



# NEWS

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## **Compton Community College District Receives Grant Approval for Student Housing Project**

On June 26, 2022, California lawmakers moved to include a student housing grant totaling \$80,389,000 in the 2022-2023 State Budget for the Compton Community College District (CCCD) to build its proposed 250-bed student housing facility on the Compton College campus. The grant funds are made possible under [Assembly Bill 183 – Higher Education Trailer Bill](#). In fall 2021, the Compton Community College District prepared a Compton College Student Housing Proposal and submitted an application and supporting documentation to the California Department of Finance for the student housing grant.

“I am proud to have supported AB 183 in the California State Senate, which provided over \$80 Million for Compton College to build student housing,” said Senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardena). “I commend the State for directing these vital resources to the campuses and programs that need them the most. Students should not have to worry about their next meal or where they will sleep at night. Nearly 63 percent of students at Compton College experience housing insecurity, these numbers are alarming, and we must do everything we can to provide basic needs for our students so they can focus on their academic success. Providing student housing is vital to student success, not only as a need for shelter but living on campus encourages student learning and engagement. Under Dr. Curry’s leadership, Compton College continues to break down barriers and create a positive impact on students and the community.”

The proposed Compton College student housing will be located at the northeast corner of campus. Phase one of the 86,000-square-foot building will include four floors of affordable student living quarters with 100 percent occupancy earmarked for eligible low-income students. The facility will provide three types of living configurations: 50 double-room units with access to shared bathrooms and common spaces, 50 double-suite units with bathrooms and access to common spaces, and 50 studio units for single occupants for a combined total of 250 beds. Amenity spaces will include study areas/lounges, and shared kitchens. Phase two of this student housing project will include an additional 200 beds with a mix of double and single occupancy units.

The planned Compton College housing project utilizes a prefabricated modular design and includes a series of unit types intended to support a variety of living situations. Prefabricated modular construction is recommended to expedite completion, limit disruption on campus, and create a model, or kit of parts, that can be replicated at other California Community Colleges.

“I’m proud that Compton College will be the first community college in Los Angeles County to offer on-campus housing for students,” said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Holly J. Mitchell, representing the Second District. “Everyone deserves a great college experience, one where they are able to learn without having to worry about where they will sleep for the night. Studies have shown that students living on campus have greater academic success and personal growth. I’m thrilled that Compton College is moving in the right direction to provide students with stable housing and the living experience they rightfully deserve.”

Assemblymember Mike Gipson (D-Carson) has been an advocate for community colleges as a state legislator since 2014. He has supported Compton College President Keith Curry’s visionary model to bring student housing to the Compton Community College District. “This is a huge victory for the students, families and businesses in Compton,” said Assemblymember Gipson. “Congratulations to Dr. Curry, the board of trustees, and college leadership for holding a transformative vision of Compton and Compton Community College District as a ‘college town.’ Colleges with dorms help stimulate the economy, fight homelessness, address housing affordability, and increases college going rates and persistence. This is a win for Compton and it’s a model for urban colleges statewide.”

Compton College serves as a pathway for many students to improve their financial status through education. Having student housing on campus supports students’ ability to be more focused on education and career goals, offers a safe environment for student well-being, and helps create and foster a sense of independence for students. Additionally, on-campus student housing gives Compton College an opportunity to better support marginalized and impacted groups such as foster youth, veterans, and formerly incarcerated students, all of whom report high percentages of basic needs insecurities.

“Having this grant approved is a dream come true as it will provide a crucial resource for Compton College students, many of whom face housing insecurity,” said Sonia Lopez, Compton Community College District Board of Trustees president. “The Board has supported Compton College President/CEO Keith Curry’s ongoing vision of on-campus student housing. For the last several years, Dr. Curry has continuously advocated and lobbied at our state capital for assistance with the basic needs of community college students. We are grateful these efforts by all involved have finally been recognized and a student housing facility at Compton College will soon become a reality.”

Compton College continues to be a leading example of innovative ideas regarding how to best support the basic needs of students. Depending upon the final approval of the California State Budget, it is estimated construction could begin on the Compton College student housing facility in the summer of 2023.

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### **About the Compton Community College District**

Board meetings are usually held the third Monday of each month and are open to the public. The District is located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA 90221.