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Recent High School Graduate Attends El Camino College Compton Center to Become First in Her Family to Go to College; Benefits from New Transfer Legislation

Recent Lynwood High School graduate Nataly Mora is the first person in her family to attend college. Beginning her first year of studies in late August 2010, Mora chose to attend El Camino College Compton Center because the location is convenient to her home and she wanted a school with a “small campus atmosphere.”

“I like that the campus is smaller,” said Mora. “I would probably not be comfortable at a larger institution for my first time attending college.”

She also knows that she will attend a larger campus in the future. “My goal is to graduate from El Camino College Compton Center with an associate degree and then transfer to a four-year university in California,” said Mora. “I definitely plan to transfer and I am considering a career in the criminal justice field.”

As far as staying on track with her educational goals, Mora will get all the help she needs at ECC Compton Center’s Transfer Center. The Transfer Center helps students with the university application process, provides campus tour field trips, and offers workshops covering all aspects of the transfer process.

Mora and other students at ECC Compton Center are among the tens of thousands of students statewide who will benefit from a new streamlined process to transfer to a CSU institution. On Sept. 30, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law SB 1440, a bill that aims to facilitate the transfer of California Community College (CCC) students to the California State University (CSU) system. The statute goes into effect in fall 2011.

As part of a two-bill transfer reform package, SB 1440, the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act, requires for the first time in the state’s history that California community colleges offer associate degrees for transfer to the CSU that would include only those courses required by the four-year university and would guarantee recipients admission with junior status. Students will be required to complete 60 units with a grade point average of at least 2.0.

The other bill in the transfer reform package, AB 2302, complements SB 1440 by strengthening implementation of the transfer reform pathway by requesting that the University of California system develop a transfer associate degree pathway similar to that of SB 1440.

ECC Compton Center Student Transfer Access 2-2-2-2

Mora says she is looking forward to transferring to a four-year college/university, but in the meantime wants to make the most of her experience at ECC Compton Center. “College is a must, and the only way to do better in my life,” she said. “I am proud to be the first person in my family to go to college.”

About El Camino College Compton Center

El Camino College Compton Center is the community’s education solution offering a full complement of transfer and degree courses, as well as career and technical education. Students may earn an associate degree or certificate, transfer to a four-year university or train for a career. Many classes are available and offered at an affordable price—fees are only \$26 per unit. The catalog and class schedule for day, evening, weekend and online courses is available on the website at www.compton.edu or may be picked up at ECC Compton Center located at 1111 E. Artesia Boulevard, Compton, CA. For more information, call 310-900-1600.

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