



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

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Standouts in Career Education Earn Accolades as California's Community Colleges Advance Social and Economic Mobility

*Strong Workforce Stars, a new recognition program based on quantified student outcomes,
recognizes more than 100 community college programs at 65 colleges*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – More than 100 career education programs delivered by 65 institutions in the California Community Colleges system have earned a spot among the ranks of [Strong Workforce Stars](#) for their successes in helping students increase their earning power and social mobility.

Strong Workforce Stars is a new, annual commendation for career education programs, also known as career technical education (CTE), within California's 114 community colleges whose students show significant gains in factors important for advancing social mobility – a substantial increase in earnings, attainment of a living wage, and/or employment in a job closely matched with the student's field of study.

"Strong Workforce Stars, with its focus on proving student success through data, is another demonstration of how the California Community Colleges is carefully and intentionally building a strong workforce for California and improving social and economic mobility" said California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley.

Career education programs can receive Strong Workforce Stars designation when meeting one or more of the following numerical thresholds:

- **Fifty percent or more increase in student earnings**, determined by comparing students' earnings one year before and one year after exiting the California Community Colleges system. This data is based on a match to the state's wage file.
- **Seventy percent or more of students attain a regional living wage**. This percentage, aligned with a threshold set by the California Workforce Development Board, analyzes the proportion of graduates and skills builders (defined as students whose goal is not to complete a program, but to take classes to increase job skills) who attained the living wage for a single individual in the college's region. This analysis is based on a match to the state's wage file and a comparison with data from the Insight Center for Community Economic Development.
- **Ninety percent or more of students report that their current job is close or very close to their field of study**. This is based on responses to the system's CTE Outcomes Survey, which is sent to community college students after they stop taking courses.

Programs can earn more than one Strong Workforce Star, depending on outcomes.

“Career education programs create skilled workers to fuel regional economies and enable social mobility,” said Van Ton-Quinlivan, vice chancellor for Workforce and Economic Development at California Community Colleges. “These ‘Star’ exemplars ought to be celebrated.”

The recognition is based on students who were last enrolled in 2013-14 in career education areas including advanced manufacturing; advanced transportation and renewable energy; agriculture, water, and environmental technologies; education and human development; energy, construction, and utilities; global trade and logistics; health care; information and communication technologies/digital media; life sciences and biotechnology; public and protective services; retail, hospitality, and tourism; and small business.

Analysis undertaken by WestEd reveals six commonalities of career education programs that met the Strong Workforce Stars designation:

1. **Data-driven planning:** Colleges continuously use data and evidence to direct the development and delivery of their offerings. They also employ labor-market analysis to ensure programs are the optimum size, whether it be limiting enrollment to avoid flooding the local market or expanding participation to address an urgent workforce need.
2. **Outstanding faculty:** By working in the industry while teaching, staying connected through industry sector-based associations and participating in professional networks, faculty help to improve students’ employment outcomes.
3. **Career driven:** Colleges make a direct connection between program participation and related career opportunities, which can serve as a powerful motivator for students to both enroll in and complete their programs, as well as contribute to their success in the workplace.
4. **Industry driven:** Industry sector partners play a critical role in shaping and delivering college programming, often through robust and comprehensive advisory groups.
5. **Student centered:** Colleges integrate academic supports and focused educational advising in order to respond to the priorities, experiences, and needs of the students who enroll, whether they are recent high school graduates, working adults, veterans, English-language learners, ex-offenders or students who aspire to transfer to four-year institutions.
6. **Intersegmental partnerships:** Through strategies like dual enrollment, the adoption of national curriculum models, articulation agreements and summer bridge programs, colleges jump-start students’ career preparation while they still are enrolled in high school and accelerate workplace entry.

Strong Workforce Stars is made possible by accountability and data tool investments established under the system’s [Doing What MATTERS for Jobs and Economy](#) framework and its [Strong Workforce Program](#). Starting 2016, the state of California infused a recurring annual investment of \$200 million to spur more and better career education across the 114 community colleges of California - the nation’s largest higher education system. In the second year of the program, one-sixth of the dollars must be allocated based on contribution to student success outcomes rather than the traditional approach of student enrollment, and Strong Workforce Stars is one way to ascertain progress toward that policy goal.

The Strong Workforce Program is a bold step California took to create 1 million more middle-skilled workers to fuel regional economies and advance social mobility, equipping them with certificates, degrees or credentials valued by the labor market.

Strong Workforce metrics are aligned with those of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, a federal program designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training and support services.

*The **California Community Colleges** is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 114 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training and basic skills education in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/, <https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges>, or twitter.com/CalCommColleges. The [Doing What MATTERS for Jobs and the Economy](#) framework invests in California's economic growth and global competitiveness through industry-specific partnerships, education, training and services that contribute to a strong workforce for California.*

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Note to Editors: Please see attached Workforce Stars awards by college, sector and program.



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

C H A N C E L L O R ' S O F F I C E

2017 California Community Colleges Strong Workforce Stars, listed by college and industry sector. More information and a searchable database are available at http://dwmshowcase.com/workforce_stars.asp.

| College | Industry Sector | Career Education Program |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| American River College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology | Biotechnology |
| American River College | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice, Police Academy, Fire Technology |
| Antelope Valley | Advanced Manufacturing | Advanced Manufacturing and Advanced Technology |
| Antelope Valley | Health | Health and Safety Science |
| Barstow College | Small Business | Business, Accounting, Career Workforce Readiness, Management |
| Berkeley City College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology | Biotechnology |
| Butte College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Pest Control Advisor |
| Chabot College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies |
| Chaffey College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Electrical Systems and Mechanical Drafting |
| Chaffey College | Global Trade and Logistics | Logistics and Materials Transportation |
| College of Alameda | Information and Communication Technologies/Digital Media | Computer Information Systems |
| College of Alameda | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Auto Body and Paint |
| College of Marin | Health | Medical Assisting, Medical Tech |
| College of Marin | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice, Police Academy, Fire Academy |
| College of San Mateo | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Electrical Power Systems and Instrumentation |
| College of San Mateo | Small Business | Entrepreneurship |
| College of San Mateo | Small Business | Management |
| College of the Canyons | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Water Technology |
| College of the Canyons | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice and Fire Technology |
| College of the Desert | Health | Registered Nursing, Licensed Vocational Nursing |

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|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| College of the Redwoods | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Drafting and 3-D Modeling |
| College of the Sequoias | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology, Construction Technology |
| College of the Siskiyous | Information and Communication Technologies/Digital Media | Computer Science and Business |
| College of the Siskiyous | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice, Fire Technology |
| Columbia College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Water Resources Management, Watershed Management Technology, Water Resources Management, Watershed Management Technology, Wastewater Treatment Management |
| Columbia College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Welding, Metal Sculpture for Entrepreneurs, Technology for Entrepreneurs |
| Compton Community Educational Center (El Camino College) | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Collision Repair / Painting |
| Compton Community Educational Center (El Camino College) | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) |
| Contra Costa College | Advanced Manufacturing | Forklift Logistics Operations and Warehouse Management |
| Copper Mountain College | Small Business | General Business |
| Crafton Hills College | Education and Human development | Child Development, Early Childhood Education, Associate Teacher, Master Teacher, Site Supervisor, Teacher |
| Crafton Hills College | Small Business | Business Administration and Business Management |
| Cuyamaca College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Ornamental Horticulture |
| Cuyamaca College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Wastewater Management and Environmental Health and Safety |
| De Anza College | Advanced Manufacturing | Digital Manufacturing Technology |
| De Anza College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Energy Management and Building Science, Environmental Resource Management and Pollution Prevention |
| El Camino College | Advanced Manufacturing | Machine Tool Technology |
| Evergreen Valley College | Advanced Manufacturing | Advanced Manufacturing |
| Evergreen Valley College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology |
| Evergreen Valley College | Small Business | Accounting |
| Folsom Lake College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology | Medical Laboratory Technician |
| Foothill College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Construction Crafts |
| Fullerton College | Public and Protective Services | Administration of Justice and Police Academy |
| Golden West College | Information and Communication Technologies/Digital Media | Digital Arts and Media |
| Hartnell College | Health | Alcohol and Other Drugs |

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Imperial Valley College | Health | Alcohol and Drug Studies |
| Laney College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Construction Management, Welding Technology, Wood Technology, Carpentry, Electricity/Electronics Technology, Machine Technology |
| Laney College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Electricity/Electronics Technology, Building Automation Systems, Commercial HVAC Systems, Residential and HVAC Refrigeration, Carpentry, Welding Technology, Construction Management |
| Laney College | Global Trade and Logistics | Global Trade and Logistics |
| Laney College | Information and Communication Technologies/Digital Media | Information and Communication Technologies/Digital Media |
| Los Angeles City College | Health | Radiologic Technology, Registered Nursing, Dental Technology, Dietetics |
| Los Angeles Harbor College | Small Business | Architecture, Accounting, Child Development, Real Estate, Business |
| Los Angeles Mission College | Health | Nutrition, Foods, and Culinary Arts |
| Los Medanos College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology |
| Los Medanos College | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice, Police Academy, Fire Technology |
| Mendocino College | Advanced Manufacturing | Textile Arts |
| Mendocino College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology |
| Mendocino College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Sustainable Construction and Energy Technology |
| Merritt College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Landscape Design and Maintenance |
| Merritt College | Health | Community and Social Services |
| Merritt College | Small Business | Real Estate |
| Mira Costa College | Health | Registered Nurse and Licensed Vocational Nurse |
| Monterey Peninsula College | Public and Protective Services | Administration of Justice and Fire Technology |
| Moorpark College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Exotic Animal Training and Management |
| Moorpark College | Health | Radiologic Technology and Nursing |
| Moreno Valley College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Wildland Fire Behavior and Weather |
| Mt San Jacinto College | Advanced Manufacturing | General Engineering Technology |
| Mt. San Antonio College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Vet Technician |
| Mt. San Antonio College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology | Histotechnician |
| Napa Valley College | Advanced Manufacturing | Machine Tools Technology, Welding Technology Digital Designs, Graphic Technologies |

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Napa Valley College | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice, Police Academy |
| Napa Valley College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Viticulture and Winery Technology |
| Napa Valley College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Welding Technologies |
| Napa Valley College | Health | Psychiatric Technician, Registered Nursing, Vocational Nursing, Respiratory Care, Paramedic Care |
| Norco College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Construction Technology |
| Ohlone College | Health | Registered Nurse, Respiratory Therapist, Physical Therapist Assistant |
| Ohlone College | Public and Protective Services | Administration of Justice |
| Orange Coast College | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician |
| Palo Verde College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Environmental Technology/Fire Science Technology |
| Palomar College | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Water and Wastewater |
| Reedley College | Public and Protective Services | Administration of Justice, Corrections, Fire Technology |
| Sacramento City College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Airframe and Power Plant Mechanics |
| Sacramento City College | Health | Registered Nursing |
| San Diego City College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) |
| San Diego Mesa College | Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism | Fashion |
| San Diego Miramar College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Aviation Maintenance Technology |
| San Joaquin Delta College | Health | Registered Nurse, Psychiatric Technician, Radiologic Technology, Speech Language Pathology |
| San Joaquin Delta College | Public and Protective Services | Administration of Justice, Corrections, Fire Technology, Basic Peace Officer Academy |
| San Joaquin Delta College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology Sector | Electron Microscopy |
| San Jose City College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Construction Technology, Residential Maintenance and Construction, Residential Carpentry, Construction Technology |
| Santa Ana College | Advanced Manufacturing | Manufacturing Technology |
| Santa Ana College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology |
| Santa Barbara City College | Global Trade and Logistics | International Business and Trade |
| Santiago Canyon College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Carpentry and Electrician Apprenticeship |
| Santiago Canyon College | Energy, Construction, and Utilities | Electrician |
| Shasta College | Agriculture, Water, and | Welding Technology, Water, |

| | Environmental Technologies | Wastewater Technology |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shasta College | Public and Protective Services | Emergency Medical Technician, Administration of Justice, Fire Technology |
| Sierra College | Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism | Fashion Industries |
| Skyline College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology |
| Solano College | Advanced Transportation and Renewable Energy | Automotive Technology, Automotive Technician, Automotive Body |
| Solano College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology | Applied Biotechnology and Industrial Biotechnology |
| Southwestern College | Life Sciences and Biotechnology | Medical Laboratory Technology |
| West Hills Coalinga | Health | Psych Tech |
| West Hills Coalinga | Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies | Agriculture Technology and Sciences |
| West Hills Coalinga | Small Business | Accounting, Business, Child Development |
| West Valley College | Small Business | Accounting |