

About the College

Contra Costa Community College District

A Brief History

The Contra Costa Community College District was established by a vote of the people on December 14, 1948. With boundaries roughly equal to those of Contra Costa County, the district covers 686 square miles, making it the eighth largest community college district in California. It serves and is supported by more than 1,000,000 residents of Contra Costa County. Contra Costa College, in San Pablo, was the founding college in the district. Diablo Valley College was constructed in 1951 and now includes the main campus in Pleasant Hill and a center in San Ramon. In the spring semester of 1974, Los Medanos College opened its doors to students from Antioch Unified School District, Liberty Union High School District, Mt. Diablo Unified School District and Pittsburg Unified School District, as well as to adults of all ages from central and eastern Contra Costa County. In 1998, the college opened the Brentwood Center in partnership with the Liberty Union High School District Adult Education Center. The Center moved to its current location on Sand Creek Road in Brentwood in 2001.

Los Medanos College

The college is located on a 120-acre site near the boundary between the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch. The name of the college derives from the 8,000-acre Rancho Los Medanos, which was one of the last land grants made by the Mexican government when California was still a territory of Mexico. Rancho Los Medanos covered almost all of Pittsburg and Antioch, including the current site of the college. Translated into English, the name of the college refers to inland sand dunes or sand hills, which may be a reference to the sandy terrain that characterizes eastern Contra Costa County with its long history of sand mining.

Today Los Medanos College is a thriving center of higher education activity. The college offers courses leading to transfer credit at senior colleges and universities, general education and major coursework leading to associate of arts or science degrees and courses leading to certificates of achievement. The college is also the leading force in the economic development of eastern Contra Costa County. Short-term courses are offered in a variety of technical and business-oriented subjects to enhance job skills training, technology training, and workforce preparation. To further meet the needs of local residents and businesses in far East County, the college provides an educational center in Brentwood. Los Medanos College offers high-quality instruction supported by the latest technology while still maintaining the personal touch and family orientation for which the college is known.

Mission Statement

Los Medanos College is a public community college that provides quality educational opportunities for those within the changing and diverse communities it serves. By focusing on student learning and success as our first priorities, we aim to help students build their abilities and competencies as lifelong learners. We create educational excellence through continually assessing our students' learning and our performance as an institution. To that end, we commit our resources and design our policies and procedures to support this mission.

Our Vision

Los Medanos College provides the premier educational opportunity for East County residents, where learning matters most.

Our Values

Values remind us of what matters most. Los Medanos College is an educational community that cares deeply about learning, collaboration, effective communication, and engagement with our surrounding community.

Learning

Student learning and student success are the focal points of our college. We strive to create a dynamic environment that encourages lifelong engagement with academic and societal challenges. We value the importance of critical thinking, effective communication, ethical behavior and diversity. We engage in ongoing assessment to measure and improve student achievement and institutional effectiveness.

Collaboration

While we value the contributions of the individual, most of our endeavors require collaboration, communication, and cooperation. It is in working together that we spark creative and innovative approaches, build on each other's ideas and give mutual support. It is in collaboration that we learn to value multiple perspectives and resolve conflict in constructive ways.

Communication

Communicating clearly and effectively is critical to both student success and organizational effectiveness. We want our students to read critically and write clearly. We also want them to compose oral presentations that demonstrate poise, competence, and an understanding of new technologies. We want an organization that has clear decision-making processes that embody these same competencies and expresses them in consistent, unambiguous policies and procedures.

Engagement

Our mission is to provide educational opportunities for the people who live in our surrounding communities. We must be responsive to changing needs and seek partnerships that promote the well-being of our diverse and growing communities.