

Two District Colleges Earn Black-Serving Institution Designation, Advancing Commitment to Black Student Success

Martinez, Calif. (Dec. 12, 2025) – The Contra Costa Community College District is proud to announce that Contra Costa College (CCC) and Los Medanos College (LMC) have both earned official designation as Black-Serving Institutions (BSIs) under California's new Black-Serving Institutions Program Act (SB 1348).

The two East Bay colleges are among the state's first community colleges to receive this honor, underscoring their ongoing leadership in promoting educational equity and advancing Black student success.

The BSI designation recognizes colleges and universities that demonstrate a strong commitment to serving Black and African American students through robust academic resources, culturally responsive programs, and clear pathways to higher education and career opportunities. To qualify, institutions must have either at least 10% of students identify as Black or African American, or enroll a minimum of 1,500 students from these communities.

Contra Costa College offers programs such as the African American Male Leadership initiative, African American Studies pathway, Black Student Union, and the HBCU Transfer Guarantee program, which connects students directly to 37 Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

"With this designation, Contra Costa College is now an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution, an Hispanic-Serving Institution and a Black-Serving Institution," said Contra Costa College President Dr. Kimberly R. Rogers.

At Los Medanos College—where 13.5% of students identify as Black or African American—President Dr. Pamela Ralston called the recognition "both an honor and a responsibility," emphasizing the college's dedication to building opportunities that "uplift and celebrate the voices and contributions of Black students."

LMC's initiatives include mentorship programs, culturally responsive curriculum, student leadership development, and community partnerships that champion Black excellence and achievement.

Together, these designations reaffirm the Contra Costa Community College District's shared commitment to equity, belonging, and Black student excellence—on campus and beyond.

Learn more about CCC.

Learn more about LMC.

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