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Rep. Linda Sánchez secures \$1 million to expand Cerritos College Child Development Center

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NORWALK, Calif. – March 27, 2024 –

Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez secured \$1 million in federal funding to support the expansion of Cerritos College's Child Development Center (CDC). The funding comes from the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024, which President Biden signed into law on March 9. In a surprise to the audience, Congresswoman Sánchez presented the check to the college at its State of the College address on March 27.

Congresswoman Sánchez's securing of funds will be in addition to the \$782,000 in state funding secured by California Assemblymember Blanca Pacheco in 2023. Together, the funding will support the CDC's planned expansion to meet growing demands and provide more training and educational services to our community.



Rep. Linda Sanchez and College officials holding a ceremonial check

The funding is crucial to Cerritos College's goal of eliminating educational barriers for our students. Inadequate access to affordable and quality childcare is one of the most common barriers cited by student parents. Through the expansion of the CDC, Cerritos College will be able to offer more world-class childcare services for our students and provide greater training opportunities for our early childhood education students.

"The new federal funding brings us one step closer to expanding the CDC facility and increasing its offerings with more flexible formats," said Cerritos College President/Superintendent Dr. Jose Fierro. "We are grateful for Congresswoman Sánchez's support of our program. It is our goal to enhance our acclaimed childcare services, hands-on student training, and access to education to better serve our community and our students."

"I'm proud to deliver this check to Cerritos College's award-winning Child Development Center," said Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez. "We all know the benefits high-quality childcare brings to families."

This funding will help ensure the center can continue to provide that service to our community while training the teachers of tomorrow."

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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