



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

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California Community Colleges Interim Chancellor Erik E. Skinner Honors Two Community College Programs with Student Success Award

Riverside, Calif. – California Community Colleges Interim Chancellor Erik E. Skinner on Friday honored two community college programs with the 2016 Chancellor's Student Success Award. The award is presented to programs that succeed in supporting students as they achieve their higher education goals. This year's honorees are Los Angeles Valley College's Family Resource Center and College of the Desert's EDGE Program.

"It is with great honor and gratitude that we recognize these two programs for their innovative work supporting the success of our students," said Interim Chancellor Skinner. "Every year, when we make these awards, I am amazed by the tremendous hard work and dedication that our colleges demonstrate, going above and beyond for our students. The California Community Colleges system is committed to offering outstanding educational opportunities, with robust student support programs to help our students succeed."

In an effort to help support student parents in meeting their educational goals, Los Angeles Valley College created the Family Resource Center in 1999 to allow its students to balance both family and college life. What started off as weekly playgroups in empty classrooms, has now grown into a fully operative center that allows student parents and their children to participate in various playgroups, family picnics, parenting workshops, dad activity groups, and more. The Family Resource Center is an award-winning integral part of the Los Angeles Valley College campus, as well as an inspiration and model for other colleges to implement student parent programs.

The College of the Desert faculty has worked hard over the past five years to create a successful summer bridge program called EDGE: Engage, Develop, Grow, Empower. EDGE is a three-week program created to increase student success and combat the challenges students face in completing college-level math and English. EDGE got its start as a pilot program in 2012, serving 22 students that first year and doubling in size nearly each year since. This past summer EDGE served 690 students. In addition to math and English readiness courses, EDGE offers its students registration assistance, counseling, transfer workshops, career information and financial aid assistance.

The 2016 Chancellor's Student Success Award is made possible through generous support from the Foundation for California Community Colleges.

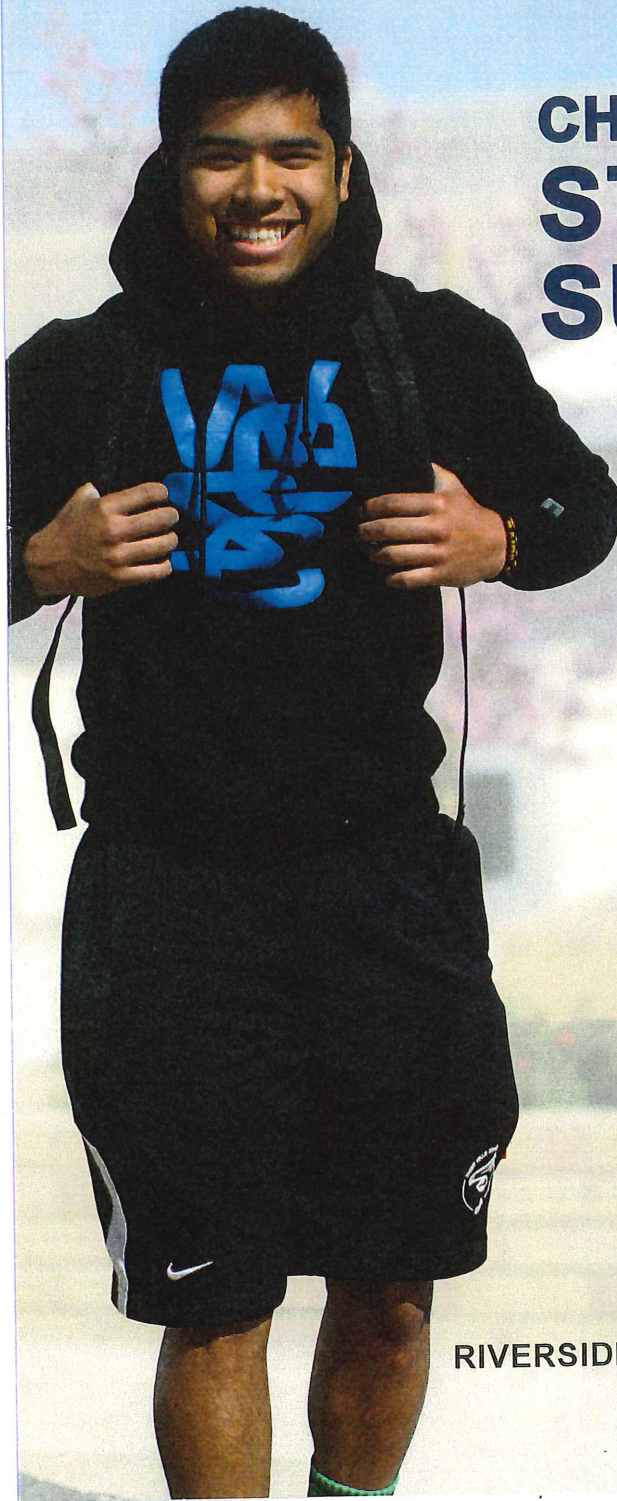
The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year 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 <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges>, or <https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges>.

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CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

2016

**CHANCELLOR'S
STUDENT
SUCCESS
AWARD**



RIVERSIDE CONVENTION CENTER

Riverside, California

November 18, 2016

College of the Desert EDGE Program



Increasing student success and combating the challenges students face in completing college-level math and English courses.



College of the Desert is incorporating student success strategies to ensure a smooth transition into college life. Over the last five years, College of the Desert faculty have developed an extraordinarily successful summer bridge program called EDGE: Engage, Develop, Grow, Empower. EDGE is a three-week program offering a fast-paced review of basic skills in math and English. Students who tested into basic skills math and/or English/reading on college placement tests are eligible to participate in the program. Students spend the program in a rigorous review of subject-specific content while also attending counseling sessions, learning about campus resources and building lasting connections. At the end of the program, students can retake the college placement test with the opportunity to remove some, or all, of the basic skills courses required to enroll in college-level transferable courses.

Nearly 95 percent of incoming College of the Desert students test into at least one

remedial class. The college developed EDGE to increase student success and combat the challenges students face in completing college-level math and English courses. The program started as a pilot project in 2012, serving 22 first-year students who only placed into pre-algebra and remedial English/reading. Thanks to community outreach and collaboration with local high schools, the program doubled in size nearly each year, serving 69 students in 2013, 265 students in 2014 and 459 students in 2015. In the summer of 2016, 690 students completed the EDGE program. Placement requirements have expanded over the years as well, as have the program hours and locations: students can participate in EDGE classes during morning, afternoon or evening sessions at five locations around the Coachella Valley. Students who participate in EDGE also receive personalized services throughout the academic year, including registration assistance, counseling, transfer workshops, career information and financial aid assistance. College of the Desert is focusing on growing EDGE to welcome even more incoming students but the program is already working: EDGE students on average remove one to two remedial courses from their course load and have saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in tuition and fees.



Erik E. Skinner
Interim Chancellor

About the Award

The annual Chancellor's Student Success Award honors college and/or district programs that **demonstrate a commitment and significant progress toward achieving success and equity goals for all students**. The programs also must exhibit success rates in the areas of access, retention, course completion, degree and certificate completion and transfer. This honor was known as the Chancellor's Award for Best Practices in Student Equity until 2008 when it was renamed the Chancellor's Student Success Award.

Previous Award Winners

2015

**Santa Clarita
Community College District**
Accelerate Your Dreams to Reality at COC

Citrus College
*STEM/STEM Summer Research
Experience Program*

2014

American River College
Veteran's Resource Center

Merced Community College District
Study Central

Solano Community College
Umoja Program Scholars

2013

Gavilan College
The Learning Council

West Valley College
New Student Convocation

2012

Santa Barbara City College
Express to Success Program

Pasadena City College
The First Year Pathways Program

2011

Cerritos College
iFALCON

Los Angeles Pierce College
Algebra Success at Pierce (ASAP)

Additional information and past winners can be found at:
californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/StudentSuccessAwards.aspx

Are you interested in nominating your college and/or district program for the California Community Colleges 2017 Chancellor's Student Success Award? If so, nomination forms will be accepted beginning September 2017.

Awards generously provided by:



**FOUNDATION for CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

