

News Release



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Cerritos College Receives \$1.6 Million in Local Share to Strengthen Workforce Programs from the Chancellor's Office

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NORWALK, Calif. – September 1, 2016 – Cerritos College received \$1,572,942 from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office's <u>Strong Workforce Task</u> <u>Force</u> to strengthen the College's career technical education (CTE) programs to meet regional labor market needs.

The Chancellor's grant will provide funding for the College to partner with the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Investment Board (SELACO WIB) to align its CTE programs with regional and industry needs and prepare students for jobs needed within the regional labor market.

This local share allocation was based on supply and demand of graduates in the region, and is the first of three allocations that the College will be receiving. Future allocations will be based on program outcomes such as number of certificates granted and wage increases of students who have completed a CTE program.

An associate of arts degree in career technical education returns a salary of \$66,000 per year on average five years after the graduation, according to the Chancellor's Office's salary surfer.

"We are thrilled by this opportunity," said Dr. Nick Real, instructional dean of Technology at Cerritos College. "The funding will help us provide students with relevant skills and quality credentials that match employer needs and fuel a strong economy."

About Cerritos College: Cerritos College serves as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college's district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Norwalk, and portions of Bell Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, Santa Fe Springs and South Gate. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently averages 23,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at http://www.cerritos.edu/.