



Media Alert

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Cerritos College Announces Two Years of Free College through its Promise Program Cerritos Complete

PRESS CONFERENCE: February 12, 2019, 10 a.m. | **EMBARGO DATE:** February 12, 2019, 10 a.m.

Media Contact: Aya Abelon, Public Affairs; (562) 653-7878

WHAT: Cerritos College will officially announce its second year of free tuition through its award-winning Promise Program, **Cerritos Complete** on **Tuesday**, **February 12**, **10** a.m.

Cerritos College's Promise Program is part of a statewide effort to increase access to higher education for traditionally underrepresented students. Out of 115 California community colleges, Cerritos College is approximately one of a dozen to offer students their first two years of free tuition.

As lawmakers pass legislation (AB 19 and AB 2) to expand campus Promise Programs across the state to offer one free year of college, Cerritos College's initiative goes beyond the typical model. Unlike traditional Promise Programs, which solely focus on free access to education, **Cerritos Complete** combines extensive wrap-around student support services and resources that address both **access** and **completion**. In addition to providing a smooth transition from high school to college, **Cerritos Complete's** reward system encourages students to complete a degree, certificate, or transfer on time.

At the press conference, Cerritos College President/Superintendent Dr. Jose L. Fierro will share key points related to Cerritos Complete and more information about the second year of free tuition for students. Current Cerritos Complete students will provide testimonials about the program.

WHEN: Tuesday, February 12, 2019, 10 a.m.

WHERE: Cerritos College, 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650.

EVENT SITE: Fine Arts Building Quad Area | Parking available in #Lot 10 (Off of Studebaker and New Falcon Way)

Campus Map: www.cerritos.edu/guide or <a href="www.cerri

CONTACT: For more information, contact Aya Abelon, <u>aabelon@cerritos.edu</u> or (562) 653-7878

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/.