



NEWS

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Compton College Achieves Federal Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Designation

Compton College recently achieved its goal of achieving a federal [Hispanic Serving Institution](#) (HSI) designation, which can open avenues to pursue HSI sources of funding and create increased opportunities for students to excel and achieve their goals.

HSIs are one of several federal Minority-Serving Institutions designations from the U.S. Department of Education for institutes of higher education that categorically or historically enroll a targeted racial/ethnic group. Colleges and universities that enroll a minimum of 25% of full-time degree-seeking Latinx students, with at least 50% demonstrating financial need, are eligible to apply for HSI status.

As California's largest ethnic group, the success of Latinx students is critical to keep the state's economy strong. Latinx students also represent the largest ethnic group at Compton College, comprising 61% of the student population in 2019.

"Being a HSI college is an important designation and one that shows our commitment to ensure that all students, especially those from historically marginalized communities, have opportunities to succeed," said Dr. Keith Curry, Compton College President/CEO.

"I know the struggles many in my community face to obtain an education and in many cases, students need additional help to complete their studies and graduate. Taking a leadership role in offering programs and services that meet the needs of our students is essential to creating an academic environment that is inclusive and accessible."

Compton College had previously received a HSI designation as part of its partnership agreement with El Camino College, which lasted from 2006-2019. When Compton College became an independent institution, separate data was gathered and submitted confirming Compton College's eligibility under Title III and Title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008.

"Receiving this designation as a HSI institution is important to our mission of being a leader in student learning and success in higher education," said Compton Community College District Board President Sonia Lopez. "Helping our students achieve a bright future is integral to the economic future of our region, state, and country and we look forward to providing even more opportunities for our students to succeed."

Lauren Sosenko, Compton College's director of institutional effectiveness, led the application process, partnering with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), and Congresswoman Nanette Diaz Barragán's office.

"Congratulations to Compton College on being awarded Title III and Title IV designations from the U.S. Department of Education," Congresswoman Barragán said. "Compton College plays a critical role in our community, training and teaching our youth so they may achieve their goals. Compton College will now be able to access additional resources to better serve students and our entire community. I'm proud our joint effort made this designation possible. I look forward to continue working to improve access to affordable and high-quality higher education."

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About Compton College

Compton College is the community's education solution offering a full complement of transfer and degree courses, as well as career and technical education. Students may earn an associate degree or certificate, transfer to a four-year university or train for a career. Compton College is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.

About the White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative

The White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative seeks to improve access by Hispanic Americans to educational and economic opportunities that lead to economic prosperity. For more information view: <https://sites.ed.gov/hispanic-initiative/752-2/>.