

## PRESS RELEASE

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Citrus College Named Among the Fastest-Growing Community Colleges in the U.S.

Citrus College is one of the fastest-growing community colleges in the nation, according to a recent *Community College Week* report.

The college ranked fifth among U.S. community colleges with enrollments of 10,000 or more, according to 2012 and 2013 records. Nearly 13,000 students attended Citrus College in 2013, a 10 percent increase over the previous year.

"This wonderful recognition reflects the hard work of the dedicated Citrus College faculty and staff who contribute to a learning environment that attracts students to the college," said Citrus College Superintendent/President Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D. "As we observe our Centennial, we can reflect on the college's many achievements and the important fact that these successes have fueled our growth."

Citrus College's latest accolade is supported by an array of highly successful academic programs and student support services that have attracted more students to the institution. In addition to being included among the nation's fastest growing community colleges, Citrus College is also a consistent presence on *Community College Week's* "Top 100 Associate Degree Producers" lists. In June 2014, the college awarded 2,119 associate degrees at its June 2014 Commencement, an all-time record for the fourth consecutive year. And, since 2011, the college's nationally-acclaimed Veteran's Program has received *G.I. Jobs* magazine's Military Friendly School® designation.

Most recently, Citrus College's STEM Program (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) was selected as a STEM Jobs<sup>SM</sup> Approved College for 2015 by Victory Media. In September, the college's Career/Technical Education Program was recognized by Career/PayScale, Inc. as one of the nation's top 10 public two-year colleges based on alumni earning potential; the institution ranked fifth among California's 112 community colleges in this category.

At the state level, Citrus College is third among the California community colleges in the number of Associate Degrees for Transfer awarded. Locally, the institution's outstanding reputation was confirmed last spring when it was voted the "Best Community College" in the San Gabriel Valley Newsgroup's annual "Readers Choice" poll.

"This new accomplishment is wonderful news for the community members served by Citrus College," said Mrs. Joanne Montgomery, president of the Citrus Community College District Board of Trustees. "As students, faculty, and staff look forward to the holiday season, I hope the college's newest national honor adds to their pride in Citrus College."

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