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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**California Community Colleges Announce Federal Grants of \$29 Million to Provide Workforce Training Programs and Foster Business Partnerships**

***Twelve Southern California colleges get grants in health care and advanced manufacturing fields***

SACRAMENTO, Calif. -- Twelve California community colleges will share more than \$29 million in federal grants for the development and expansion on innovative training programs in partnership with local businesses. The grants, announced Sept. 18 in Washington, D.C., are part of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program, a multiyear, nearly \$2 billion initiative to expand training programs for unemployed workers, especially those impacted by foreign trade.

The U.S. Department of Labor is implementing and administering the program in coordination with the U.S. Department of Education. All course materials developed using these public funds will be available through the Open Educational Resources initiative so that others can access and build on successful training models. The U.S. Department of Commerce also is encouraging employers to collaborate with local colleges eligible for funding through this program. Strong partnerships and workforce training will help ensure that curricula and training are aligned with the skills and competencies industries seek from workers trained at the state's community colleges.

"I'm pleased that our community colleges have earned even more grant money this year because that means the federal government sees the value in our workforce training programs and so too do our partners in industry," said Van Ton-Quinlivan, vice chancellor of the California Community Colleges Workforce and Economic Development division. "The funds will go to developing critical training programs that will quickly qualify our students to get high-paying jobs in high-demand fields such as health care information technology, aerospace technology and advanced manufacturing.

The nine colleges that make up the Los Angeles Community College District will share \$19.25 million in grants for the district's Los Angeles Healthcare Competency to Career Consortium. The program will partner with employers in the health-care industry to create a training model for trade-impacted workers and other long-term unemployed in the greater Los Angeles area. The 2013 grant will build on the

progress of the 2012 grant projects to develop competency-based programs of study, including a common foundation credential, certificates of achievement and associate of arts and associate of science degrees related to health science professions. The consortia and the respective slice of the grant total include consortia leader Los Angeles Trade-Tech College (\$10.6 million), *Los Angeles City College (\$1,073,659), East Los Angeles College (\$1,804,765), Los Angeles Harbor College (\$976,891), Los Angeles Mission College (\$872,596), Los Angeles Pierce College (\$1,013,202), Los Angeles Southwest College (\$790,751), Los Angeles Valley College (\$318,953) and West Los Angeles College (\$1,787,048).*

Long Beach City College was granted \$2.75 million to deliver pathways to engineering education and careers by expanding existing programs through online virtual simulation and labs, enhancing curriculum with employers' input and creating credentials that lead to associate degrees in engineering technology and electrical technology. The college also is part of a community college consortium from Florida that was awarded a total of \$24.5 million to focus on logistics and supply chain management. Long Beach City College's slice of that consortia grant was \$1.75 million.

Through its Technology Career Institute, the MiraCosta Community College District will offer certificate training in electronics engineering and robotics/automation. With its \$2.75 million grant, the one-college district will work with industry leaders to create an accelerated training approach. Within 12 weeks, Technology Career Institute students will have a credential that will help them find a job and move up a career ladder in their chosen field. Courses in certificate programs may also move toward credit technical certificates and associate degree programs.

Saddleback College and the South Orange Community College District were awarded \$2.75 million for the Orange County Health Care Career Transitions program that will deliver a health career readiness program and use cutting-edge technology to streamline and enhance allied health training programs. "Fast Track to Success" will prepare workers for high-demand allied health careers. The project also will enhance and streamline existing allied health training programs and develop new programs to take advantage of emerging career opportunities resulting from the continuing rollout of the Affordable Care Act.

"For America's workforce to be competitive in the 21st century, our workers must possess the skills employers need for their businesses to succeed," said U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker. "That is why employers should partner with educational institutions and government to help develop curriculum and credentialing programs at the local level. This round of grants has an increased emphasis on creating the types of training programs that will prepare community college students for the jobs in which they are needed, which is good for employees, employers and the strength of our economy."

*The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation. It is composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.3 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills courses in English and math, and prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges.*

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Regards,

**Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice Chancellor**

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