



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.

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*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.*



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
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

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
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 Environmental Technologies	Welding Technology, Water, 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