

From: Keith Curry <kcurry@compton.edu>
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2025 4:43 PM
Subject: President/CEO Message - November 21, 2025

Campus Community,

This week's President/CEO Messages covers several important items and is very long.

Yesterday, the Trump Administration filed a [federal lawsuit against the State of California](#) challenging the state's long-standing practice of offering in-state tuition to undocumented students under certain conditions. The lawsuit targets [Assembly Bill 540](#), which allows students who graduate from California high schools, including those without legal immigration status, to qualify for in-state tuition.

We are closely monitoring this legal matter and will share updates with the campus community as more information becomes available.

Let us be clear: Compton College and Compton Community College District remain unwavering in our commitment to the safety, dignity, and well-being of every member of our campus, especially undocumented students, immigrant students, and those from mixed-status families. Every student belongs here. Every student will be supported.

As a follow-up to my [President/CEO Message - January 31, 2025](#), I'm sharing an update on advocacy around the nursing shortage in Los Angeles County. On *Wednesday, November 19, 2025*, we released the Los Angeles County Nursing 2035 Report (attached), which addresses a critical issue: the county faces nearly 5,000 open RN positions annually but graduates only about 4,400 nurses. Limited residency slots, inconsistent hiring pathways, and high early-career turnover worsen the gap—putting patient care at risk without urgent regional action.

The report, [FROM PIPELINE TO PATHWAY: Strengthening Los Angeles County's Nursing Workforce for the Future](#), outlines strategies to expand instructional and clinical capacity, align ADN-to-BSN pathways, strengthen transition-to-practice programs, and build shared regional data systems. These steps will guide cross-sector planning to ensure we can train, hire, and retain enough nurses for a strong healthcare system. Read the full report and press release here:
<https://losangelesrc.org/new-first-of-its-kind-report-calls-for-regional-action/>.

Our Fall Athletic season has officially wrapped up, and we're excited to transition into Basketball! Home games tip off in December—don't miss the action. We are proud of all our student-athletes and their many accomplishments. Congratulations to all fall sports teams! Check out the full schedule at <http://www.comptoncollegeathletics.com>.

Today's President/CEO Message also includes an update on the 2026 Commencement location, a holiday health reminder, information on student housing referrals and COTP letters, and more.

Enrollment Update – November 20, 2025

- 281 FTES for the Winter 2026 term. 2,478 (75%) of the available Winter seats are currently filled.
- 534 FTES for the Spring 2026 term. 3,748 (23%) of the available seats are currently filled.

Winter 2026 enrollment is strong, with headcount up 12% and FTES up 21% compared to last year, and 75% of seats already filled—students should register soon. Spring 2026 enrollment is tracking close to last year, so please continue to encourage students to register early.

Compton College Campuswide Forum

All employees are invited to join a virtual campuswide forum on **Tuesday, November 25, 2025**, at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom. The focus will be on enrollment, the [2025-2026 Compton Community College District Budget](#), [Compton College 2035](#), and Return on Investment and Economic Mobility. To participate, please use this link to register in advance for the [November 25, 2025, Campuswide Forum Online Registration](#). This is a great opportunity to stay informed and share your voice in shaping our future.

Dates and registration links for the future virtual campuswide forums are available [here](#).

Important Update for CalWORKs and CalFresh Students

Effective November 17, Grocery Outlet gift cards and additional Farmers' Market vouchers have been discontinued. Everytable will provide extra free meals to eligible students through **today, November 21, 2025**.

Compton College Student Educational Plans

As part of [Compton College 2035](#), we are focused on the [Return on Investment \(ROI\) and Economic Mobility Framework](#). ROI and Economic Mobility have been highlighted in several previous President/CEO Messages ([March 28](#), [May 2](#), [July 10](#), [July 31](#), [August 7](#), [August 29](#), [September 19](#), [September 26](#), [October 24](#), [November 7](#), and [November 14](#)). These efforts center on removing barriers to student success and accelerating completion with equity in mind.

I have recently asked questions about students' educational journeys and the barriers to their success. Last week, I reviewed our MIS Student Educational Plan (SEP) data from **Fall 2023 through Spring 2025**, which showed that **4,257 SEPs** were completed, while **16,224** were not – that means only 21% of students have received an SEP. The data also shows:

- Hispanic/Latino students had the highest SEP completion rates, followed by African American/Black and Multiracial students
- 36% of students accessed at least one counseling service; 17% received multiple services
- Among EOPS participants, 42% received an SEP and 83% received counseling services.

A well-developed SEP helps students use financial aid wisely, avoid unnecessary units, and stay on track for transfer or graduation. It also reduces time-to-degree, saving students money and frustration.

Our [Administrative Regulation 5110 Counseling](#) already aligns with California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Section 51018, which sets statewide standards for counseling programs. To improve student outcomes and prepare, Compton College will strengthen processes outlined in [Administrative Regulation 5110 Counseling](#), fully implement tools like DegreeWorks, keep program maps current, and develop systems for timely student notifications.

This is an opportunity to align Guided Pathways, counseling, and technology to ensure every student has a clear roadmap to success. Furthermore, completion of educational plans is part of all our responsibilities. We need to follow up with students in the classroom and through support services who don't have educational plans and work with them to schedule counseling appointments.

When we talk about accelerating student completion with a focus on equity and success, we cannot ignore that too many students are missing this critical step. ***Together, we can change that, and this will be a priority for our institution.***

Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP): How to Qualify

Compton College's Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) has been established to assist students who need temporary or emergency housing services. Students can be referred to the Student Equity Office for intake and referral, located on the 2nd floor of the Student Services Building (SSB), Room 230.

To qualify for HHIP, students must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in at least six units
- Have met with our Housing Navigator and developed a housing plan
- Be in good standing (no major incidents in Maxient)
- Have a current student ID
- Have not received emergency housing services from the College within the current calendar year

Questions? Please contact Lydell Willis, Director of Student Basic Needs & Success at lwillis2@compton.edu.

Compton College 2026 Commencement Update

The Commencement Planning Committee is moving forward with preparations for the ***June 12, 2026, ceremony***, which will be held at the Walter Pyramid at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB). This venue was selected due to the unavailability of Dignity Health Sports Park in June 2026 and offers significant advantages, including ample indoor seating, climate control, and a continued tradition of unlimited guests and free venue parking. The ceremony will continue to be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person. While the Walter Pyramid does not have a dedicated reception area, the Commencement Planning Committee is actively exploring alternatives, such as hosting a reception on campus or incorporating it into year-end celebrations, such as Grad Week. The committee will also adjust arrival times to ensure a smooth experience and coordinate accessibility and safety plans with CSULB staff. Regular planning meetings began last week, with the request for the Board of Trustees' approval of the venue contract, scheduled for their ***December 8, 2025***, board meeting, and final logistical details to be determined by ***March 2026***.

We know the distance to CSULB will be a concern, but this is an adjustment to support our students and family, as we wanted a venue with no limited guest capacity or parking concerns.

Holiday Health Reminder – Stay Safe and Healthy This Season

As we head into the holiday season, let's keep our campus community healthy and ready for a great start to the new year. Here are some important tips:

1. Stay Current on Vaccinations

- Flu Shots: Annual flu vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months and older.
- COVID-19 Boosters: Updated vaccines are available and recommended for those at higher risk or planning holiday travel.
- Where to Get Vaccinated: The St. John's Student Health Center (M4, north of the gym) offers flu and COVID-19 vaccines for students and employees.

2. Protect Yourself in Crowded Spaces

- Wear a mask in crowded indoor settings or while traveling through airports, train stations, and other busy areas.
- Keep hand sanitizer handy for use when soap and water aren't available.

3. Practice Good Hygiene

- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow.

4. Monitor Your Health Before Returning to Campus

- If you experience cold, flu, or COVID-like symptoms, stay home and seek medical advice.
- Use at-home test kits if you suspect COVID-19.

5. Free Resources

- COVID-19 Test Kits: Available while supplies last at the St. John's Student Health Center (students) and Human Resources Office (employees).
- Report Positive Cases: Use the "Report a Positive COVID-19 Case" form in the MyCompton portal to help with contact tracing and quarantine guidance.

6. Travel Smart

- Stay hydrated and get plenty of rest before and during travel.
- Pack masks, hand sanitizer, and any medications you may need.
- Consider getting vaccinated at least two weeks before traveling for maximum protection.

For more tips on preventing respiratory illnesses, visit the California Department of Public Health website. Let's work together to keep our community healthy and safe. Enjoy your holidays, and we look forward to seeing you back on campus soon!

Annual Chancellor's Office Tax Offset Program (COTOP)

The [Chancellor's Office Tax Offset Program](#) helps colleges collect outstanding debts from former students who are no longer enrolled and not seeking college services. Compton College students with outstanding balances will receive a letter informing them of their debt and have 60 days to resolve it by either paying or disputing it if they believe there is an error.

For the 2026 cycle, letters will be mailed on:

- **November 19, 2025** – Initial notice
- **December 19, 2025** – Reminder
- **January 20, 2026** – Final notice informing students that their debt will be submitted to the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB)

If the debt is not resolved within 60 days, the student's information will be submitted to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) for collection, which can intercept state tax refunds, lottery winnings, and unclaimed property to recover the debt. An additional 33.3% administrative fee will be added to the debt if it is submitted to the FTB.

Departments verified student names and amounts on **November 10, 2025**, before mailing began. For questions, refer students to Dorrett Lambey, Director of Accounting, at dlambey@compton.edu.

Board Policies and Administrative Regulations

At the **November 17, 2025**, Compton Community College District Board of Trustees meeting, the following Board Policies (BP) were approved, and the Administrative Regulations (AR) listed below were issued.

- [Board Policy 3560](#) – Alcoholic Beverages
- [Board Policy 3900](#) – Speech, Time, Place, and Manner
- [Board Policy 6910](#) – Housing
- [Administrative Regulation 3560](#) – Alcoholic Beverages
- [Administrative Regulation 3900](#) – Speech, Time, Place, and Manner
- [Administrative Regulation 4010](#) – Academic Calendar
- [Administrative Regulation 6910](#) – Housing

Final Thoughts

This week's Taste of Thanksgiving was a wonderful way to celebrate the season with colleagues. Thank you to everyone who joined us and enjoyed great food and fellowship, and special thanks to the many staff members for making this annual event happen. This tradition has always been a heartfelt gesture of appreciation in the spirit of giving thanks.

The campus will be closed **Thursday–Sunday, November 27–30, 2025**, for Thanksgiving. Offices and departments will remain open through **Wednesday, November 26, 2025**, including the weekly Farmers' Market open **from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m.** in The Village. Students may pick up their regular \$20 vouchers to buy fresh vegetables, fruit, baked goods, and other food items before the holiday.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I want to express my sincere appreciation for all that you do. Your commitment and hard work make a real difference every day, and it's an honor to work alongside such a dedicated team.

There will be no weekly [President/CEO Message](#) next week, so we can all focus on the holiday. I hope you enjoy a well-deserved break filled with joy, relaxation, and time with those who matter most.

Thank you for everything you contribute to our success. I look forward to reconnecting after the holiday and continuing the great work we've started together.

Sincerely,

Keith Curry, Ed.D.

(he/him/his)

President/CEO

Compton College