



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
FURTHER INFORMATION:**

**DATE: APRIL 21, 2016
PAULA GREEN (626) 914-8873**

Citrus College Outperforms Peers in Key Student Success Areas

Citrus College's performance in the areas of student persistence and college completion has exceeded statewide averages, according to the 2016 Student Success Scorecard, an annual report of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office.

"I am very pleased to learn of the college's performance gains on this year's Student Success Scorecard," said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. "In 2012, the Citrus College community pledged to intensify its efforts to ensure that students complete their educational goals. We became a College of Completion, and it is gratifying to see our efforts authenticated by the Student Success Scorecard data."

The Scorecard, released on March 30, is a longitudinal study of California students who enrolled at California community colleges during the 2009-2010 academic year. Each academic year, student progress is evaluated according to several metrics: completion of an associate degree, a career technical education (CTE) certificate, or a transfer-related program; enrollment in the first three consecutive terms of the Scorecard analyses; and achieving 30 units or more.

Other metrics addressed in the Scorecard included students who enrolled in basic skills or English as a Second Language classes upon entering Citrus College and completed a college level course in the same subject. In addition, the progress of students who completed more than eight units in CTE courses and earned an associate degree, CTE certificate, or transfer program was monitored. Students who started a career development/college preparation course and completed an associate degree, a CTE certificate or a transfer-related program were included as a metric.

In addition to exceeding statewide performance averages, Citrus College garnered percent increases in all but one metric, a notable performance supported by the institution's longstanding reputation as a community college of both national and state prominence. In March 2016, Citrus College ranked 12th in *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* annual community college list for the number of associate degrees awarded to Hispanic students. The institution has a consistent presence in *Community College Week* magazine's annual "Top 100 Associate Producers" issue and in 2015 was listed in seven categories of the publication's top 100 lists—including total associate degrees conferred in all disciplines.

Citrus College was also one of 150 colleges selected to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence in January 2016. In February, the college was one of 10 California community colleges to receive a reaffirmation of its accreditation.

"I commend the Citrus College faculty and staff for their focused efforts that have impacted the 2016 Student Success Scorecard," said Mrs. Susan M. Keith, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "The Scorecard reflects an institutional culture that consistently produces historic numbers of students who earn associate degrees and career technical certificates, and who transfer to four-year colleges and universities—making the promise a completion a reality."



College completion was one of several Student Success Scorecard categories where Citrus College gained increases. The college has broken its graduation records every year since 2011.