



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Program Helps Former Students with College Credits Finish School – Tuition Free**

*College of the Desert's new pLEDGE to Complete campaign sign-up now available for Spring*

Former College of the Desert students with 30 credits or more are eligible for a new program that provides a tuition- and fee-free path to graduation with a degree or certificate.

The pLEDGE to Complete program is open to Coachella Valley residents who have attended College of the Desert in the past but are not currently enrolled. Former students who have 45 units from a college or university with regional accreditation may also apply.

Participants receive a number of benefits, including free enrollment, academic counseling, educational planning sessions and support services.

"College of the Desert is pleased to offer this avenue to college completion and help members of our community achieve the education and training they need for a successful future," said Joel L. Kinnamon, Ed.D., Superintendent/President at College of the Desert. "The pLEDGE to Complete program eliminates the financial barrier to higher education and provides a tool for students to create a better tomorrow."

The pLEDGE to Complete sign-up deadline for the Spring 2021 semester ends December 11. The sign-up form and program details are available online at [www.collegeofthedesert.edu/pLEDGEtocomplete](http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/pLEDGEtocomplete).

Students who participate in pLEDGE to Complete will enroll full-time, although exceptions can be made for those who work full-time or have approval from their counselor. Participants will also meet with a counselor to create a comprehensive student educational plan and have a completed financial aid file by January 15, 2021.

PIEDGE to Complete is an expansion of the award-winning pLEDGE program. The pLEDGE program provides free tuition at College of the Desert for recent graduates of local high schools.

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