



Cerritos College
Building Futures Through Learning



News Release

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Cerritos College Receives U.S. Department of Education Grant to Create Teacher Pipeline to Advance Educator Diversity

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Norwalk, Calif. – February 10, 2021 – Cerritos College's award-winning [TeacherTRAC program](#), in partnership with The Center for Collaborative Education (CCE), El Camino College, and Rio Hondo College, received **a three-year, \$9 million** U.S. Department of Education grant to advance equity in teacher representation by increasing the number of underrepresented groups.

The **prestigious** Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) grant was awarded to only 12 of 120 applicants in the United States. Teacher TRAC will receive roughly \$900,000 over three years to contribute to setting up The Community Partnerships for Teachers Pipeline (CPTP).

The CPTP will increase teacher diversity in local Los Angeles communities, and will improve outcomes for disproportionately impacted students in our local public schools. Students will be provided with a certificated teacher mentor in PreK-12 or community college, a success coach, workshops and hands-on classroom experiences while taking pre-credential coursework. The program also includes a focus on special education, early childhood education, and STEM teaching roles. The CPTP will ultimately serve as a model for teacher pipelines nationwide, ensuring that students and teachers across the country have what they need to succeed.

"We are thrilled to be part of the CPTP project, which will expand opportunities for our Teacher TRAC students and assist us in our efforts to diversify the teaching force in our local classrooms. This project will be critical in meeting this demand and addressing the needs of the students in our community," said Colleen McKinley, director of Educational Partnerships and Programs at Cerritos College.

Teacher TRAC has been preparing students to become highly qualified PreK-12 teachers for 21 years. The program has provided more than 2,000 students with a seamless transition to earning a bachelor's degree and teaching credential at universities including California State University, Long Beach. To date Teacher TRAC has trained more than 800 teachers who work across Southern California and nationally, and has regional partnerships with five districts and 44 schools.

For more information about Teacher TRAC visit www.teachertrac.com.

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. Enrollment currently averages 21,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at <http://www.cerritos.edu/>.

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