

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Vital to the economy



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Photo credit: Servando Gereau

College of the Desert's Utility-Scale Solar Energy Program students work on First Solar's 550-megawatt project at the Desert Center, Calif.

Community colleges are adjusting to emerging markets and the fastest-growing sectors of the economy.

California's community colleges are vital to the economy

The California Community Colleges play an important role in boosting our state's economy by serving more than 2.3 million students a year. In fact, one out of three community college students in the U.S. is enrolled in a California community college, making it the nation's largest system of higher education.

Our 112 colleges provide students with the knowledge and background necessary in today's competitive job market. With a wide range of educational offerings, the colleges provide workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, certificate and degree programs and preparation for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. In a difficult economy, a college education is critical. Our campuses also serve as a natural gateway for veterans seeking a degree or job skills to transition to civilian life.



Photo credit: Megan Fate-Marshman

New small business owner Karen Kostrinsky partnered with Long Beach City Colleges' Downtown Small Business Development Center to help launch Savor Flavor Dining, her in-home cooking service.

Cover Photos Left to Right:

Students at San Diego Miramar College's Automotive Technology and Advanced Transportation Technology Program are able to work on the latest hybrid vehicles as part of the curriculum. Photo credit: Alan Decker

Students participate in a training exercise at the Los Angeles Trade-Technical College Utility Lineman Program pole yard. Photo credit: Michael Parker

Fullerton College Police Officer Standards and Training Academy graduates lineup during commencement. Photo credit: Fullerton College

The California Community Colleges system is the nation's largest workforce training provider.



Photo Credit: Riverside Community College District

Moreno Valley College dental hygiene instructor works with students.

Fueling California's workforce

Despite recent reductions in state funding, most Californians give our community colleges good or excellent ratings.* And it's easy to see why. Top-notch programs in a variety of areas, passionate instructors, beautiful campuses and a dedication to providing affordable education make our colleges some of the best in the nation. Simply put, California's community colleges prepare students to meet the growing demands of our economy by infusing the workforce with the college-educated workers our state needs.

Seventy percent of the state's higher education students are enrolled in a community college, making the California Community Colleges system the nation's largest workforce training provider. Consider:

- California community colleges educate 70 percent of our state's nurses.
- California community colleges train 80 percent of the state's firefighters, law enforcement personnel, and emergency medical technicians.
- Twenty-nine percent of University of California and 51 percent of California State University graduates started at a California community college.
- California community colleges offer associate degrees and short-term job training certificates in more than 175 fields and more than 100,000 individuals are trained in industry-specific workforce skills each academic year.
- Nearly 42 percent of all California veterans receiving GI educational benefits attend a California community college for workforce training or to get a degree.



Photo credit: Carmen Pegan

A Mission College Fire Protection Technology student returns after a successful fire agility training session.



Photo credit: Phil Schermeister

Columbia College and the Tuolumne County Fire Department have teamed up to provide training and equipment for students in the Columbia College Fire Technology Program.

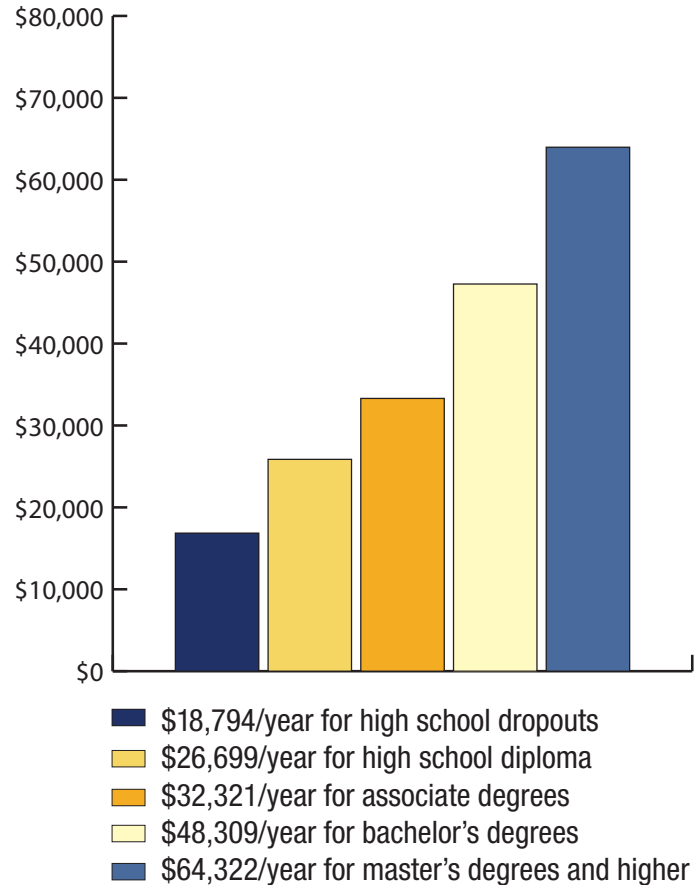
Students who earn a California community college degree or certificate nearly double their earnings within three years.

The high return on college education for students and for California

Students who earn a degree or certificate from a California community college nearly double their earnings within three years. What's more, attending or graduating from a community college doubles an individual's chance of finding a job compared to those who failed to complete high school.

And the students aren't the only ones who benefit. In 2012, UC Berkeley researchers concluded that every dollar invested in producing a college graduate will generate four dollars and fifty cents in additional revenue for the state.* Even more impressive is the fact that the California Community Colleges is the state's most cost-effective system of education. While the revenue needed to support one full-time community college student is slightly more than \$5,000 per year, the cost is approximately \$7,500 in the K-12 system and \$11,000 and \$20,000 at the California State University and University of California, respectively. Clearly, community colleges are a good deal for students and the state's economy.

2011 MEDIAN INCOME BY EDUCATION LEVEL



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, "American Community Survey," 2011

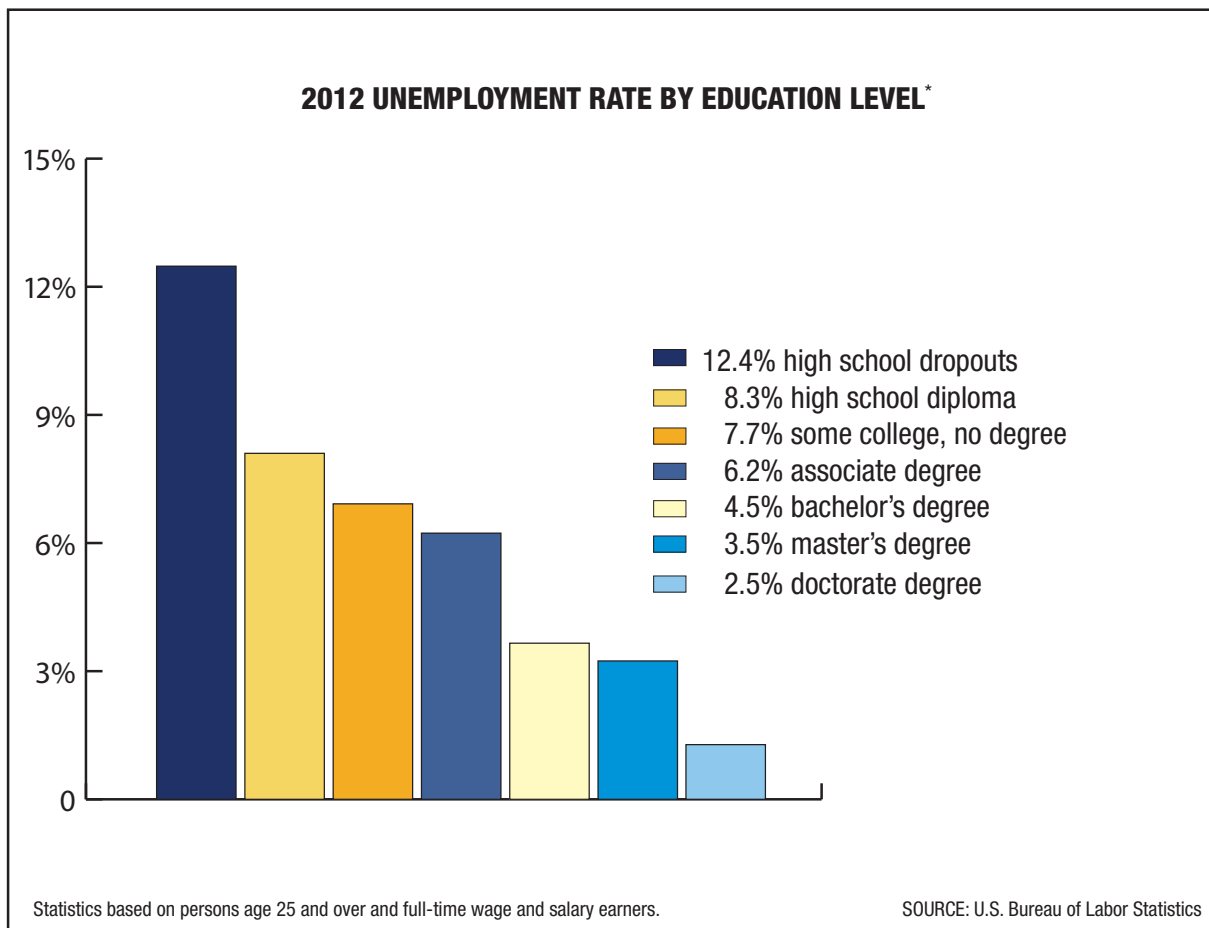
*California's Economic Payoff: Investing in College Access & Completion, UC Berkeley, 2012

California needs more college-educated workers

Business leaders have told the California Community Colleges that hiring and retaining a qualified workforce continues to be their most daunting task. If current trends persist, the Public Policy Institute of California estimates by 2025 California will face a shortage of one million college degree and certificate holders needed to fuel its workforce. Further, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that occupations that require an associate degree will grow by 18 percent through 2020, faster than the new job growth for those with bachelor's degrees.

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If California awarded just 2 percent more associate degrees and 1 percent more bachelor's degrees, the state's economy would grow by \$20 billion; tax revenue would increase by \$1.2 billion a year and 174,000 new jobs would be created. Our state's economic resurgence, quality of life and civic engagement are dependent on an educated workforce. A strong and vibrant community college system keeps California competitive globally.



Opposite Page - Photos Clockwise From Top Left:
 A culinary arts student at American River College does prep work for the on-campus restaurant, The Oak Café. Photo credit: Don Reid
 An Orange Coast College allied health student works in a classroom laboratory. Photo credit: Chauncey Bayes

A Modesto Junior College nursing student practices working with an intravenous machine. Photo credit: David Todd
 College of Marin is well-known for its Multimedia Studies Program and its emphasis on video game design. Photo credit: David Paul Morris



JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS AND REWARDS

Program Title	Related Occupations	Median Earnings
Nursing	Registered Nurse	\$92,044
Automotive Technology	Auto Mechanic	\$43,662
Office Technology Computer Applications	Computer Specialist	\$59,822
Dental Occupations	Dental Hygienist	\$92,192
Construction Crafts Technology	Solar Panel Installer	\$42,317
Electronics and Electrical Technology	Electrician	\$62,987
Paralegal	Paralegal	\$59,799
Manufacturing and Industrial Technology	Wind Turbine Installer	\$54,290
Radiological Technology	Radiological Technician	\$69,533



Community colleges are adjusting to emerging markets and the fastest growing sectors of the economy such as health care, information and communications technologies and renewable energy.



Photo credit: Mike Taylor

A nursing student hones her skills with a state-of-the-art human patient simulator at Mt. San Antonio College's Health Careers Resource Center.

Partnering with business

Community colleges are adjusting to emerging markets and the fastest-growing sectors of the economy such as health care, information technology and renewable energy. From 2005 to 2011, the system's Workforce and Economic Development program annually assisted an average of 25,000 businesses, 40,000 students, 38,000 employees (or incumbent workers) and placed 3,000 students into well-paying, highly-skilled positions.



Photo Credit: Cerritos College

Students at Cerritos College's Automotive Technician Training Center work on real vehicles as part of their training in the Automotive Mechanical Repair Program.

Our degree and certificate programs reflect the needs of the state's dynamic labor market by providing training that can be completed quickly, often in a matter of weeks. In addition, specialized internships and the donation of equipment and supplies have allowed California community college students opportunities to get the hands-on experience they need to secure jobs once their educational goals have been accomplished. Many partner companies begin training students on campus with the ultimate goal of hiring those students once their training is complete.

Degrees and certificates awarded in high-demand, high-wage and high-tech fields

Class offerings at California community colleges are diverse and cater to those seeking employment in science-related professions who don't want to incur staggering debt for undergraduate coursework performed at a university. Students can begin their educational journeys to these top-paying science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers at our community colleges and either enter the workforce directly or continue on to a four-year institution. In fact, our colleges are actively working to streamline the transfer process to the California State University and the University of California campuses and are embarking on a major reform effort to improve transfer, degree and certificate attainment rates. Transfer students from the California Community Colleges to the University of California system currently account for 48 percent of UC's bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

TOP TEN STEM MAJORS

Program Title	Median Earnings
1. Petroleum Engineering	\$114,080
2. Pharmacy/Pharmaceutical	\$111,570
3. Mathematics/Computer Sciences	\$100,660
4. Aerospace Engineering	\$ 97,480
5. Chemical Engineering	\$ 90,300
6. Electrical Engineering	\$ 87,180
7. Metallurgical Engineering	\$ 83,120
8. Mining and Mineral Engineering	\$ 82,870
9. Naval Architecture/Marine Engineering	\$ 79,920
10. Mechanical Engineering	\$ 78,160

The California Community Colleges prepare students for the jobs of today – and tomorrow.



Photo credit: David Todd

A Modesto Junior College welding student works on a project as part of the college's Technical Education Program.

A strategic investment

Investing in community colleges is vital to California's economic competitiveness. The California Community Colleges is the largest, most cost-effective system of higher education in the state, preparing students for the jobs of today – and tomorrow. Learn more about our system at CaliforniaCommunityColleges.cccco.edu



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<http://twitter.com/ICANAFRDCOLLEGE>



<http://www.youtube.com/CACommunityColleges>



<http://salarysurfer.cccco.edu>

Salary Surfer uses the aggregated earnings of graduates over a five-year period to provide an estimate on the potential wages to be earned two years and five years after receiving a certificate or degree in certain disciplines. Salary Surfer also provides information on which colleges offer programs in specific disciplines.



Photo credit: Clifford G. Meyer

A Saddleback College automotive technology student get hands-on experience on a machine that tests upper-engine parts.

Source information available upon request. Please contact the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office director of communications for details: pdorr@cccoco.edu.

Back Cover Photos Left to Right:

College of the Desert's Utility-Scale Solar Energy Program students work on First Solar's 550-megawatt project at the Desert Center, CA. Photo credit: Servando Gereau

Adrian Lopez puts the final touches on the meal he's prepared in the instruction kitchen at San Diego Mesa College's Culinary Arts/Culinary Management Program. Photo credit: Carol Beilstein

Students at Moreno Valley College's Physician Assistant Program get hands-on training at the Southern California campus. Photo credit: Riverside Community College District



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES.CCCCO.EDU
1102 Q ST, FOURTH FLOOR, SACRAMENTO, CA 95811
(916)445-8752