



January 22, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

Here at Cerritos College, we are in the business of changing lives, and this semester presents us with an incredible opportunity to continue shaping the future. Our shared goal—ensuring 50% of students complete their journey within five years—requires our collective effort, focus, and commitment. Consider the impact we are making in our daily interactions with students. Every time we guide a student—helping her finalize her CSEP, encouraging her to take transfer-level English, or empowering her to complete her first 15 units—we create a ripple effect. Each success not only builds her confidence but also inspires her to aim higher.

Together, we are already making tremendous strides towards our main goal. This academic year:

74% of first-time students completed their CSEP early in their academic journey.

66% attempted 15+ degree-applicable units in their first year.

55% are tackling transfer-level math and English together.

These accomplishments represent the **highest milestones in our college's history**. When students reach these small victories, it strengthens their dedication to their goals. This momentum inspires them and motivates those around them. Success fosters further success. We are nearing our first-year benchmark, putting us on track to achieve our goal of graduating 50% of our students within five years. Today's figures showcase our collective efforts and our ability to overcome challenges, and most importantly, they reaffirm my belief that by working together, we can successfully achieve our goal.

Whether through teaching, advising, or encouraging students through daily interactions, each effort you make is part of a larger mission. By focusing on early milestones, we're not just tracking numbers—we're building futures.

Let's continue this incredible work by asking ourselves:

How can we help more students take their first critical steps toward success?

What can we do to reinforce the habits that lead to long-term achievement?

Colleagues, your work to uplift our students does not go unnoticed. I appreciate your unwavering dedication and for being the driving force behind our students' achievements. As we continue working on our shared goal, I know that we will transform these early wins into a lasting legacy of success for Cerritos College.

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