

What Students Are Saying About **Community College** **Baccalaureate Degree Programs**

California Community Colleges' Baccalaureate Degree Programs Help Close Equity Gaps and Improve Student Pathways to Greater Economic Mobility



Baccalaureate Degree Programs at California Community Colleges provide pathways to improved wages and social mobility for more students by curating essential career-specific degrees. Bachelor's degrees offered at community colleges are non-duplicative of degrees at the California State University and the University of California systems and are tailored to meet regional workforce demands to meet the needs of the students where they live.

California's Community Colleges serve the most diverse students. Baccalaureate Degree Programs help students from being bogged down in student debt, with **72% of students** reporting taking out **no student loan debt** to finance their education.

Since its inception by the California State Legislature in 2014, the Baccalaureate Degree Program specific to community colleges has already improved the lives of Californians across the state. Alumni share their experiences first hand:

“ My future is bright because of the baccalaureate degree program at Cypress College. **The opportunity I had to further my education directly impacts the community I serve as a funeral service professional.** ”

KIMBERLY WORL

Cypress College's Funeral Service Program
Class of 2022

“ Cypress College's bachelor's degree in Funeral Service not only ended the thirteen-year cycle of working a minimum of two jobs. I did not incur any student debt in the process. **I never thought I would obtain a Bachelors, and now I am working on my master's degree!** ”

GINA HOOPER

Cypress College's Funeral Service Program
Class of 2018

“ This program allowed me to pursue my educational goals **without having to take out student loans** as the program is affordable. The curriculum allowed me to attend school while working full time and the staff was amazing at ensuring I had the necessary tools to succeed in this program. Having this degree allowed me to obtain a better paying job and provide my family with a better quality of life. This program is amazing, and I hope it’s available to future students so they too can achieve their educational goals. ”

MARGARITA BONAPARTE
Mesa College’s Health Information Program
Class of 2021

“ I have my dream job. I was one of the first students in the 2018 graduating class to earn a BS degree in HIM from Mesa College and would highly recommend, and have recommended, this College to anyone wanting a **successful career** in the healthcare industry. ”

VICTORIA LEE BRADBURY
Mesa College’s Health Information Program
Class of 2018



“ Being able to graduate and get my bachelor’s degree enabled me to achieve the unthinkable. I was able to complete my degree at a community college, which made it extremely affordable for me and **eliminated the burden of tuition costs**. The bachelor’s degree has provided me with numerous opportunities. I never imagined I’d be where I am now because of the opportunity to earn my bachelor’s degree at a community college, and I am a **true testament to a successful community college bachelor’s degree graduate**. ”

ROCIO GARCIA
West Los Angeles College’s Dental Hygiene Program
Class of 2021

Baccalaureate degree programs at community colleges are transformative for workers and the workforce alike, addressing **access, equity and economic mobility** for all Californians and helping **meet our state’s degree attainment and workforce goals**.

