

Inside California Education: Community Colleges Begins Airing This Week
Statewide program from PBS KVIE Sacramento takes a deeper look at education challenges and successes in the nation's largest college system

Sacramento, CA – Nov. 5, 2019 – KVIE, the PBS station serving the Sacramento region, is premiering three new episodes of ***Inside California Education*** focused on California's community colleges. It's the latest edition of the highly regarded weekly series exploring key public education issues in California, which airs on PBS stations throughout the Golden State.

Each new half-hour episode explores at least four stories directly from community college campuses across California. The programs provide viewers with a thoughtful, insightful look into the diverse range of students enrolled in local colleges and their goals and aspirations – and the educators, staff and partners who serve and support them.

The community college episodes of ***Inside California Education*** will premiere on PBS KVIE on Nov. 6, 13 and 20 at 7:30 p.m., and on PBS stations throughout California beginning soon (check local listings). Individual stories and full episodes will be available at www.kvie.org and www.insidecaled.org.

In these episodes, viewers will discover college programs and collaborations that are helping to train local residents to work on in-demand construction projects at Los Angeles International Airport; diversify and bolster a firefighter academy in rural Lake Tahoe; prepare students for jobs in biotechnology in San Diego; gain skills for agricultural jobs and opportunities in the Central Valley; and much more. (See attached list for all stories.)

Comprised of 73 districts and 115 colleges, the California Community College system is the largest higher education system in the nation—providing a gateway to higher education and careers for more than 2 million students per year. For example, seven in 10 of California's nurses receive their training at a California community college. Eight in 10 police officers, firefighters and EMTs are trained at a California community college. And 29% of University of California graduates and 51% of California State University graduates started at a community college.

“We're very excited to bring viewers these important, new stories about the successes and challenges of California's community colleges,” says Christina Salerno, Series Producer for ***Inside California Education***. “Education is a core PBS mission, and it's a chance to see the unique people and programs really making a difference.”

“As our state focuses more on creating a ‘cradle to career’ system for education and workforce preparation, it makes great sense to build on the stories ***Inside California Education*** has been sharing about early education and K-12 and to spotlight community colleges,” says Rick Launey, Co-Executive Producer for the series. “These colleges are the heart of so many local communities and they provide critical services that help so many residents pursue their own California dreams.”

Inside California Education is a co-production of KVIE, the Sacramento PBS member station, and NationalEdOnline, a California-based education non-profit organization. The series has three times been awarded the John Swett Excellence in Educational Media Award, presented by the California Teachers Association for outstanding coverage of education, and twice been nominated for Emmy Awards. The community college series is supported by the [College Futures Foundation](http://CollegeFuturesFoundation.org).

About PBS KVIE Sacramento:

Broadcasting from California's capital, PBS KVIE helps everyone explore the world through experiences in history, current events, drama, nature, and science, while serving as a trusted guide for children with the best educational programming. Established in 1959, KVIE serves more than 1.4 million households in the nation's 20th largest television market, and can be viewed in 28 of California's 58 counties. KVIE is a leading producer of original programming, with *America's Heartland*, *Inside California Education*, *KVIE Arts Showcase*, *Rob on the Road*, *Studio Sacramento*, *ViewFinder*, and *Yes! We're Open*. More information is at KVIE's website at www.kvie.org.

About NationalEdOnline:

NationalEdOnline is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on new technologies that enhance online and virtual learning. NationalEdOnline offers a broad range of online training solutions, and has developed and produced training content in the areas of employee and staff development, mandated training, computer application training, and information webinars and webcasts.

Inside California Education on Social Media

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Inside California Education: Community Colleges

List of Stories

Four Year Degrees at Community Colleges: We explore a new law that allows 15 California community colleges to offer bachelor’s degrees in certain workforce areas. We’ll highlight the Bachelor of Science Degree in Equine and Ranch Management at Feather River College in Quincy, with visuals of rural Plumas County, horses and cattle.

Aviation Soars at Community Colleges: We look at how many aviation careers take off from the community college system. We focus on the Air Traffic Control and Aircraft Dispatcher programs at Sacramento City College, held at the former McClellan Air Force Base.

Community College History in Training Nurses: Community Colleges have played a historically significant role in the training of nurses in California. We’ll look at the role the colleges play in supplying the state’s workforce of nurses, and take an in-depth look at the top-performing nursing program at Los Angeles Harbor College, which has a 100 percent completion rate.

TAG – You’re It: We explain the Transfer Admission Guarantee program between six UC Campuses and the Community Colleges, and look at how a newly signed agreement will expand access even further. We’ll tell this story by meeting community college students who plan to use the TAG program to transfer to UC Davis.

Farm of the Future: West Hills College in Coalinga has a “Farm of the Future” educational program that aims to create a national model of agricultural education. They offer more than a half dozen high-paying, high demand career training opportunities in agriculture, including training students to use technology to improve how food and fiber is planted, irrigated and harvested.

Tesla Start: Evergreen Valley College in San Jose is one of only six locations across the U.S. that offers a program called Tesla Start to train students to become electric vehicle technicians. It’s an accelerated 12-week program that pays students while they learn. Tesla provides the vehicles, equipment, instructor, tools and curriculum for hands-on learning, and students train in a space on campus designed to simulate a Tesla Service location so they are ready to hit the ground running on day one of their new careers.

Growing and Diversifying the Fire Service: The Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Academy at Lake Tahoe Community College is intentionally trying to diversify its student body and reaching out to underrepresented populations whose members may never have thought to enter the fire service fields before. This visual story looks at cadets learning fire service skills, and also explains why these careers are even more crucial as California continues to grapple with wildfires year after year.

Reaching for the Stars: Riverside City College has had a thriving theater program known throughout the community for more than 80 years. In the last few decades, the college has increased its reach even further by creating a program where middle school, high school and community college students work side-by-side to put on a professional theater performance. We get footage of them rehearsing their latest performance, *The Wiz*, and hear how this program is inspiring high school students to enroll in Riverside City College.

A Wine Education: Napa Valley College's Viticulture and Winery Technology program is the largest in the world. It is Napa Valley after all! We meet students who are harvesting grapes and working in the lab as they obtain a certificate or a two-year associate of science degree, specializing in viticulture, enology, or wine marketing and sales. They can then go to work right away in the wine industry or transfer to four-year colleges to further their education in winemaking.

HireLAX Apprenticeship Readiness Program: HireLAX is a unique collaboration between Los Angeles Southwest College and Los Angeles World Airports, designed to train local residents to work on in-demand construction projects at LAX and elsewhere. It's an 8-week program that's free for students, with more than 70 percent of graduates going on to start construction careers at LAX or other nearby projects.

Southern California Biotechnology Center: San Diego Miramar College has a unique biotechnology center that aims to prepare students for jobs in the local biotechnology industry. More than 1,300 positions in biotech are open each year, and this program was created to meet that need. Students can earn a certificate through three classes, and go straight into well-paying jobs with major labs.

First-Gen Students: El Camino College in Torrance has designed a robust program to support the success of first-generation college students. More than half of all El Camino students and 80 percent of its Promise Program students identify as first-generation students. The First-Gen Initiative aims to provide support for these students through workshops, individual support, rallies and other activities.

Sowing the Seeds of Success with Urban Agriculture: In the heart of San Diego's urban East Village community sits an outdoor laboratory that is part of San Diego City College's unique Urban Agriculture program. Here, students do everything from taking soil samples to harvesting vegetables. College officials hope this small piece of land, once adjacent to a parking lot, can serve as an example of how urban farming can happen anywhere.