

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2025 4:28 PM
Subject: President/CEO Message - July 31, 2025

Campus Community,

We're all juggling a lot right now—closing out the summer term, preparing for fall, and finalizing budgets for the new fiscal year. So, while I intended for this to be a short message... let's say it's a focused one. This week, I want to highlight our ongoing efforts around enrollment and recruitment—something I always keep top of mind, because bringing in new students and supporting the ones we have is truly a campus-wide effort.

Over the next two days, we're hosting two special events on campus that all Compton College employees and students are invited to attend.

First, as mentioned in the [President/CEO Message – July 17, 2025](#), we've been proud to host the Voices of Tomorrow: Summer Enrichment Program over the past two weeks. Designed to help high school students in grades 9–12 discover, develop, and amplify their voices, the program will conclude with a Final Showcase on **Friday, August 1, 2025, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Compton College Multipurpose Room.**

Second, as highlighted in the [President/CEO Message – July 24, 2025](#), this week, we welcomed students for our annual Summer Band Camp, a collaboration with our K-12 partners in the Compton and Lynwood Unified School Districts. The camp will wrap up with a final performance on **Saturday, August 2, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in the Football/Soccer Stadium.**

Today's President/CEO Message includes an update on fall enrollment numbers, a summary of our current enrollment management and recruitment efforts, an update on the 2025-2026 Compton CCD Budget, and more.

Enrollment Update as of July 31, 2025

- 1,189 FTES for the Fall 2025 semester. Our fill rate for fall is 47% with 8,070 seats filled.

Please encourage students to [check the class schedules on the Compton College website](#), meet with an advisor, and register early to ensure a smooth start to the semester. ***Every Full-Time Equivalent Students Counts!***

Compton College Enrollment Management and Fall Recruitment

Fall 2025 outreach is ongoing with billboard campaigns along the 91 and 405 freeways, targeted social media ads promoting career education and the Oliver W. Conner College Promise program on Facebook and Instagram, and ESL-focused digital banners on [La Opinión](#). A [final registration mailer](#) will reach District residents by **August 15, 2025**, and additional advertising, including on-air radio spots and print ads, will continue through September to support enrollment efforts.

To further support enrollment, our Outreach team will be personally calling Spring 2025 ESL students who have not yet registered, encouraging them to continue their academic journey at Compton College this fall.

[General Information brochures](#) are available for faculty and staff who interact with prospective students and community members. Stop by the Community Relations Office (Room 112, Administration Building) and grab a handful to keep on hand. Let's spread the word about all the great things happening at Compton College!

Compton College Real #114 Leadership Academy

Thank you to the following Compton College employees for their participation in the 2025-2026 Real #114 Leadership Academy cohort:

- Mariana Cervantes – CalWORKs Program Specialist
- Ariadne Keys – Records Specialist, Admissions & Records
- Alexis Linares-Sierra – Program Manager, First Year Experience
- Felicia Marshall – Student Services Advisor, STEM
- Daniel Miranda – Administrative Assistant, M&O
- Nicole Smith – Job Placement Specialist

- Leaniva Tuala – Student Services Advisor, Business & Industrial Studies

This year's theme is focused on communication, strategy, adaptability, and presence. Now the leadership academy participants will engage in designing and executing a leadership project, contributing to the growth of our community, and supporting the goals of the [Compton College 2035, Comprehensive Master Plan](#). Please be on the lookout for more information on the project that is being developed by this cohort. Special thanks to Dr. Pilar Huffman, director of professional development, for coordinating the 2025-2026 Real #114 Leadership Academy. Also, special thanks to the many Compton College presenters for their involvement with this year's program.

Compton Community College District 2025-2026 Final Budget

As mentioned in the [President/CEO Message – July 10, 2025](#), and the [President/CEO Message – July 24, 2025](#), we are working on the 2025-2026 Compton CCD Final Budget, which will be presented to the Compton CCD Board of Trustees at their meeting on **Monday, September 8, 2025**. I wanted to share the updated [Compton CCD Final Budget Assumptions](#) for your review, which is available here. Please note, the assumptions are subject to change as we are still working to close the district's 2024-2025 financials.

Final Thoughts

In previous President/CEO Messages ([March 28, 2025](#), and [May 2, 2025](#)), I shared that the [College Futures Foundation](#) is focused on advancing economic mobility for underserved learners in California through postsecondary education. As part of this work, College Futures partnered with Michael Itzkowitz of the [HEA Group](#) to release two important reports: [Golden Opportunities](#) and [California College Programs That Pay](#). These reports examine how long it takes low- to moderate-income students to recoup their educational costs, based on institution type and program of study.

Additionally, the College Futures Foundation and the HEA Group launched the [California Mobility Index \(CMI\)](#), a new ranking system for the state's four-year colleges and universities. The CMI evaluates institutions based on inclusivity and economic outcomes—specifically, how well they serve low- and moderate-income students and the return on investment (ROI) they deliver. The index includes 82 institutions serving nearly 800,000 undergraduates.

After the Golden Opportunity Summit on **April 28, 2025**, I also shared with the campus community that a similar analysis is underway for California's community colleges. The upcoming report, *Golden Returns: A Regional Look at the ROI of California Community and Career Colleges*, will be released on **Thursday, August 7, 2025**. This new study will evaluate ROI across 327 community and certificate-granting colleges in California's 12 economic regions—highlighting where students are seeing strong returns and where there's room for improvement.

As ROI becomes a central topic in higher education, it's critical that we understand and use this data. At Compton College, we're committed to ensuring students complete their education on time and are prepared to transfer or enter the workforce with livable wages. That's the heart of our [Compton College 2035, Comprehensive Master Plan](#). The conversation in higher education is shifting—from simply providing access to ensuring student success, both here and beyond.

In collaboration with our planning consultant and the College Futures Foundation, we're exploring a new [Compton College Institutional-Set Goal for 2035](#) focused on student ROI. My goal is to establish an Institutional Goal for 2035, focusing on ROI, by the end of fall 2025. Once the Golden Returns report is released, we'll use its findings to shape this goal and share more in future [President/CEO Messages](#).

Please enjoy your Friday and weekend with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D.
(he/him/his)
President/CEO
Compton College