



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Citrus College Named Military Friendly® School for Seventh Consecutive Year** *Designation reflects efforts to recruit, serve military students*

*Glendora, Calif.*—Citrus College has been named a Military Friendly® School for 2017. This is the seventh consecutive year the college has earned this recognition. The Military Friendly® School designation by *G.I. Jobs*, a monthly magazine published by media company Victory Media, is awarded to the top colleges, universities, community colleges and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace military students and ensure their success in the classroom.

“I am proud to be a part of Citrus College’s welcoming community of students, faculty and staff who are here to support our service members,” said Dr. Geraldine M. Perri, superintendent/president of Citrus College. “This designation of a Military Friendly® School is a testament to the dedicated support and assistance available at the college to members of the military transitioning to student life.”

The college’s Veterans Success Center serves approximately 500 veterans annually. “We are honored to be recognized for the work we do for our students who have served, or who are currently in service to our country,” said Dr. Monica Christianson, director of the Veterans Success Center. “These men and women make a valuable contribution to our college community every day.”

Located in a 3,700 square-foot facility that offers computers, quiet rooms for studying and a garden for veterans to maintain and grow food, the Veterans Success Center services include mental health management, academic counseling and financial aid assistance. Charles Henderson, a student veteran and former member of the United States Marine Corps, emphasized the important role of veterans support services on campus. “I’m grateful that Citrus College has the Veterans Success Center. Since I first stepped on campus and sat down with Monica, the center has helped me tremendously. I am glad that we have these services when we need direction and assistance.”

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Student veteran Albert Fuentes, former United States Army soldier, added that the Veteran Success Center is a comfortable place that allows student veterans to study in a stress-free environment. “It’s like my second home; the people who work here are fantastic.”

Citrus College recently collaborated with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide medical exams, screenings and follow-ups for student veterans on campus. The partnership marked the first time the VA offered telehealth services on a California college campus. “This type of service saves the student veterans many hours of commuting and wait times, making the Veteran Success Center a true one stop shop,” Christianson added.

- 30 -

#### **About Citrus College**

Serving the San Gabriel Valley for over 100 years, Citrus College educates approximately 20,000 students annually. The college offers 90 associate degrees and certificates of achievements, prepares students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, provides basic skills courses, and workforce training. Located in Glendora, California, Citrus College is the oldest community college in Los Angeles County. Its 104-acre campus includes eight outdoor athletic facilities. Citrus College has received numerous accolades including ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation for awarding associate degrees in visual and performance arts for Hispanic students; 7<sup>th</sup> among California’s 113 community colleges for associate degree production; and designated a Military Friendly School. For more information, visit [www.citruscollege.edu](http://www.citruscollege.edu).

#### **About Military Friendly® Schools**

First published in 2009, the Military Friendly® Schools is the most comprehensive, powerful resource for veterans today. The Military Friendly® Schools designation process includes extensive research and a data-driven survey of thousands of schools nationwide approved for Post-9/11 GI Bill funding. The school survey, methodology, criteria and weightings are developed with the assistance of an independent Advisory Board comprised of educators and HR, diversity and recruitment professionals from schools across the country. Criteria for consideration can be found at: <https://www.militaryfriendly.com>