

EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP CORNER

Fall 2025 Newsletter

September 2025



Here's what has happened in the last few months and what's to come!

In June 2025, Compton College held its commencement ceremony at the Dignity Health Center. Our program celebrated 98 expected Spring '25 graduates with 27 Fall '24 graduates and 4 Summer '24 graduates.

Our EOPS Spring Banquet was a success! This year's theme, "Ride Into Your Future," brought out students in their best cowboy and cowgirl attire. We enjoyed an inspiring presentation from the Compton Cowboys and kept the energy high with line dancing to the sounds of **Boots on the Ground**.

We are ready to look ahead to the Spring 2026 and would love your input! Help us make the next banquet even better. Please scan the QR code and share your suggestions.

We are excited to welcome back Mrs. Karina Lopez after being on maternity leave. Baby Zion loves the beach, walking outside, and reading books.

Finally, we want to remind everyone of the importance of staying on top of your counseling contacts, maintaining your semester GPA at 2.0, completing semester courses with a 67% completion rate. Failure to comply with the above will cause you to delay your educational goals.

Enjoy this semester's newsletter!

Important Dates and Deadlines:

Apply For Your Degrees/Certificates:
August 25 - October 10, 2025

Fall Contact Dates:
1st contact 8/1/25-10/9/25
2nd contact 9/29/25-10/30/25
3rd contact 10/27/25-12/11/25

Winter and Spring 2026 Registration Dates:
Coming soon

Nursing Verification Appointments:
September 6-26, 2025

CSU/UC/HBCU Application Assistance Begins:
October 1, 2025

Fall Midterm Classes Begin:
October 18, 2025

2026-2027 Scholarship Application Opens:
October 1, 2025



EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP Counseling Team
E. Blake, K. Lopez, N. Barber, C. DelaCruz

Fall 2025 EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP Counseling Team



Ms. Eckko Blake eblake@compton.edu | (424) 242-8418

- Education: B.S. in Public Administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) and a M.A. in Educational Counseling also from CSUDH
- Fun Facts:
 - Shopaholic
 - Mom to 14 year old high school student
- Favorites:
 - Food: Tacos (El Cholo)
 - Color: Pink
 - TV Shows: True Crime, Sci-Fi, & Reality TV



Mrs. Karina Lopez klopez11@compton.edu | (818) 583-7108

- Education: B.A. in Psychology from California State University, Northridge (CSUN) and an M.Ed. in Educational Counseling from the University of Southern California (USC)
- Fun Facts:
 - First in my family to graduate high school and college
 - Mom to baby Zion (10 months old)
- Favorites:
 - Food: Thai, Puerto Rican and all desserts
 - Teams: Lakers, Dodger and Packers
 - TV Shows: Dateline, The Valley, Mama June Family Crisis



Mrs. Nikki Barber, Adjunct Counselor nbarber@compton.edu

- Education: B.A. in Journalism with a minor in Psychology from California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) and a M.S. in Educational Counseling from the University of LaVerne
- Fun Facts:
 - Loves to travel
 - Mom to 2 beautiful young ladies
- Favorites:
 - Food: Macaroni and cheese and chocolate cake



Mrs. Cintya Da Cruz, Adjunct Counselor cdacruz@compton.edu

- Education: B.S in Human Services from University of California, Davis (UCD) and a M.S. in Clinical Counseling from California State University, Sacramento
- Fun Facts:
 - Amateur Salsa/Bachata Dancer
 - Dog mom to Wookie (5-pound Yorkie Poodle)
- Favorites:
 - Food: Laotian, Peruvian, desserts
 - Color: Yellow
 - Music: Everything & anything that gets my body moving



EOPS Frequently Asked Questions

Q. When will I receive my book voucher?

A. Students must first meet with an EOPS counselor to receive approval for the book voucher (Only courses on the educational plan will be approved)

Q. What is the book voucher amount?

A. Minimum \$600.00

Q. When is the graduation ceremony?

A. The commencement ceremony is held once a year during the spring semesters typically in June.

Q.I have completed my 1st contact what do I need to do now in order to obtain my book voucher

A. Check your MyCompton email for an approval letter, if received stop by the bookstore with a picture ID to obtain your books.

Q. If I don't use all my book voucher funding, can I use it toward another purchase?

A. Unfortunately no, book vouchers are used to purchase required books any unused amount will be returned to the EOPS program



EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP FALL 2025 IMPORTANT COUNSELING DEADLINES

**1st. Counseling Contact (Book Voucher) -
Monday, August 11- Thursday, October 9**

**2nd. Counseling Contact (Check-in Visit)-
Monday, September 29- Thursday, October 30**

**3rd. Counseling Contact (Priority Registration)-
Monday, October 27- Thursday, December 11**

Q. How many counseling contacts are required for Fall 2025?

A. Three (3) Counseling Contacts are required.

Q. How do I schedule counseling contacts?

A. Schedule appointments by calling (310-900-1600, ext. 2912 or visiting the EOPS Office (SSB 280).

Q. What are the deadlines for counseling contacts?

1st Contact: Monday, Aug. 11 - Thursday, Oct. 9

2nd Contact: Monday, Sept. 29 - Thursday, Oct. 30

3rd Contact: Monday, Oct. 27 - Thursday, Dec. 11

See the infographic (left) for more details.



EOPS/CARE/NEXTUP Students



Fall 2025 EOPS Transfer Students

Alabama State University

Ashley Fisher

Clark Atlanta University

Shoniqua Thomas

California State University, Long Beach

Zsa'nae Campbell

Kimberly Gomez

California State University, Dominguez Hills

Demisha Fuller

Rashon Williams

Yolanda Reed

California State University, Northridge

Neyela Martinez

California State University, Los Angeles

Shante Mumford

Skyy Sorrell

Colorado State University

Jocelyn Trail

Southern New Hampshire University

Brianna Smith

Fisk University

Cecil Cohn

University of California, San Diego

Anthony Vargas

Congratulations to our Fall 2025 EOPS Nursing Students on their acceptance into the program!



You Can Transfer!

- **Who** can apply for transfer?
 - All students have the potential to transfer. If you are interested in transferring, you do have to meet certain requirements - meet with your EOPS/CARE/Next Up counselors to review requirements.
- **What** resources are there to help me?
 - At Compton College, there is the [transfer center](#) in SSB, 266. They host workshops to teach you how to transfer and host university tours. EOPS/CARE/NextUp counselors will guide and help you.
- **Where** can I transfer?
 - Your options are broad. You can transfer to different universities like the CSUs, UCs, HBCUs, private universities and out-of-state universities. Local universities to Compton College include CSU Long Beach, CSU Dominguez Hills, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), CSU Fullerton and more!
- **When** do I apply for transfer?
 - There are different application cycles. The common application period is during the Fall semester is Aug. 1 and Nov. 30 of each year. *Deadlines are subject to change.*
- **How** do I apply to transfer?
 - Complete online applications through each university's website. For CSU campuses, use [Cal State Apply](#); for UC campuses, use the UC Application website at [apply.universityofcalifornia.edu](#).

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

ZSA'NAE CAMPBELL

Why did you attend Compton College?

I chose to attend Compton College because I wanted to pursue my education in an environment that truly values community support and second chances. Compton College has a strong reputation for helping students achieve their goals, and I was inspired by the many success stories I heard from others in the community who attended and went on to do great things.

I often heard people speak highly of the college's dedicated staff and counselors, the supportive atmosphere, and the resources available to help students thrive both academically and personally. From tutoring and counseling to career services, I've seen firsthand how these tools make a real difference in students' lives.

How long did it take you to finally decide on a major?

It didn't take me long to decide on a major because I've always known I wanted to work in public service and help others. Social work felt like the perfect fit. I've always had a passion for standing up for people who can't stand up for themselves, and I knew early on that I wanted a career where I could make a real difference in my community. Choosing social work came naturally—it aligned with both my values and my purpose.

What impact did the EOPS program have on your educational journey?

The EOPS program had a powerful impact on my educational journey. The counselors were not only knowledgeable but also incredibly patient and supportive. They guided me through class selections, answered every question, and helped me stay focused on my academic goals. Their experience and encouragement made me feel confident and capable, even during the most challenging times.

What made EOPS truly special was the genuine passion the staff had for student success. They provided the supplies I needed, offered one-on-one support, and always made me feel seen and valued. Their dedication went beyond academics—specifically, Ms. Blake believed in me, and that belief helped me believe in myself.

Did you face any obstacles while obtaining your associate degree from Compton College?

Yes, I faced several obstacles while obtaining my associate degree. Being a single parent and working a full-time job while attending school full-time was incredibly challenging. Balancing responsibilities at home, work, and in the classroom often felt overwhelming, and there were times I questioned whether I could keep going.

Despite the difficulties, I stayed focused on my goals and reminded myself why I started. With determination and the support of the EOPS program, I was able to push through. It wasn't easy, but every sacrifice was worth it to build a better future for myself and my daughter.

Did you find the transfer process difficult?

Yes and no—the transfer process had its challenges, but I also took steps to prepare myself. I made sure I had the right classes and enough units to earn my CSU certification, which helped make the technical side smoother. I stayed focused on meeting the academic requirements.

However, as a first-generation college student, the emotional side was harder. I didn't have much knowledge about how the process worked, and there was a real fear of whether I'd be accepted or rejected. But through prayer, faith, hard work, and the incredible support of Ms. Blake and the EOPS staff, I got through it. Ms. Blake's guidance and patience made a big difference, and I'm proud of how far I've come.

What are your career goals?

My career goals are to earn my master's degree in social work and continue pouring back into the community that helped shape me. I want to advocate for those who feel unheard, provide support to individuals and families in need, and truly make a difference in people's lives. For me, social work isn't just a career—it's a calling and a way to fulfill my purpose in life.

In the future, I'm also thinking about opening my own small therapy center. I want to create a safe space where people from all walks of life can access the support and healing they deserve. My goal is to uplift, empower, and be a resource for lasting change in the community.

EOPS LOVES YOU
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EOPS/CARE/Next Up

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www.compton.edu/studentservices/eops/

310-900-1600, Ext. 2912

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