

# Accreditation and the Process Forward

## Transition Planning Document

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### Overview

From the inception of the partnership, both the El Camino Community College District (ECCCD) and the Compton Community College District (CCCD) have been fully committed to obtaining independent accreditation for El Camino College Compton Educational Center. On June 7, 2017, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) announced that ECC Compton Center had [achieved initial accreditation](#). Then on July 17, 2017, the Board of Governors for the California Community Colleges approved [Resolution No. 2017-2](#) recognizing Compton College as the 114th California Community College.

When the partnership began, a primary objective was to provide quality educational programs and services for student success. By initiating new student programs and expanding current offerings, student success has become a focus throughout Compton College. Academic programs initiated or expanded during the last 12 years include: Supplemental Instruction, First Year Experience, student-led tutoring, a nursing simulation lab, honors transfer classes, guaranteed transfer partnerships, Upward Bound Math/Science, Brother & Sisters mentoring program, Formerly Incarcerated Student Transition program (FIST), a debate team, the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor and Scholarship Society, and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities transfer program.

Additionally, student success is evident through the increase of Compton College students earning degrees. The annual Academic Awards Tea recognizes the college's best and brightest, including honors transfer students, Presidential Scholars and scholarship recipients. Through financial aid assistance and an ongoing awareness campaign, El Camino College, via Compton College, continues to provide financial support for students. Scholarships to students totaling more than \$31,500 were awarded to 39 students in 2017-2018.

Compton College has initiated a variety of new academic offerings, in addition to enhancing existing career and technical education programs, including cosmetology, robotics, aerospace fastener manufacturing, career advancement, fire academies, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC). Compton College is also participating in the Strong Workforce Program - a \$200 million program designed to boost CTE programs on community college campuses throughout California.

In fall 2015, a new Early College High School was established in partnership with the Compton Unified School District. In addition, partnerships establishing pathways with the Compton and Lynwood unified school districts, Compton College and CSU Dominguez Hills have been implemented.

To make college education more accessible and affordable, Compton College signed the "Lynwood Promise" agreement with the Lynwood Unified School District on May 10, 2018 to provide guaranteed admissions and one year of paid enrollment fees to Compton College for all LUSD graduates beginning in fall 2019. This is the second Compton College Promise partnership agreement, following Compton Unified School District, which was the first Promise partner. Class of 2018 graduates who enroll at Compton College for fall 2018 will be the first students to participate in the Compton College Promise program. Compton College is also developing its third College Promise partnership with Paramount Unified School District.

Work continues on Measure CC and state capital outlay-funded facilities projects, with many campus improvements including a new central plant, upgraded main north/south road and parking lots, a renovated football stadium, campus theater, and new cosmetology facility. Two significant milestones in facilities improvements include the 2016 grand opening of the 20,000-square-foot Allied Health Building and the 2014 grand opening of the 45,000-square-foot Library-Student Success Center. In 2014, voters approved Measure C, a \$100 million dollar facilities bond for Compton College.

## **Completed Activities**

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Since beginning the process to apply for Accreditation Eligibility, the following activities/events have been completed:

### **Spring/Summer 2012**

1. Continued coordination of the assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) statements in the Student Services and Academic Affairs areas. Compiled documentation shows revisions to courses and programs that improve student learning and are based on SLO assessments.
2. Documented evidence showing strong links between the budgeting and planning processes.
3. Implemented fiscally sound policies and procedures in the Business Office.
4. Resolved all CCCD prior year audit findings.
5. Reconstituted the Fiscal Integrity Accreditation subcommittee.
6. Continued transferring the functions performed by ECC on behalf of Compton Center to CCCD offices and personnel.
7. Hosted a collegial consultative Planning Summit.
8. Produced and distributed widely, an update to the "Process to Accreditation" document.

### **Fall 2012/Spring 2013**

1. Published and distributed eligibility information to internal and external audiences.
2. Hosted open forum to discuss status of readiness to submit eligibility application.

### **Fall 2013**

1. Reviewed Accreditation Steering Committee checklists regarding accreditation eligibility readiness.
2. Posted to the Portal the third draft of narrative document that describes Compton Center's status in meeting the 21 eligibility criteria; reviewed document with the El Camino College Cabinet, senior management and other constituencies.
3. Hosted a collegial consultative Accreditation Summit on September 26, 2013.
4. Held open forum on December 5, 2013 to discuss the third draft of the narrative document.
5. Published information on El Camino College and ECC Compton Center websites.
6. Hosted community workshops in concert with CCCD Special Trustee Advisory Committee.

### **Spring 2014**

1. Reviewed the CCCD 2012-2013 fiscal year audit to determine if the CCCD meets the ACCJC fiscal eligibility requirements.
2. Presented a copy of the third draft of the Eligibility Application to the ECCCD and CCCD Board of Trustees for review and comment.

### **Fall 2014/Spring 2015**

1. Completed writing Eligibility Application.
2. ECC Compton Center Accreditation Liaison Officer initiated contact with the chair of the Accrediting Eligibility Committee to review the final draft.
3. El Camino College submitted the Eligibility Application to the Accrediting Commission Eligibility Committee on January 25, 2015.
4. The Commission's Eligibility, Candidacy, and Initial Accreditation Committee reviewed the final Eligibility Application and supporting documentation.
5. The President/CEO of the Accrediting Commission informed ECC Superintendent/President on March 18, 2015, that the Eligibility Proposal for ECC Compton Center was approved.
6. Produced and distributed widely, an update to the "Process to Accreditation" document.

### **Summer 2015**

1. ECC Superintendent/President and CCCD Special Trustee met with the ACCJC to discuss the timelines for submitting the ECC Compton Center Self-Evaluation Report and application for Accreditation Candidacy, as well as the subsequent visit by the ACCJC evaluation team.

## **Fall 2015**

1. ECC Compton Center began preparing to apply for Accreditation Candidacy, which includes a self-evaluation report.
2. ECC Compton Center's Accreditation Self-Evaluation Steering Committee established standards committees that align with the ACCJC 2014 Accreditation Standards and requested volunteers from faculty/staff to participate on the standards committees.
3. At ECC Compton Center's faculty/staff Professional Development Day on August 21, 2015, ACCJC President/CEO presented the keynote address to explain the new Accreditation Standards adopted by the ACCJC in June 2014. ECC and ECC Compton Center began working on the initial Self-Evaluation Report for candidacy.
4. Training began for Accreditation Standards committee members on how to write to the Accreditation Standards.
5. Standards committees reviewed and discussed sub-standards and began gathering evidence to support the narrative.
6. Completed findings and evidence for the standards.

## **Spring 2016**

1. Completed descriptive narratives for all parts of each accreditation standard.
2. Completed self-evaluation for each accreditation standard and identified Actionable Improvement Plans.
3. Standards committees reviewed first draft of Self-Evaluation Report for accuracy, and provided edits.
4. Editors completed second draft of Self-Evaluation Report.
5. Draft of the Self-Evaluation Report posted on ECC Compton Center and El Camino College websites.
6. Held two accreditation forums: May 5, 2016 at ECC and May 10, 2016 at ECC Compton Center.
7. ECC Superintendent/President, CCCD Special Trustee, and Provost/CEO held meetings with California Community Colleges Chancellor and Chancellor's Office staff, ACCJC President/CEO and staff, and area assembly and senate representatives regarding ECC Compton Center and the Self-Evaluation Report.

## **Summer/Fall 2016**

1. Completed the consultation process for Self-Evaluation Report.
2. Performed final editing of the Self-Evaluation Report.
3. Revised ECCCD and CCCD [Partnership Agreement](#).
4. ECC Superintendent/President, CCCD Special Trustee, and Provost/CEO met with California Community College Chancellor and staff regarding ECC Compton Center and the Self-Evaluation Report.
5. Presented copy of the Self-Evaluation Report to ECCCD Board of Trustees for review and comment.

## **Spring 2017**

1. January 6, 2017, submitted the [ECC Compton Center Self-Evaluation Report](#) to the ACCJC, along with the letter of application for Accreditation Candidacy.
2. ACCJC's external evaluation team visited ECC Compton Center March 6-9, 2017.
3. On June 7, 2017, received notification from ACCJC that Compton College achieved candidacy and initial accreditation.
4. Compton College Provost/CEO title change to President, Compton College and CEO, CCCD.

## **Summer 2017:**

1. Updated the "[Accreditation and the Process Forward](#)" document.
2. Established the ECC/Compton College Transition Team. First meeting was held July 11, 2017.
3. Created a [Partnership Transition Plan](#).
4. Established subcommittees and developed schedule for monthly meetings.
5. Implementation of the [Compton District Recovery Plan/Funding Request](#) in the amount of \$11.3 million.

## **Fall 2017**

1. The [Quality Focus Essay](#) was submitted to ACCJC for review on November 22, 2017.
2. CCCD approved several new Informational Technology Services Department staff job descriptions.

## **Spring 2018**

1. ACCJC at its January 10-12, 2018 meeting, reviewed and accepted the Compton College Quality Focus Essay-Special Report. The [ACCJC action letter dated January 26, 2018](#) is available online.

2. Two Substantive Change Application forums were held: February 24, 2018 at Compton College and May 8, 2018 at ECC.
3. In March 2018, CCCD purchased the Ellucian Banner Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System for Compton College.
4. The draft of the Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control from El Camino Community College District to Compton Community College District was presented at the May 14, 2018 ECCCD Board Meeting, and at the May 15, 2018 CCCD Board Meeting.

## **Projected Timeline Going Forward to “Change in Local Control”**

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### **Summer 2018**

1. Monday, June 18, 2018, the ECCCD Board of Trustees received for a second reading, and subsequently approved, the Compton College Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control.
2. Tuesday, June 19, 2018, the CCCD Board of Trustees received the Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control for information and discussion.
3. Wednesday, June 20, 2018, the Compton College [Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control](#) was submitted to the ACCJC.
4. Implementation of the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) PeopleSoft system for budget, requisitions, purchasing, and accounts payable.
5. Community Forum scheduled for July 14, 2018, to provide CCCD residents and Compton College students an update on accreditation, facilities, academic affairs, Compton College Promise, and career training.
6. ACCJC Substantive Change Committee reviewed the Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control document.
7. Received notification from ACCJC regarding Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control.

### **Fall 2018**

1. If Substantive Change Application: Change in Local Control is approved, then the CCCD will request the California Community Colleges Chancellor to issue an Executive Order declaring that Compton College will operate as an independent college under the authority of CCCD effective June 7, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.
2. California Community Colleges Chancellor approves CCCD request, and issues an Executive Order declaring Compton College will operate as an independent college under the authority of Compton CCD effective June 7, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.
3. CCCD and ECCCD Board of Trustees to receive and approve resolutions terminating the partnership effective June 7, 2019 at 11:59 p.m.
4. CCCD President/CEO and ECC Superintendent/President to send separate letters to the Chancellor’s Office informing the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges that the partnership will be terminated effective June 7, 2019, at 11:59 p.m.

### **Spring 2019**

1. Compton College students to begin registration for summer 2019 and fall 2019 terms.

### **Summer 2019**

1. Compton College to offer summer term under the authority of CCCD Board of Trustees.
2. Partnership between ECCCD and CCCD to conclude on June 7, 2019, at 11:59 p.m.

7/18/2018