

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>

Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 10:53 PM

President/CEO Message - July 30, 2026

Campus Community,

Compton College hosted the All-City Summer Band Camp this week, with approximately 100 high school students from Lynwood, Dominguez, Compton, and Compton Early College High Schools participating. The campus community is encouraged to attend the camp's 2026 performance on **Saturday, August 1, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Compton College Stadium. The event is open to the public, and free parking will be available in Lot A.

Compton College was recently featured in Inside Higher Ed for its planned effort to connect certain basic needs supports with academic milestones beginning in fall 2027. This approach is part of our broader commitment to helping students meet their basic needs while also staying on track toward completion, transfer, and career readiness. The article includes my perspective on why student success, completion, and sustainability must be addressed together, as well as feedback from national basic needs experts. Click [here](#) to read the **Tuesday, July 28, 2026**, Inside Higher Ed article by Sara Weisman.

This week's message includes a fall enrollment update, an update on the new legislation regarding Federal Loans, and a final reminder about the August 3 deadline to pay for fall classes.

Compton College Fall 2026 Enrollment Update

As of **July 30, 2026**, Compton College has generated 1,150 FTES for Fall 2026. In addition, 7,936 seats, or 43% of available seats, are currently filled. Fall headcount is 5% higher than last year, at 3,689 students.

As part of our fall enrollment efforts, a [postcard](#) will be mailed to all in-District residences next week to encourage prospective and continuing students who have not yet registered to enroll for the fall semester. The [postcard](#) highlights available classes, extended student services hours, the Welcome Center, and the **August 19, 2026, New Student Welcome Day**, which will help new students complete remaining enrollment steps before the semester begins.

This outreach supports our ongoing efforts to fill available seats, particularly as we anticipate some enrollment changes following the **August 4, 2026, [drop-for-nonpayment deadline](#)**. A final reminder will be sent to students who have an outstanding balance of \$200 or more on **August 3, 2026**, indicating 6:30 p.m. is the cutoff to make a payment.

2026-2027 Compton CCD Final Budget Assumptions

Consistent with [Administrative Regulation 6201 – Budget Calendar](#), the Vice President of Administrative Services annually updates the Compton Community College District Tentative Budget in preparation for the Final Budget. The [2026–2027 Final Budget Assumptions](#) were shared with the [Planning and Budget Committee](#) this week and will be shared with the [Consultative Council](#) and presented to the Board of Trustees on **August 17, 2026**. The Final Budget is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Trustees for review and approval at the **September 14, 2026**, Board of Trustees meeting.

Federal Direct Loan Update

As first noted in the [President/CEO Message – July 16, 2026](#), Compton College is preparing to notify returning students who received a federal student loan about upcoming changes under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act that may affect their loan eligibility for the 2026–2027 academic year.

Beginning with the 2026–2027 academic year, students who choose to participate in the Federal Direct Loan Program may see reduced loan eligibility if they are enrolled in fewer than 12 eligible units. Students must be enrolled in at least 6 eligible units to qualify for a Federal Direct Loan, and students enrolled in 6–11 eligible units will receive a prorated annual loan amount based on their enrollment intensity.

A comprehensive loan webpage is currently being developed and will be included in the message to students. Employees who work directly with students are encouraged to refer students to the Financial Aid Office once the student communication is sent.

In addition, we have updated the [Compton College Institutional Set-Goals 2035 Dashboard \(See page 4\)](#), which is now available and includes more detailed financial aid award information, including data on students who have participated in the Federal Direct Loan Program. The dashboard allows users to drill down by department and program participation, providing additional information to help us better understand student financial aid activity and loan participation across the College.

Final Thoughts

Last week marked the conclusion of the #REAL114 Leadership Academy, a dynamic leadership experience that brought together an exceptional cohort of higher education professionals for meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and reflection. Throughout the week, participants explored strategic leadership, equity-minded decision-making, leading through change, the history of California community colleges, and the power of everyday leadership to advance student success through engaging sessions with higher education leaders.

Congratulations to Kenyatta Joseph, Rahni Baughman, Alicia Zambrano, Mario Hernandez, Chantal Gurrola, Monica Dixon, and Annette R. Simmons on completing this milestone. Wishing you all continued success as you learn, grow, and lead with purpose throughout the year ahead.

The agenda for the mandatory Fall 2026 Professional Development Day on **Thursday, August 20, 2026**, is available [here](#). I look forward to seeing everyone as we begin the fall semester on **Saturday, August 22, 2026**, and continue our work together to support student success.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D.
(*pronouns: he/him/his*)
President/CEO
Compton College