



# Connections

## Re-Entry Program

March 2023  
Vol.3

The Re-Entry Resource Program is designed to support adult learners, 23 years or older, who are new to college or returning after a break of three or more years.

Connect with Shannon Estrada in the Re-Entry Program at: [sestrada@cerritos.edu](mailto:sestrada@cerritos.edu)

### The Inside Scoop – All things Re-Entry

To register/RSVP for our workshops, please visit the Re-Entry Program website at: <https://www.cerritos.edu/re-entry-program/workshops-and-events.htm>

Attend **3** Re-Entry Program workshops and/or events by the end of this semester to receive a **\$20 bookstore gift card!**

Attend at least **1** Re-Entry workshop and be entered into a drawing to win a **\$50 bookstore gift card** at the end of this semester!

Sign up for our workshop on **Thursday, 3/2 at 11 a.m. on Zoom.**

#### Time Management Workshop

Having trouble getting organized? Want to be more productive in college? Our workshop will cover prioritizing your time, getting organized, goal setting, and much more.

Join our workshop on **Tuesday, 3/7 at 11 a.m. on Zoom**

#### Stress Management Workshop

The goal of this workshop is to help students identify sources of stress and explore tools to help regulate their nervous system and instill a greater sense of focus and balance in daily life.

Sign up for our workshop on **Thursday, 3/16 at 11 a.m. on Zoom**

#### Resources for Student Success

Join us for an overview of the Cerritos College Success Center, Welcome Center, and Student Activities and learn about the various services and resources each office offers and how they can help you be a more successful student.

#### 14th Annual Community Resource Fair on Wednesday, 3/29 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m on the Library Sidewalk.

Stop by and speak with local social service and community resource agencies to find out about the services they offer and the resources available to you, learn about volunteer opportunities, and enter our opportunity drawing to win fabulous prizes!

Have a quick question? Need a counseling appointment? Pop into the Re-Entry Drop-in session on **Zoom** every Wednesday between 4 p.m.–5 p.m.

### Campus Corner

It's not too late to register for Spring 2023! The second 9-week classes begin on March 20. Summer enrollment begins on Monday, March 6. Check your MyCerritos portal for your enrollment appointment date.

Having issues securing your books and/or supplies this semester? The Falcon's Nest wants to help! Contact Viviana Guzman at [vguzman@cerritos.edu](mailto:vguzman@cerritos.edu) for more information.

The deadline to apply for the Cerritos College Foundation scholarships is on Friday, March 3. Make sure to submit your application now! If you have questions, contact Lakeisha Wright in the Foundation at [lwright@cerritos.edu](mailto:lwright@cerritos.edu)

**Employer Panel** – Thursday, March 9, from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. in the Science Building, Room S101. Employers from Disneyland, Childcare Careers, and Living Well Home Care will be on hand to talk about and answer questions on hiring practices, hiring trends, critical skills needed on the job and give tips on effective resume writing and interviewing skills. See [website](#) for the flyer.

**The Cerritos College Continuing Education Division** is celebrating the 9th Annual Women's Conference in Spanish, "Empowering Women in the areas of health, education, and civics". Saturday, March 11, from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Student Center. See [flyer](#) for information about reserving a seat.

**Spring break** will be March 13-19 and the campus will be closed on Friday, March 17.

**L.A. Regional Food Bank Distribution** – Wednesday, March 22, from 9am – 11am in Lot 1 near Falcon Stadium. Everyone is welcome.

**FREE Income Tax Preparation** – Saturday, March 25, from 9 a.m – 3 p.m. in BE 116. Free parking in Lot 6.. See [flyer](#) for additional information.

**Career Café** - Monday, March 27, from 11a.m – 12 p.m. in MP 201. Stop by and meet our counselors, ask any questions you might have and grab some cookies and a cup of coffee.

**GET YOUR TAXES DONE FOR FREE**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), is a service designed to help individuals with an income of \$50,000 or less file their taxes at no cost.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023**  
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
BUSINESS EDUCATION BUILDING  
ROOM 116  
CERRITOS COLLEGE CAMPUS  
1115 ALONDRA BLVD  
NORWALK, CA 90651

Make an appointment at <https://www.cerritos.edu/volunteer>  
Walk-ins Welcome

**Free Parking in Lot 6**

**WHAT TO BRING TO THE SITE**

- For married filing joint, both spouses must be present
- Proof of identification (photo ID) for yourself and/or your spouse
- All Forms W-2 and 1099
- Information for other income and all deductions/credits
- A copy of last year's tax return
- Social Security card or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for you, your spouse, and dependents
- Bank account and routing number (for direct deposit refund)
- Forms 1005-A, B, or C (ACA Statements)
- If you are an eligible owner of electronic transcripts from IRS (and state, if applicable)
- State business license with a star (Schedule C) or capital gains (Schedule D)

Questions? Contact us through [volunteer@cedivision.com](mailto:volunteer@cedivision.com) or phone 562-922-2776, ext. 3100 or [cedivision.com](http://cedivision.com)

## Financial Aid News

Have you applied for FAFSA or CADAA for Spring 2023? If not, [submit the 2022-2023 FAFSA or CADAA](#) today! It's not too late.

Thinking ahead to next fall, now is the time to submit the 2023-2024 [Financial Aid application \(FAFSA or CADAA\)](#).

We have more money than ever in grants! You may also qualify for the [Golden State Education and Training Grant \(GSETG\) Program](#) which supports Californians who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic with

a one-time grant of \$2,500 for reskilling, up-skilling, and accessing educational programs to get back into the workforce.

The Financial Aid Office is here to help! For questions or assistance with your FAFSA/Dream Act application, Financial Aid offers daily Zoom sessions and in-person services. Check the website for times and Zoom links. You can also email your questions to [finaid@cerritos.edu](mailto:finaid@cerritos.edu).

## Student Support

- [Academic Support](#)
- [Basic Needs](#)
- [Career Services](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Re-Entry Program – Helpful Resources](#)
- [Student Health Services](#)



## Campus Spotlight: Jessica Padilla (Re-Entry Student)

When I was thinking about going back to school, my biggest concern was that I would be the oldest in my classes and unable to keep up with fellow students. Let me tell you.... that is the dumbest thing to be worried about. After much reflection, I've come to the conclusion that my lack of ambition in my 20s is what prevented me from finishing my studies. I currently have some of the best grades I have ever had in college. Now that I'm older, I can see how higher education will benefit my children's lives, and I'm eager to finish what I started.

When I was younger, I often perceived my professors as harsh and unforgiving, believing they had no interest in seeing me succeed. But as I've gained a greater understanding of the educational process, I've come to see that this was not the case. Professors are there to help guide their students toward success, not to ensure their failure.

I am so happy to say that I have had so much help this time around. I have had assistance with everything you can think of: financial aid, enrolling in classes, and even scholarships (shout out to Lakeisha from the Foundation). I won 2 scholarships last semester. Shannon from the Re-Entry Resource center is always available and ready with helpful resources. The help is there. You just need to ask for it! I hope this reaches someone on the fence about returning to school. You can do it, and you are not alone.



## Monthly Motivation

"Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow know what you truly want to become."

—Steve Jobs



CERRITOS  
COLLEGE

Re-Entry  
Program



Visit the Re-Entry Program Website  
for more information

<https://www.cerritos.edu/re-entry-program/>



Like us on

**Facebook**