

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2025 8:08 PM
Subject: President/CEO Message - July 10, 2025

Campus Community,

Happy New Fiscal Year! I hope everyone enjoyed their Fourth of July holiday and the start of the second six-week summer session. Everything is happening so fast—the Compton College Commencement Ceremony took place almost a month ago, yet it still feels like yesterday.

Last week, I had the opportunity to visit the site in Idaho where the student housing modular units are being built. It's exciting to see the progress as we move into week 30. I still can't believe we're just two years away from opening a housing project that began as nothing more than a ***"Freedom Dream."***

On ***June 27, 2025***, Governor Gavin Newsom signed the [Budget Act of 2025](#), outlining approximately \$321 billion in total state expenditures. This includes \$228.4 billion in General Fund spending—an increase of nearly 8% compared to the 2024–25 enacted budget. This growth reflects the strategic use of reserves and special fund transfers to help address a projected \$12 billion deficit.

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, in collaboration with the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA), the Association of Chief Business Officials (ACBO), and the Community College League of California, has released the [2025–2026 Joint Analysis of the Enacted Budget](#). This comprehensive resource provides a shared factual foundation to support further analysis and implementation across the system. For ongoing updates and additional resources, please visit the [California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Budget News Page](#).

Over the next few weeks, we will review the enacted budget and make necessary adjustments to the 2025-2026 Compton CCD Tentative Budget as we prepare the 2025–2026 Compton Community College District Final Budget, which will be presented to the Compton CCD Board of Trustees at their meeting on ***Monday, September 8, 2025***.

Please mark your calendar for the mandatory Fall 2025 Professional Development Day: ***Thursday, August 21, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.***, in the Gym. All full-time employees (faculty, Classified professionals, and managers/supervisors) are required to participate in the mandatory Fall 2025 Professional Development Day. We are working to finalize the agenda and anticipate sending it to all Compton College employees before ***Thursday, July 31, 2025***.

Today's President/CEO Message includes information on New Student Welcome Day, peak registration hours, an invitation to a groundbreaking ceremony, and more.

Enrollment Update as of July 10, 2025

- 538 FTES for the **Summer 2025** term. 4,515 (79%) of the available summer seats are currently filled.
- 955 FTES for the **Fall 2025** semester. Our fill rate for Fall is 38% with 6,338 seats filled.

Summer 2025 is looking solid so far—we're right on track with FTES and 6% ahead in headcount compared to this time last year. There are still some open seats in "Late Start" classes, so if you know interested students, please encourage them to reach out to the instructor right away for an authorization code. Most of these classes will stop accepting new students in just a few days.

On the other hand, fall 2025 is running a bit behind. We're currently 6% down in headcount and 4% behind in FTES and total enrollment compared to Fall 2024. ***With 44 days to go before the semester starts, now's the***

time to help get the word out. Please remind students to register as soon as possible. And, as always, encourage them to take a full course load if possible—it's one of the best ways to stay on track for graduation or transfer.

New Student Welcome Day – Wednesday, August 20, 2025

All students (current and prospective) are invited to attend the New Student Welcome Day at Compton College on **Wednesday, August 20, 2025**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Students will learn about Compton College and the excellent student resources available to help them succeed in college, take a campus tour, participate in workshops, and have the opportunity to win prizes! For more information and to RSVP for the on-campus event, click [here](#).

Fall 2025 Peak Registration Hours

To better serve new and current students during the busy registration period, Student Support offices will offer extended hours from **August 18, 2025**, through **September 5, 2025**. Offices will be open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For added convenience, services will also be available on **Saturday, August 23, 2025**, from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Please note that all support will be provided in person during this time—remote services will not be available. Take advantage of these extended hours to get the help you need!

Explore STEM! A High School Summer Enrichment Activity

Compton College is proud to host the fourth annual Explore STEM!, a dynamic summer enrichment program designed to inspire K–12 students, strengthen ties to the College, and expand educational access within our community. This year's program will run from **August 4, 2025**, through **August 8, 2025**, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in Instructional Building 2.

The week kicks off with two exciting days of hands-on physics and math activities centered around rocketry, followed by two days of robotics, where students will build and code their own creations. The program wraps up with engaging workshops in chemistry and biotechnology.

Interest in Explore STEM! has been exceptional, with over 60 applications received. We reached our full capacity of 30 participants a month before the deadline, and additional students have been placed on a waitlist.

This year, 93.3% of participants come from our local feeder high schools:

- Compton Unified School District: 53.3%
- Lynwood Unified School District: 23.3%
- Paramount Unified School District: 16.6%
- Other districts (Long Beach, Downey): 6.7%

Recruitment efforts between March and May included over 30 presentations at local high schools, reaching more than 800 students. We also partnered with high school staff and Compton College faculty, sending over 100 follow-up emails and a final text blast via CRM Advise in **spring 2025** to maximize outreach.

For more information about Explore STEM!, please contact Lorena Fonseca, MESA Program Manager, at lfonseca@compton.edu.

Visual and Performing Arts and Physical Education Groundbreaking Ceremony

A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for **Monday, October 13, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.** for the Visual and Performing Arts and Physical Education complexes. This is going to be a great day for Compton College and the Compton Community College District, as these are significant projects for our students and the community. *A long time coming.*

President/CEO Closing the Loop

Over the past couple of weeks, many decisions have been made, and I want to share some of those decisions with the campus community:

1. We are pleased to announce that Felecia P. Hatten has been appointed as the Interim Associate Registrar at Compton College. Felecia brings a wealth of experience from her role as an Evaluations Specialist in Admissions and Records. Felecia is a proud recipient of the 2025 Civility Champion award and the 2016 Distinguished Staff Award, reflecting her dedication and excellence in service. Please join me in congratulating Felecia on this well-deserved opportunity.
2. We are delighted to welcome Acting Police Sergeant Melvin Young to his new role with the Compton College District Police Department. Sergeant Young brings over 30 years of law enforcement experience, having retired from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office in 2021. His extensive background includes leadership in the college bureau, gang investigations, patrol, traffic, and specialized units. Since joining Compton College in 2021, he has served as a Police Officer, Field Training Officer, and Detective. Please join me in supporting Sergeant Young in this leadership role.
3. To streamline services and enhance program coordination, we will not be filling the currently vacant Coordinator of Student Services (Student Equity) and Foster Kinship Care Education (FKCE) Program Technician positions. Instead, we will hire a Program Manager who will assume the responsibilities of both roles. The Human Resources Department will announce the new Program Manager position next week.
4. To support the hands-on training required for a new noncredit Phlebotomy program, the old Fashion Technology lab in the Vocational Technology (VocTech) Building will be repurposed as instructional space. This location offers the necessary facilities and environment to meet the program's specialized instructional and certification requirements.

Final Thoughts

As a follow-up to the [President/CEO Message – May 2, 2025](#), in which I shared the Legislative Update: State and Federal, and my concerns about the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Reconciliation Process. Now, with the recently passed [One Big Beautiful Bill Act](#), which was approved through the Budget Reconciliation Process, presents both opportunities and significant concerns for our students, particularly those from low-income, first-generation, and historically underserved backgrounds. The bill [expands the Workforce Pell](#), allowing Pell Grants to be used for short-term job training programs. This long-awaited change is a significant win for community colleges and could open doors for students seeking to gain skills and enter the workforce quickly. We will continue to monitor the implementation of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act and provide updates in future [President/CEO Messages](#).

In closing, Spectrum News in Los Angeles recently did a story on the one-meal-per-day program for Compton College students at the Everytable Cafeteria. When you have a moment, you can view the story [here](#).

Sincerely,

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