



PRESIDENTIAL PROSPECTUS



PRESIDENTIAL **PROSPECTUS 2026**

The Riverside Community College District (RCCD) Chancellor invites applications and nominations for the position of President of Riverside City College (RCC).

The Chancellor seeks a proven leader for this position with a solid commitment to the college mission, vision, and values. The new RCC President will be one of three college presidents reporting directly to the RCCD Chancellor who in turn reports to the District's Board of Trustees. The Board consists of five elected trustees who represent the residents living in the District's service area which includes the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, Norco, Perris, and Riverside.





HISTORY

As the seventh oldest community college in California, RCC has served residents of the Inland Empire for 109 years. Originally, Riverside Junior College (the name when established) shared facilities with Riverside Polytechnic High School. In 1924, the College built its first two buildings which are now a part of the popular quadrangle, a central hub of student activity on the RCC campus to this day. In 1965 local voters passed an education bond providing funds to construct a new high school and Poly High School relocated a few miles away. This move provided RCC the opportunity to plan and build for future growth. Measure C, a \$340 million bond measure, was approved in 2004 by voters in the Riverside Community College District. For the next 18 years, RCC benefited through construction of new facilities and modernization of classroom buildings. In 2024 voters approved a new bond, Measure CC, that will provide another \$954 million for more construction at the three colleges, and to start building the Inland Empire Technical Trade Center, a new RCC satellite campus in Jurupa Valley.

MISSION

Riverside City College (RCC) is an open-access, Hispanic-Serving Institution that builds upon the strengths and socio-cultural experiences of our diverse student population and the communities we serve. Our college advances equity, access, and inclusion by supporting the attainment of workplace skills, career technical certificates, degrees, and transfer programs, which promote social and economic mobility for our students and the communities they serve.



VISION

Empowering lives through equity, access, service, and excellence in education.

TIGER PRIDE VALUES

T

TRANSPARENCY

We work collaboratively to develop flexible and creative solutions to meet the evolving needs of our community and embrace change while respecting our tradition and legacy of strong partnerships.

I

INCLUSIVITY

We promote an environment of trust by being honest, fair, transparent, and equitable. We honor our commitments to our students, staff, and communities.

G

GROWTH

We commit to intellectual inquiry, reflection, professional development, and growth for all stakeholders. We adjust our teaching practices to provide equitable opportunities and outcomes and to encourage continual learning for our students, faculty, and staff.

E

EQUITY

We promote social justice and equity.

R

RESPECT

We respond to the needs of our students and communities through engagement and collaboration.

S

STUDENT-CENTEREDNESS

We create meaningful learning environments that value the strengths and experiences our students bring and that support students in developing and accomplishing their personal, education, and career goals.

STRATEGIC PLANS

The District's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan positions RCCD to lead with vision, equity and innovation in a rapidly changing higher education environment. Aligned with the California Community Colleges Vision 2030 goals, the plan reaffirms the District's commitment to student success, equitable access, and institutional excellence.

RCCD GOALS

- 1. Equity in Access:** Broaden opportunities for all area residents to begin or continue their higher education journey at RCCD colleges.
- 2. Equity in Success:** Improve the academic and career success of all current and prospective RCCD students.
- 3. Equity in Support:** Provide maximum levels of institutional support to students by achieving a systematic Standard of Care that supports students from matriculation through completion.
- 4. Institutional Effectiveness:** The District identifies, measures and reports on student and institutional outcomes to demonstrate the advancement of the District's mission and goals.
- 5. Resources:** The District will acquire, manage and deploy resources—including human, facilities, technology, and financial—to support District goals and advancement.
- 6. Partnerships and Community Engagement:** Strengthen RCCD's role and impact as a leading academic institution by cultivating strategic partnerships, engaging the community, and expanding resources to support student success.

RCC's 2025-2030 B.E.S.T. STRATEGIC PLAN

The college's new 5-year strategic plan is intended to be a living guide for our college. It is meant to be used, revisited, and strengthened over time. The B.E.S.T. framework—Build, Engage, Serve, Treasure—provides a concise and action-oriented structure designed to center equity, energize our campus community, and move from intention to implementation.

The Plan is aligned with and complements RCC's Student Equity Plan (2025–2028), our Black Serving Institution Strategic Plan, and is fully compatible with the Seal of Excelencia Framework, supporting Latino student success through intentional leadership, data, and practice. It is also cross-walked with the strategic plans at our sister colleges—Moreno Valley College and Norco College—and is in direct alignment with the Riverside Community College District Strategic Plan and the Vision 2030 plan for California Community Colleges. With these alignments, we ensure that our goals, objectives, strategies, and equity commitments are not siloed, but systemic.

B.E.S.T. PILLARS AND OBJECTIVES

Pillar I. Build [Relationships]:

From Application to Enrollment

Objective 1: Clarify the onboarding process and provide academic planning guidance.

Objective 2: Simplify and support the enrollment process.

Pillar 2: Engage [Connecting to the College]:

First-Year Experience

Objective 3: Create a connected first-year experience.

Objective 4: Foster a sense of belonging and support.

Pillar 3: Serve [Key Momentum Points]:

24+ Units Through Completion

Objective 5: Support students at key momentum points through completion of degrees, certificates, and transfer.

Objective 6: Provide real-world learning opportunities.

Pillar 4: Treasure [the Experience]:

Transformative, Inclusive, Celebrated

Objective 7: Deliver engaging, contextualized learning.

Objective 8: Care for the whole student.

Objective 9: Foster holistic employee well-being.



STUDENTS

At RCC, diversity is what brings our campus to life. Our students come from unique backgrounds and are all at different places in their lives. Some are the first in their families to attend college, some have full-time jobs, and some are raising families, and they are all at RCC for the same reason: to achieve their goals through education. RCC serves more than 33,000 students from all walks of life. In the 2024-25 academic year, 5,227 associate degrees and certificates were awarded. A significant number of these graduates transferred to four-year colleges and universities.

RCC has educated members of one out of every three area families. And, on average, more than 70 percent of alumni from career technical programs who enter the workforce directly from RCC choose to live and work locally.

RCC is known for its programs for veterans, disabled students, and underrepresented populations. It is also home to the Gateway to College and Career Academy, partnered with the City of Riverside on Completion Counts, and originated the first College Promise Program, Passport to College, which later served as a model for the national Gear Up early college awareness initiative.



TOP COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Through work with workforce and community advisors, RCC continues to prepare skilled workers to fill high-paying and high-demand jobs in the workforce. Active advisory committees strengthen faculty development of programs and curricula, to meet local workforce needs. College leadership has regular and extensive discussions with external partners including community leaders, feeder school districts, and university partners who provide continued advocacy, coordination, guidance, and leadership to help the College move forward with its goals. Through these partnerships, the number of courses and programs has increased, leading to more graduates.

RECENT ACCOLADES

Marching Tigers Take Top Honors.

RCC earns first place in Division 2 of the 2025 Metallica Marching Band Competition, and wins \$40,000 in prizes for celebrating creativity and excellence in collegiate music performance.

RCC Officially Designated a Black-Serving Institution.

In December, 2025, RCC received notice that the college has been officially designated a Black-Serving Institution (BSI) by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, marking a significant milestone in the college's ongoing commitment to equity, access, and student success for Black and African American students.

Umoja Program Receives Two Statewide Awards.

The RCC Umoja Program has been recognized with two major statewide honors at the 2025 UMOJA Annual Conference in San Jose, solidifying RCC's role as a leader in culturally responsive education and Black student success across California.

Men's Track and Field Team Honored.

RCC won the 2025 California Community College Athletic Association (CCCCAA) Track and Field State Championship victory, marking the program's ninth state title under Coach McCarron's leadership.

Two Distinctions in 2025 Carnegie Classifications.

RCC has been identified as a Mixed Associate Large institution and designated as Higher Access, Medium Earnings in the newly released 2025 Carnegie Classifications—recognitions that highlight the college's academic breadth and dedication to serving diverse student populations.

NSNA Stellar School Chapter Award.

This honor acknowledges the RCC chapter's ongoing involvement with the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) and our dedication to shared governance and the professional development of our nursing students.

Guardians of Cyber Excellence.

RCC Ranks 13th in Cybersecurity Guide's 2024 Assessment. Riverside City College (RCC) announced that its Cyber Defense Program has been ranked 13th in Cybersecurity Guide's 2024 rankings, standing out among approximately 150 cybersecurity associate degree programs across the United States.

PATHWAYS



Advanced Technical Arts and Trades

This pathway is designed for students who are interested in careers such as automotive and autobody technology; cosmetology; welding technology; air conditioning and refrigeration; culinary arts; applied digital media; printing; or film, television and video production.



Business, Law, and Computer Information Systems

This pathway is designed for students who are interested in business administration, management, entrepreneurship, cyber security, computer programming, computer information systems, web development, networking, paralegal and pathway to law, or real estate.



Education and Teacher Preparation

This pathway is designed for students who are interested in education and/or teaching in early childhood, elementary or special education.



Fine and Performing Arts

This pathway is designed for students who are pursuing degrees or careers in music, dance, film, television and video production, applied digital media, graphic design, theatre arts, studio arts, animation, art history, and/or photography.



Health-Related Sciences

This pathway is designed for students who are interested in careers to promote the health and wellness of individuals and communities such as kinesiology, nursing, nutrition and dietetics, or public health.



Languages and Humanities

This pathway is designed for students who are interested in communication studies, English, film studies, history, humanities, journalism, languages, philosophy and/or teaching at the high school or college level.



Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

This pathway is intended for students who are passionate about designing, building things or exploring how things work. This instructional pathway is also appropriate for students who are going into medical professions or teaching in the STEM fields.



Social and Behavioral Sciences

This pathway is designed for students who are interested in society and human interaction which includes, but is not limited to, administration of justice/criminal justice, anthropology, psychology, sociology, political science, economics, law, social work, or ethnic or gender studies.

EMBRACING GUIDED PATHWAYS

RCC was one of the first 20 community colleges selected statewide to participate in the California Guided Pathways Project. The College has made significant progress toward building an integrated, institution-wide approach to student success based on intentionally designed clear, coherent and structured educational experiences.

The college continues to be focused on the Guided Pathways framework, and is committed to providing holistic and equity focused student support with comprehensive pathways specific student success teams and Engagement Center support. With the help from a successful data coaching program, each division and discipline has access to data that helps drive innovation in student success.

ACADEMICS

The most dynamic and diverse college in the Inland Empire region of California. RCC offers more than 165 strong programs, across 23 academic departments, including Applied Technology, Chemistry, Dance, Nursing, Theatre, and World Languages. In 2021 RCC employed more than 1,600 full-time and part-time faculty, classified professionals, and administrators.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

- Applied Arts & Technology
- Art
- Behavioral Sciences
- Business, Information Systems, and Technology
- Chemistry
- Communication Studies
- Cosmetology
- Counseling
- Cybersecurity
- Education & Teacher Preparation
- Economics, Geography & Political Science
- English & Media Studies
- Ethnic Studies
- History, Humanities & Philosophy
- Kinesiology
- Library & Learning Resources
- Life Sciences
- Mathematics
- Music
- Nursing
- Physical Science
- Theatre and Dance
- World Languages



EXTRACURRICULARS

RECENT STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

- RCC's Fine and Performing Arts group, Performance Riverside, is housed on the campus of Riverside City College and celebrated its 43rd season. Performance Riverside provides opportunities for students to work alongside local professionals and has received national recognition for its outstanding professional theatre productions.
- The college's Model UN team received Distinguished Delegation honors at the 2025 National Model United Nations Conference in Canada. Two students also earned Position Paper awards.
- The College's Journalism program and student newspaper, Viewpoints, have earned the Associated Collegiate Press national Best of Show Newspaper award in 2024, 2021 and 2019. Additionally, Viewpoints has received over 45 General Excellence Awards for print and online versions of the paper since 1996. This is the highest overall award achievable by the Journalism Association of Community Colleges



STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

RCC hosts 85 clubs and organizations representing a variety of academic and career pursuits, as well as special interests. Some clubs/organizations include Active Minds, ExploreAI, La Casa, Makerspace Collective, MESA, Music Industry Club, Native American College Club, Photo Club, Psychology Club, RCC Ethnic Studies Student Club, Student Athletic Trainers Organization, Students in Politics Club, Theatre, Ujima, Veterans, and Women in STEM.



TIGER ATHLETICS

Athletics programs are equally strong for the RCC Tigers, with 18 intercollegiate sports teams at RCC for both men and women. These teams have collectively won three state championships just within the past four years. The Men's Track and Field team won the 2025 CCCAA championship title; the Tiger Football team won the 2023 state title; and, the Baseball team won top state honors in 2022. Coaches of the Year Accolades abound for fall and spring sports teams alike, and many RCC students transfer to play their respective sports at four-year institutions. More information on RCC athletics can be found at <http://www.rccathletics.com/>.



COMMUNITY

RIVERSIDE CALIFORNIA AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

The city of Riverside is the 12th most populous city in California with nearly 330,000 people. It is the county seat of Riverside County. Riverside is part of the Inland Empire, the metropolitan area and region in southern California spanning from the Greater Los Angeles area to the Arizona border. As one of the fastest growing regions in California, Riverside County covers 7,208 square miles and Riverside County had a population of approximately 2.53 million people as of 2024.

Geographically, the county is mostly desert in the central and eastern portions, and has a Mediterranean climate, characterized by rainy winters and dry, warm to hot summers, in the western portion. There are 19 official wilderness areas in Riverside County that are part of the National Wilderness Preservation System including most of Joshua Tree National Park and Coachella Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

In addition to RCC and the District, the City is home to many institutions of higher education including: Cal Baptist University (CBU), the University of California, Riverside (UCR), and La Sierra University (LSU).

THE DISTRICT

RCCD is the fifth largest multi-college District in California. RCCD colleges are located in the cities of Riverside, Moreno Valley, and Norco, representing key geographical and commerce points within the 450 sq. mile service area.

The Riverside Community College District through its three colleges—Moreno Valley College (includes the Ben Clark Training Center), Norco College, and Riverside City College supported by the District Office—serves and enriches its diverse communities by offering certificates, degrees, and transfer programs that help students achieve their educational and career goals. The district strives to impact the social and economic mobility of its students by ensuring access, success, and equity for everyone who wishes to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the colleges.

Riverside Community College District is connected to the community resulting in a high percentage of students coming from the local area. This connection has also created a strong sense of unity and partnerships with community organizations and K-12 school districts.

Each of the three institutions that comprise the RCCD hold Regional Accreditation and are designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). The District has more than 3,600 faculty, staff and administrators.

Chancellor Wolde-Ab Isaac, Ph.D. was unanimously appointed to his position in 2018 after having served as President of RCC.

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

EXPECTED QUALITIES AND CHARACTERISTICS

The next President of RCC will be a strategic, student-centered leader who advances the College's mission of transforming lives and strengthening the Riverside community. The following qualities reflect the leadership priorities of the College and its commitment to equity, excellence, and community impact.

1. Visible, Accessible, and Relationship-Centered Leadership

Maintains a strong, consistent presence across campus and in the community; is approachable and engaged with students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators; builds trust through authentic interaction, active listening, and day-to-day engagement.

2. Visionary, Strategic, and Action-Oriented Leadership

Articulates a clear, shared vision for RCC and aligns institutional planning (Strategic Plan, Equity and BSI Plans, enrollment, accreditation, and resource strategies); translates plans into measurable results, strengthens systems and processes, and ensures effective implementation and long-term institutional stability.

3. Collaborative Leadership and Shared Governance

Fosters unity across classifications and reduces silos; values faculty expertise, classified professional knowledge, and student voice; understands California Community College governance, including the Academic Senate's role under Title 5 and the 10+1; leads through partnership while providing clear direction.

4. Transparent, Accountable, and Courageous Management

Communicates openly, consistently, and responsively regarding decisions, resources, and priorities; establishes clear expectations and boundaries; makes timely and sometimes difficult decisions; holds individuals and teams accountable while modeling integrity and personal responsibility.

5. Student-Centered Advocate and Campus Climate Leader

Prioritizes student success, safety, belonging, and well-being; engages directly with students and student government; communicates promptly during issues affecting student rights or safety; advocates for RCC students at the District, regional, and system levels.

6. Equity-Minded and Culturally Proficient Leadership

Demonstrates a sustained commitment to equity, anti-racism, accessibility, and inclusion; advances RCC's mission as a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and Black-Serving Institution (BSI) through evidence-based servingness; understands and reflects the diverse communities the college serves.

7. Academic Credibility and Integrated Student Success Orientation

Understands the classroom experience and the centrality of instruction; champions academic excellence while ensuring strong alignment among instruction, student services, and co-curricular learning; supports the resources and conditions necessary for teaching and learning.

8. Institutional, District, and Community Advocacy with Long-Term Commitment

Effectively navigates the District and California Community College system; advocates for RCC's resources and priorities; builds strong community and regional partnerships, including workforce and transfer pathways; demonstrates a clear commitment to continuity, stability, and long-term service to the college, with a strong commitment to inclusive community engagement and language access.

CANDIDATE **REQUIREMENTS** (cont.)

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

An earned doctorate from an accredited institution.

Teaching experience in higher education.

Record of progressively responsible senior administrative positions in higher education.

Experience in managing the financial needs of a large multi-layered organization.

Demonstrated sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability, and ethnic backgrounds of community college faculty, classified professionals, administrators, and students.

PREFERRED

Knowledge of the California Community Colleges system.

THE SEARCH

NOMINATIONS AND INQUIRIES

This is a confidential search process. To ensure full consideration, application materials should be received no later than March 30, 2026. The position will remain open until filled.

To apply go to <http://www.acctsearches.org> and upload your documents.

Candidates will need to have the following information or materials available to complete the application:

A letter of application (not to exceed 5 pages) that succinctly addresses the opportunities and challenges identified in the Position Profile and demonstrates how the candidate's experience and professional qualifications prepare them to serve as the President of Riverside City College.

A current resume including an email address and cellular telephone number.

A list of eight references: example, two to three supervisors, two to three direct reports, and two to three faculty and/or staff members from current and former institutions.



For more information, confidential inquiries, or to submit a nomination, please contact:

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For technical assistance, please contact:

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More information about the RCC President Search is available at:

https://rccd.edu/rcc_president_search

This profile provides nominators and applicants with information about RCC, its presidency, the leadership opportunities for the new president, and the application process.



4800 Magnolia Avenue
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Riverside Community College District is an equal opportunity employer advancing inclusive excellence. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age, veteran status, or other protected categories covered by the District's nondiscrimination and equal employment opportunity policies.