



Clovis Community College

For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

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Clovis Community College to Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

The week of September 17 – 23, 2020, has been designated as Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Week. Each year, this week serves as the initial week of Hispanic Heritage Month. As an HSI for more than 20 years, Clovis Community College wants to utilize this week to reflect on the vital work of being an HSI and celebrate the achievements of the College as an HSI.

Clovis Community College was first designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution in 1999. The criteria for this designation include enrolling at least 25% Hispanic students with at least 50% of full-time students receiving PELL grants. For the 2019-2020 academic year, CCC's student population was officially a minority-majority, with 40% of students identifying as Hispanic and 11% representing other minority groups.

Through HSI-designated federal funding, primarily through the U.S. Department of Education's Title V Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions grants programs, CCC has worked tirelessly to improve enrollment, retention, and success for our Hispanic students. These funds have allowed the institution to expand and revitalize our campus tutoring program, which now includes online tutoring options for place-bound students. We have implemented a highly successful academic coaching model with a majority of Hispanic student participation. Coached students complete more credits, are more likely to be retained to graduation, and have higher GPAs than their non-coached peers. We have launched Starfish, our student retention platform, which helps students feel more connected to their faculty and student support staff. We have also worked diligently to offer professional development training to our faculty and staff, to develop improved teaching strategies both in the classroom and online, to incorporate cultural awareness into curriculum design, and to promote a more student-centered environment on campus.

As a result of these efforts, Clovis Community College has seen positive results. Hispanic enrollment in our Allied Health, Business, and Education programs mirror that of non-Hispanic students with retention and completion rates at least equal to non-Hispanic students. We have grown from 29% Hispanic-serving in 2010 to more than 40% Hispanic-serving in 2020. Similarly, the percentage of completions earned by Hispanic students has grown from 30-45% in the same time frame.

With CCC's latest Title V DHSI grant to begin October 1, 2020, we plan to continue to focus on improving enrollment, retention, and success for Hispanic students at our institution. This grant will emphasize two areas of need in our region: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics professionals and educators. We will be expanding our course and program offerings in these high-demand fields as well as building a 2+2 model of enrollment and transfer with partnering four-year universities in our region. To support students on this journey, we will provide expanded student support services including career and academic coaching,

financial literacy, and expanded professional development opportunities for faculty and staff. We look forward to the opportunity to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with our community by celebrating our students' successes.

Clovis Community College (CCC) provides high-quality education and training improves the lives of all students and ignites economic vitality in the Eastern New Mexico Region. CCC offers over 66 associate degree and certificate programs, community development, and customized business training and adult education in face-to-face or online format. Whether the courses on campus or online, they are taught by dedicated and qualified faculty.

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