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For Immediate Release

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El Camino College Compton Center Reminds High School Seniors, College-Bound Students of March 2 Deadline to Apply for Financial Aid

El Camino College Compton Center's Financial Aid Office offers a reminder that the deadline for applying for a Cal Grant is Wednesday, March 2, 2011. A Cal Grant is one of the best ways to get cash for college—it is a cash award that you don't have to pay back! Depending on the type of grant a student receives, the money can be used for tuition, books or supplies. This is great news, especially in light of Governor Brown's proposed fee hikes for California community colleges that could happen later this year.

Students are encouraged to apply for financial aid today to get cash for college, even if they think they may not be eligible. Research shows that while hundreds of thousands of California's community college students are eligible for federal Pell Grants (worth up to \$5,550 each), most do not apply. In 2009-2010, \$500 million federal grant money went unclaimed!

The first step in gaining access to financial aid is to fill out the free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. One application is all that is needed to apply for both state and federal grants. It is important that students apply by the March 2 priority deadline in order to receive financial aid for the fall 2011 semester, and to have the best chance of receiving both institutional and federal aid.

For more information about grants and scholarships, and to get assistance with the application process, contact the Financial Aid Office, Room E-17, at 310-900-1600, Ext. 2935.

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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