

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, America's first public community college was established in Joliet, Illinois, in 1901; and,

WHEREAS, today the Illinois Community College System is now the third largest in the nation with 48 community colleges and 39 college districts located throughout the state; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Illinois Community College Board, Illinois community colleges educate 60 percent of the students enrolled in Illinois public higher education; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois is number one in the nation for bachelor's degree completion rates among community college students who transfer (54 percent); and,

WHEREAS, nine out of ten of the state's community college graduates live, work, pay taxes, and raise their families in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, earning an Associate of Applied Science or long-term certificate from an Illinois community college adds more than \$570,000 in lifetime earnings; and,

WHEREAS, nearly 74 percent of Illinois employers have hired a community college graduate; and,

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2021, Illinois community colleges partnered with local school districts and offered 13,314 dual credit courses to 66,788 high school students; and,

WHEREAS, Illinois community colleges share a common mission to prepare people for the workforce, to transfer students to other colleges and universities, and to continually respond to the communities they serve through adult literacy continuing education services;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2023 to be Illinois Community College Month in honor of the Illinois Community College System and the significant contribution these institutions are making to the strength, vitality, and prosperity of our state.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-FOUR day of MARCH, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-THREE, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and FIFTH.



Alexi Giannouh
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**NATIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH
APRIL 2023**

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's 16 comprehensive community colleges respond to the educational, vocational, and cultural needs of their home counties; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's award-winning community colleges enroll over half of Maryland residents pursuing undergraduate education; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's community colleges, students, staff, and alumni annually contribute approximately \$9 billion to the State's economy; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's community colleges are open-access institutions offering high-quality, affordable postsecondary education to all State residents seeking opportunities to learn and grow; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's community colleges are committed to maintaining an inclusive learning environment that meets the diverse needs of their local communities and facilitates social mobility; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's community colleges train students to fill skilled positions in Maryland's workforce, prepare them to obtain and renew professional licenses and certifications, prepare them to continue their education at four-year institutions, and offer enrichment programs that improve community and quality of life; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's community colleges create and host cultural events, including art exhibits and live performances that are accessible and affordable to community members; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The strength and success of Maryland's future relies upon the resiliency of its residents and its economy. Community colleges invest in Maryland's future by preparing out citizens for today's workforce and tomorrow's careers, and by contributing to a stronger and healthier society.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim APRIL 2023 as NATIONAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 11th day of April
Two Thousand and twenty-three*

[Signature]
Governor

Oruna Miller

[Signature]
Lt. Governor

Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, New Jersey's strong network of 19 comprehensive, open door community colleges fully respond to the educational, cultural, and community needs of their respective counties; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's comprehensive community colleges prepare students to enter four-year institutions, prepare them to assume skilled positions in New Jersey's workforce, and offer many other programs that enrich the quality of life for the state's residents; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's community colleges are a critical nexus in the state's education system. The colleges have strong partnerships with the K-12 sector, providing dual enrollment programs to nearly tens of thousands of students annually to ensure that students are prepared for post-secondary education and are on a pathway to further education; and

WHEREAS, the community colleges also have strong partnerships and articulation agreements with New Jersey's public and private four-year colleges and universities, playing a critical role in baccalaureate degree attainment for students in this state; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Student Clearinghouse, 45 percent of all students who earned a bachelor's degree from a New Jersey college or university had previously completed courses at a community college and students who complete their first two years at a New Jersey community college before transferring to a four-year school save \$21,000 in tuition - the most in the country; and

WHEREAS, community colleges play a critical role in meeting the workforce needs of New Jersey's businesses featuring a wide array of innovative collaborations with businesses and other partners that help companies upgrade the skills of their employees, provide training to unemployed and underemployed individuals, and address skills gaps across the state; and

WHEREAS, the state's 19 community colleges function as a network of institutions working collaboratively through the New Jersey Council of County Colleges, a non-profit organization enshrined in state law that works to support and strengthen the state's community colleges; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's community colleges play a significant role in increasing the number of individuals in New Jersey who have earned a post-secondary industry-valued credential or degree and play a critical role in helping the state to meet the goal of 65 percent of the adult population having earned an industry-valued post-secondary credential or degree by 2025;

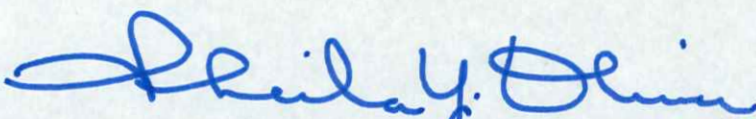
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby recognize:


APRIL 2019
AS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this thirtieth day of April in the year two thousand nineteen, the two hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States.


Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, New Jersey's strong network of 29 comprehensive, open door community colleges fully respond to the educational, cultural, and community needs of their respective counties; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's comprehensive community colleges prepare students to enter four-year institutions, prepare them to assume skilled positions in New Jersey's workforce, and offer many other programs that enrich the quality of life for the state's residents; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's community colleges are a critical nexus in the state's education system. The colleges have strong partnerships with the K-12 sector, providing dual enrollment programs to nearly tens of thousands of students annually to ensure that students are prepared for post-secondary education and are on a pathway to further education; and

WHEREAS, the community colleges also have strong partnerships and articulation agreements with New Jersey's public and private four-year colleges and universities, playing a critical role in baccalaureate degree attainment for students in this state; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Student Clearinghouse, 45 percent of all students who earned a bachelor's degree from a New Jersey college or university had previously completed courses at a community college and students who complete their first two years at a New Jersey community college before transferring to a four-year school save \$21,000 in tuition - the most in the country; and

WHEREAS, community colleges play a critical role in meeting the workforce needs of New Jersey's businesses featuring a wide array of innovative collaborations with businesses and other partners that help companies upgrade the skills of their employees, provide training to unemployed and underemployed individuals, and address skills gaps across the state; and

WHEREAS, the state's 29 community colleges function as a network of institutions working collaboratively through the New Jersey Council of County Colleges, a non-profit organization enshrined in state law that works to support and strengthen the state's community colleges; and

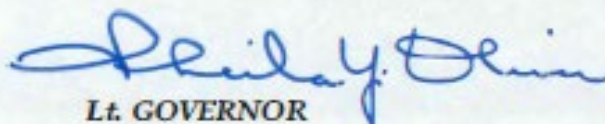
WHEREAS, New Jersey's community colleges play a significant role in increasing the number of individuals in New Jersey who have earned a post-secondary industry-valued credential or degree and play a critical role in helping the state to meet the goal of 65 percent of the adult population having earned an industry-valued post-secondary credential or degree by 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby recognize:

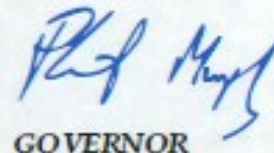
APRIL 2019 AS COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

in New Jersey.




Lt. GOVERNOR

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this thirtieth day of April in the year two thousand nineteen, the two hundred forty-third year of the Independence of the United States.


GOVERNOR

State of New Jersey



THE SENATE
STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N. J.

SENATE RESOLUTION By Senate President SWEENEY

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of New Jersey is pleased to honor and salute the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges, a highly esteemed organization in the Garden State, in recognition of April of 2019 as New Jersey Community College Month; and,

WHEREAS, Community College Month is an appropriate time to acknowledge community colleges and the important contributions they make to the richness and accessibility of American higher education; and,

WHEREAS, The leaders and staff of the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges are fully devoted to the praiseworthy mission of providing statewide leadership in support of the advancement of New Jersey's nineteen community colleges; and,

WHEREAS, In addition, the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges performs sector coordinating responsibilities as required by law and facilitates efforts to improve student success; and,

WHEREAS, New Jersey's outstanding community colleges enroll 350,000 students and grant 24,000 degrees each year, and forty-five percent of students who earn bachelor's degrees in New Jersey have completed courses at a community college; and,

WHEREAS, Students of all ages and backgrounds who attend these exceptional schools receive a superb education and earn degrees, certificates, and training that help them become skilled members of a workforce that propels economic growth and encourages learning and culture; and,

WHEREAS, The strength and success of the State of New Jersey, the vitality of its communities, and the effectiveness of our American society depend, in great measure, upon excellent organizations, exemplified by the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges; and,

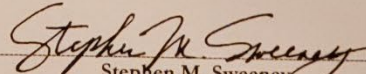
WHEREAS, It is altogether proper and fitting for this House to pause in its deliberations and recognize the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges, and to affirm its importance to the citizens of this State; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:

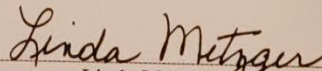
That this House hereby commends the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges, pays tribute to the meritorious efforts of its leaders and staff, and extends sincere best wishes for its continued success and vigor; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the President and attested by the Secretary, be transmitted to the New Jersey Council of Community Colleges.




Stephen M. Sweeney
President of the Senate

Attest:


Linda Metzger
Secretary of the Senate