



## OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

July 29, 2021

Dear LACCD Faculty, Staff, and Administrators:

I hope that this message finds you and your families healthy, safe and enjoying the summer.

Earlier this month, Governor Gavin Newsom signed the main budget bill; shortly thereafter the Legislature sent him the Higher Education budget trailer bill for his consideration, which he signed on July 27, 2021. The two bills provide extensive and historic investments in California's community colleges.

This past academic year, notwithstanding the impacts of a global health crisis, our District executed an ambitious legislative and budget agenda intended to build a sustainable and equitable framework to support our institutions and our students. I am proud to inform you that many of the District's priorities are included in the final budget agreement.

Thanks to our Board of Trustees, college presidents and District administrators, the AFT Faculty Guild, our budgetary and legislative advocates, and all who had a hand in advocating for the unprecedented funding that provides our District a stronger capacity to better serve and equip our students, as they transfer to the university or move into the workforce.

Specifically, the District advocated for the following state budget priorities that were included in the final 2021-22 state budget package:

**Institutional Support** to ensure that there are educational courses and job training programs for students seeking access to our institutions.

- Elimination of all Deferrals
- Extra COLA Funding – 5.07% (\$371.2 million)
- Investments in Strong Workforce Program - \$42 million in additional investment
- Outreach, Enrollment and Retention Funding - \$100 million
- Learning-Aligned Employment - \$200 million in 2021-22
- Funding for Los Angeles, Mission College Plant Facilities Warehouse & Shop Replacement - 2021-22 fiscal year funding of \$304,000. By the time the project is completed \$6.7 million of state funding will be dedicated to the project.

**Support for Student Services** that provides important wrap around services to students so that they can be successful in achieving their educational goals. These support services are particularly important for LACCD students who are disproportionately low-income, first-generation and disadvantaged students.

- Development of an LGBTQ+ Pilot Program - \$10 million
- Broadband Expansion - \$6 billion
- Investments in the Umoja, MESA, Puente, and EOPS Programs - \$74 million
- Support for Student Basic Needs Including Food and Housing Insecurity - \$100 million
- Investment in Affordable Student Housing - \$2 billion
- Expansion of Funding for Zero-Textbook-Cost Degrees and OER - \$115 million

**Support for Faculty** to hire full-time faculty to ensure that students have the greatest support necessary to complete their educational programs. Faculty are critical to the success of our students and these investments will ensure that faculty are provided the necessary resources to be successful.

- Investments in full-time faculty can be used to hire Ethnic Studies and other key faculty positions - \$100 million
- Funding to Implement Ethnic Studies Programs - \$5.6 million
- Professional Development for Faculty - \$20 million

We will incorporate these investments into the District's 2021-22 Final Budget presentation and public hearing at the September 1, 2021, Board of Trustees monthly meeting. You are invited to attend this public meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you for the outstanding work that you are accomplishing every day under unprecedented circumstances, and thank you for your uncommon dedication to the success of our students. Your resiliency and resolve are simply remarkable. I am looking forward to what we can do—together—in the next year.

**LACCD Proud. You are simply the best of us!**

With my deepest admiration and respect,



Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.  
Chancellor  
Los Angeles Community College District