



**Cerritos College**  
Building Futures Through Learning



## News Release

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### **Unprecedented 1,800 High School Grads Start Two Years of Free College with Award-winning Promise Program Cerritos Complete**

Cerritos College kicks off new school year with new programs and upgrades

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**NORWALK, Calif. – August 19, 2019** – Today, students heading back to Cerritos College for the fall 2019 semester will see several upgrades and new programs.

*Cerritos College welcomed more than 1,800 new high school graduates into its Promise Program **Cerritos Complete** this fall semester. Beginning this semester Cerritos Complete offers two years of free tuition to students who are committed to achieving success. The award-winning program offers personalized support to help students graduate from college in less time. On August 13, the College hosted a kick-off event for participating students from ABC, Bellflower, Downey, Lynwood, Norwalk-La Mirada, Paramount Unified School Districts, and Field of Dreams Charter School. Since its inception in 2015, Cerritos Complete has benefited **4,376** students. Cerritos College is one of only 12 California community colleges that offers two years of free tuition.*

*With its continued focus on student completion, the campus also unveiled its new **Stats in Motion** program, which offers a creative way to teach students math concepts. The pilot program is a partnership between the mathematics and athletics departments and provides academic support to student-athletes in an untraditional way. The curriculum is customized for athletes using game scores, team performances, and rankings to make content more relatable and identifiable. While student-athletes are playing their respective sports, they are also learning how to apply math to the game.*

Creating a healthy campus environment that encourages and supports student success is critical. The College is introducing peer educator programs for sexual assault violence prevention and advocating for a fresh air campus smoking policy. The brand new **Health & Wellness Complex** that opened in April is the College's first green-certified building. The Complex centralizes essential functions to the Health, Physical Education, Dance and Athletics department and the Student Health Center, making it a more accessible, efficient facility where students can receive quality education and health care services.

*"We are thrilled to welcome new and continuing students to our campus. Our goal is to provide students with all of the resources and they need to complete their education. Our programs like Cerritos Complete and Stats in Motion reduce barriers*

*to help students reach their goals. We will continue to invest in developing innovative programs that help students successfully complete a degree, certificate, or transfer on time," said Dr. Jose Fierro, president/superintendent, Cerritos College.*

**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/>.*

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