



NEWS

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El Camino and Compton Community College Districts Finalize Agreement

El Camino Community College District's Board of Trustees approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Monday to provide educational and necessary support services to residents of the Compton Community College District commencing this fall semester which begins Aug. 26. The El Camino Board made three amendments to the original MOU addressing giving notice to exit the agreement, timeframe for finalizing negotiations for a formal contract and indemnification for El Camino.

On Tuesday, the Special Trustee for the Compton Community College District approved the amended version of the MOU.

The immediate goal of the plan is to provide the students and residents of Compton with access to accredited community college programs and services without interruption and in a way that minimizes disruption to students.

"We are pleased to be moving forward with a program to assist the students at Compton Center in obtaining access to and success at an institution of higher education," stated Thomas M. Fallo, Superintendent/President of the El Camino Community College District.

A copy of the final MOU is available on the El Camino College Website at <http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/publicrelations/eccupdates.asp>

The El Camino College Compton Center will offer fully accredited El Camino College courses on the Compton campus. The overall goal of the plan is to assist the Compton campus with recovery and full accreditation as a two-year public college within the next five to eight years.

The Compton Center offers a full range of credit and non-credit offerings, as well as financial aid, and related student support services. Compton Center will also maintain its own Associated Student Body organization, independent and separate from the El Camino College campus. In addition, pending approval from the Commission on Athletics of the Community College League of California, Compton Center will field its own intercollegiate athletic teams as it has in the past.

As for financial issues, Compton Center's budget will be jointly developed and approved by El Camino College and Compton. Compton will continue to provide fiscal and administrative oversight of programs separate from the Compton Center, such as Compton's bond program.

The plan also outlines the role of Dr. Doris Givens, the newly named provost of the El Camino College Compton Center. As provost, Givens will oversee daily operations of the Compton campus and report to El Camino Superintendent/President Thomas M. Fallo for these operations.

This plan is the culmination of much work by both campuses, which began in late June, when the Legislature approved and the Governor signed legislation that outlines the parameters for a community college district to enter into an agreement with the Compton Community College District to provide accredited instructional programs to students residing in the Compton district.

El Camino College is in good standing with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), and has successfully completed the accreditation cycle to secure accreditation until 2008. Established in 1947, El Camino College serves about 26,000 students each semester. The district is one of the largest single-campus two-year institutions in the state, serving the communities of El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lennox, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach and Torrance.

The Compton Center serves the communities of Compton, Carson, Lynwood, Paramount and parts of North Long Beach.

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