

January 2026
Vol.1

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

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 by the end of this semester to receive a \$20 bookstore gift card!



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



Spring Semester Welcome Gift – Stop by the Re-Entry Program office in MP 201 anytime during the month of January through the end of February to pick up a folder, spiral notebook and some other supplies to help start off your semester.

Sign up for our workshop on
Wednesday, 1/14 at 5:00 pm on Zoom
MyCerritos/Canvas Overview

Explore your MyCerritos portal and Canvas, the online “classroom” platform. This session will include tips on using your portal and setting up access to Canvas, how to find information, submitting assignments and other topics to familiarize yourself before the semester begins.

Sign up for our workshop on
Thursday, 1/15 at 2:00 pm in MP 213
Scholarship Workshop

Join us as we walk through the Cerritos College Foundation scholarship application step-by-step. Get inside tips on writing your personal statement and on how to submit your best application.

Additional workshops are being offered on the following dates:

- Tuesday, 1/20 at 11:00 a.m. in MP 213
- Monday, 1/26 at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Sign up for our workshop on
Wednesday, 1/21 at 4:30 pm on Zoom
Financial Aid 101 for Re-Entry Students

Uncertain how to finance your education? Do you wonder if you are eligible as a Re-Entry student? Discover the basics of financial aid, eligibility, what to do if your financial situation changes and other topics unique to our returning students.

Sign up for our workshop on
Thursday, 1/22 at 2 p.m. in MP 213
Returning to School: How to pick up where I left off

Returning to school after an extended break can seem daunting (or even scary) and you may be wondering how you can get back on track. Join us for a conversation with our career counselor, Dr. David Young, and get some pointers on picking up where you left off.



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

Campus Corner

It's not too late to register for the Spring 2026 semester! The 15-week session begins on Monday, February 2, and the 2nd 9-week session begins on Monday, March 23. If you have questions or need a counseling appointment, reach out to the Re-Entry Program at reentry@cerritos.edu.

If you plan to attend the Summer 2026 semester and are not a continuing student, the application is available now. If you've skipped at least one semester, you will need to reapply.

Math Bootcamp – Tuesday, January 6 – Friday, January 9, from 9am – 2pm. This is for students enrolled in Statistics or Precalculus in Spring 2026 and is designed to give you a massive headstart and the confidence you need to excel in your spring courses. Free lunch will be provided. See linked flyer for QR code to register.

CHEM 110 Kickstart – Tuesday, January 6 – Friday, January 9, from 9am – 4pm. This is for students enrolled in Chem 110 in Spring 2026. This is also designed to help give you a headstart and the confidence to excel in your Chemistry class. Free lunch will be provided. See linked flyer for the QR code to register.

FREE Hot Cocoa Bar and Treats - Career Services wants to extend a warm welcome to our students for the Spring 2026 semester! Stop by MP 201 on Tuesday, January 13 and Wednesday, January 14 between 10am – 4pm for a cup of hot cocoa and some goodies!

Campus Closed – The campus will be closed on Monday, January 19 in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

L.A. Regional Food Bank Distribution – Wednesday, January 28, from 9am – 11am in Lot 1 near Falcon Stadium. Everyone is welcome.

Spring 2026 Foundation Scholarships – Apply for scholarships beginning Monday, January 12. Have questions? Attend a workshop or contact the Re-Entry office for more info.



TAP INTO YOUR SUPERPOWER—BECOME A **MATH HERO**

CERRITOS COLLEGE

MATH BOOTCAMP

WINTER 2026

Training Schedule
Bootcamp: January 6-9, 2026, 9 am-2 pm
FREE lunch provided!

Training Steps

- Strengthen your math powers
- Defend against test anxiety
- Team up with expert tutors
- Unlock the path to success

Your origin story starts
Scan the QR code

Questions?
Contact Math Motivator Aemiro Beyer
at abeyene@cerritos.edu

CERRITOS COLLEGE Mathematics

CHEM 110 KICKSTART: UNLOCK YOUR INNER SCIENTIST

Start the new year with a chemical reaction for success!

Workshop Dates: January 6-9, 2026
Time: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FREE Lunch Provided!

Scan or click the QR code to save your spot:

Questions?
Contact Professor Kevin Chen at
kchen@cerritos.edu

CERRITOS COLLEGE Science, Engineering, Mathematics

CHANNEL YOUR SCIENCE SUPERPOWER

- Master chemistry basics before the semester begins
- Explore hands-on experiments that make learning come alive
- Team up with Cerritos' top chemistry faculty
- Boost your confidence in labs and lectures
- Connect with other future scientists

EVEN ANIME HEROES NEED TRAINING ARCS!

Financial Aid News

THINGS TO KNOW:

1. The 2026-2027 FAFSA and CADAA are NOW AVAILABLE for next year! Complete/Renew a FAFSA at (studentaid.gov); CADAA applicants can apply at (<https://dream.csac.ca.gov/landing>)
 - a. Check this link to determine which financial aid application is for you: (<https://www.csac.ca.gov/apply>)
2. The 2026-2027 State Priority Deadline is **March 2, 2026. Submit your financial aid application before this date!**
3. Financial Aid SATURDAY Application Workshops are BACK! [Click here to see dates](#) when you can join us to receive assistance in completing your FAFSA or CADAA application... on a SATURDAY!
4. Is your major FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBLE? [Check here](#) to find out!

How to Receive your Disbursement?

Make sure to set up your BankMobile profile to receive your disbursement! If you have completed Financial Aid Steps 1-3, then you should have received a 'Personal Code' in the mail to create your BankMobile profile.

Didn't receive a code? Click on this [BankMobile link](#) and select "i need a code" to manually generate a code. Contact us for further assistance.

Cal Grant – Web Grant 4 Students Account

Reminder to check your personal email to confirm if you received an email from **CSAC (California Student Aid Commission)** to **create a WebGrants 4 Students account**. CSAC sent emails to Cal Grant recipients to create a WebGrants 4 Student account and verify your school of attendance. If you have received an email, please complete the account creation process to receive your Cal Grant award.

MUST KNOW for Financial Aid Recipients

- **SAP (Satisfactory Academic Progress)**
 - ❖ SAP standards must be met each semester to maintain financial aid eligibility.
 - ❖ [Click here to view SAP STANDARDS.](#)
- **Pell Grant is limited to 600%!**
 - ❖ If you are enrolled as a full-time student every year receiving 100% of Pell, then you will max out your Pell grant in 6 years.
 - ❖ Check your Lifetime Eligibility Used (L.E.U) by logging in to the [Student Aid Website](#)
- **Cal Grant is limited to 4 years!**
 - ❖ If you are enrolled as a full-time student every year receiving 100% of your Cal Grant, you will max out your Cal Grant in **4 years**.
 - ❖ Check your Cal Grant remaining eligibility at [WebGrants 4 Students](#)

For additional information or questions, please contact the financial aid office for assistance View Office,

Phone: (562) 860-2451 ext. 2397

Student Support



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

Student Spotlight: Candy Loya

My name is Candy Loya, and I am currently a student at Cerritos College who is transferring to CSU Dominguez Hills. I am majoring in Sociology and plan to use my knowledge to pursue a Master's degree in Social Work. My ultimate goal is to help women who have been abused, both physically and mentally, and aid in the rehabilitation of prisoners. I believe that my unique background and acquired skills will allow me to help women gain confidence in themselves and overcome substance abuse.

I chose to attend Cerritos College because of the immense compassion and care they give their students. Every academic professor and staff member at Cerritos pushes you to succeed and makes you feel at home. I especially appreciate the professors who were strict with me, as they understood my potential and did not want me to fall behind. I have a hard time meeting basic needs and struggle with my mental health, but Cerritos' Falcon Nest and Mrs. Pamela Sepulveda have helped me receive all kinds of vital support, from housing and food to financial assistance. Eric and Shannon from the Foundation and Re-Entry Program have helped me apply to scholarships and grants, and the counseling and SAS department have been with me every step of the way. My professors believe that the knowledge I have gained from classes such as Marriage and Family, Culture, Mental Health, and Sociology, combined with my background, has equipped me with the necessary skills and insight for this career path.



I come from a drug-dealing family and faced stressful situations, constantly moving place-to-place and worried about drug narcs finding us. My father was a hard-working man who took good care of our family growing up but he was influenced by some bad people and became part of the cartel, selling drugs for money. He was very physically and sexually abusive towards my mom and I. This abuse, coupled with later abuse from my ex-husband, caused me to grow up struggling with major depression and anxiety, often distancing myself from reality as a child and young adult. I had a planned pregnancy at 16 but after the birth of my daughter, I faced substance abuse as a way to cope with my past and present mental and physical issues. After having my three children, I realized that I needed to stop using substances and be more responsible, as the risk of losing my kids was too high. I suffer from PTSD and generalized stress, but I feel as if my past has guided me to help others that also suffer from similar situations. My hope is to help women find solutions for coping with mental obstacles without relying on medication or other substances. I also aspire to help females at juvenile detention centers and prisoners, because I believe that not everyone who has been convicted is inherently bad and that they deserve to be heard and guided to a better future.



I earned my communication degree in 2010. However, after going through therapy, I realized my true passions lay in sociology and law. In 2023, at the age of 45, I returned to school at Cerritos to begin the pathway toward earning my master's and doctorate degrees in those fields. Since starting at Cerritos, I have faced ups and downs. In the middle of my education, I suffered a stroke, but the Cerritos staff assisted me greatly throughout my recovery. I hope that when people read about my journey, they are inspired to realize that no matter their age or background, they can still advance in life. I want to be a good example that no matter what challenges you are facing, you can still accomplish your dreams. I know my family and friends are proud of me, especially now that I am one step away from achieving my academic goals.

Monthly Motivation

The magic in new beginnings is truly the most powerful of them all."

—Josiyah Martin



Re-Entry Program



Visit the Re-Entry Program Website
for more information

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