles Pierce College President Alexis S. Montevirgen. “We are proud to be recognized for our efforts to empower students to reach their education goals through the Associate Degree for Transfer.”

The ADT was designed to provide a streamlined pathway between the state’s community colleges and the CSU system. Compared to traditional transfer students who enroll in the CSU, ADT transfers earn their bachelor’s degree nearly twice as fast.

L.A. Pierce College Articulation Officer Cristina Castelo Rodriguez says Pierce has many people to acknowledge for this achievement.

“This is very exciting news, to be a leading community college in awarding students the Associate Degrees for Transfer!

“I would like to acknowledge the diligent work of our Counseling Department Faculty members. They encourage and collaborate with students to work towards these



degrees. They are knowledgeable about what courses from other institutions can be applied towards these degrees, ensuring that students are able to finish them at L.A. Pierce College.”

Rodriguez went on to thank faculty, curriculum, admissions and communications team members who made it possible for students to take advantage of the ADTs.

“All of these constituents’ hard work is reflected in the dramatic increase in ADTs awarded from 319 in 2015-2016 to 1000 degrees in 2018-2019. It is such an honor that LA Pierce College is acknowledged for all of our endeavors.”

Details on the ADTs available from Pierce College are found at found at http://www.piercecollege.edu/offices/transfer_center/associatedegree-transfer.asp.

The Campaign for College Opportunity championed the ADT legislation, envisioning a clearer pathway for our community college students to transfer to earn a bachelor’s degree. In the last ten years, the California Community Colleges have awarded over 217,000 Associate Degrees for Transfer.

Pierce College will be recognized at a digital event, *Advancing Higher Education Equity Speaker Series: Committing to Transfer as a Key Racial Equity Strategy* on November 19, 2020. Joining the Zoom will be Honorable California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, Honorable Assemblymember Marc Berman, student leaders from the California Community College and CSU system, and other California Community College and CSU honorees. The virtual event will bring together over 300 attendees representing California’s higher education leadership, elected officials, corporate sponsors, and civic and business leaders.

Los Angeles Pierce College is recognized as one of the most respected community colleges and transfer institutions in California. Established in 1947 and located on 426 picturesque acres in Woodland Hills, the College’s comprehensive curriculum and support services enable its 21,000 students to earn associate degrees and certificates, prepare for university transfer, and gain career education proficiency. www.piercecollege.edu

The Campaign for College Opportunity is a California nonprofit bipartisan policy and research organization focused on a single mission: to ensure all Californians have an equal opportunity to attend and succeed in college in order to build a vibrant workforce, economy and democracy. For more information, visit www.CollegeCampaign.org, [Facebook.com/CollegeCampaign](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeCampaign) or follow @CollegeOpp.

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ELAC Awarded as 2020 Champion of Higher Education

MONTEREY PARK, CA – East Los Angeles College (ELAC) has been named a 2020 Champion of Higher Education by The Campaign for College Opportunity for exemplary work in implementing the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT). ELAC has shown a dedication to transfer students and this award is a validation of that effort.

The ADT provides a streamlined pathway between the California Community Colleges and the California State University (CSU) system. Compared to a traditional transfer student, ADT transfers earn their bachelor's degree nearly twice as fast from a CSU. 798 ELAC students earned an ADT in the 2017-2018 school year and that increased to 1,088 students in the 2018-2019 year. That was once of the largest increases for any California Community College.

The Campaign for College Opportunity will be recognizing ELAC during a digital event titled *Advancing Higher Education Equity Speaker Series: Committing to Transfer as a Key Racial Equity Strategy* on November 19th, 2020 from 10:30am to 12:00pm via Zoom. California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, Honorable Assemblymember Marc Berman, student leaders from the California Community College and CSU system, and other California Community College and CSU honorees will join over 300 attendees for this event.

[The Campaign for College Opportunity](#) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization devoted to ensuring that the next generation of college-age students in California has the chance to go to college and succeed. They honor schools that show exemplary efforts to improve student success every year with their Champion of Higher Education awards. To learn more about the Associate Degree for Transfer at ELAC and what degrees are available please visit our [website](#).

ELAC is in its 75th year as an academic institution and continues to serve the Los Angeles area with education needs. This academic year is a celebration of our past and an excitement for our future. To learn more about some of the key alumni in our 75 years of history please [click here](#).

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