

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Orange Promise Expands to Offer Free Tuition to all First-time College Students

Anaheim, Calif. – Beginning in fall 2019, the North Orange Promise Program will expand to include a tuition-free college experience for all first-time, full-time college students attending Cypress College, Fullerton College, and North Orange Continuing Education.

The North Orange Promise pilot program was launched with nearly 1,800 students in the fall of 2018, serving graduates of the Anaheim Union High School District. The success of this pilot created the demand and a model for the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD) to expand the number of incoming eligible students in 2019.

“We are so delighted to be able to offer a tuition-free year of college to all first-time students who qualify,” said NOCCCD Chancellor Cheryl Marshall, Ed.D. “With the hard work of our staff and faculty, any student without prior college experience has the opportunity to collect this support. That means potential students from any high school, any age, and any income bracket will be able to participate in the North Orange Promise Program.”

NOCCCD, which includes Cypress College, Fullerton College, and North Orange Continuing Education, serves over 85,000 students from 12 local cities. Over 70% of our students are not able to afford college and must apply for some type of financial aid. The North Orange Promise intends to lower income barriers to ensure that the benefits of college attendance remain available to students of all backgrounds.

Under the program, students who meet eligibility requirements will receive one year of their education completely free of tuition and health fees. Students must be:

- First-time college students
- High school graduates or accepted equivalency
- A California resident, AB540 or DREAM approved applicant

Once accepted into the North Orange Promise Program, students (at a minimum) must:

- Enroll full-time for at least 12 units in fall and spring semesters
- Complete a current financial aid (FAFSA/CADAA) application
- Develop a Student Education Plan with the help of our college counseling team
- Earn a minimum 2.0 grade point average in the fall semester to maintain status for the spring

The North Orange Promise is a last-dollar scholarship program, which means it meets funding needs remaining after federal and state aid programs and private scholarships have been applied. The program will cover students' credit fees, comparable to tuition, which are paid on every unit for which the student registers. Funding will be provided to each individual student for one academic year.

NOCCCD Background

Two of the state's premier colleges and most extensive continuing education program combine to provide the quality educational programming of the North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD). Nearly 85,000 students enroll each term at Cypress College, Fullerton College, and North Orange Continuing Education. College students are able to shape their futures in programs leading to associate degrees, vocational certificates, and transfer opportunities. Life-long learning also is possible in continuing education programs that range from high school completion and basic skills mastery through an array of vocational training and self-development courses. The NOCCCD campuses serve an area of over one million diverse people – each pursuing their own, unique ambitions.

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