



OCTOBER | 2026

VENTURA COLLEGE | VCCCD TRUSTEES PRESIDENT'S REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Ventura College is well into the academic year with strong, vibrant activity across our classrooms, programs, services, and community partnerships. The work highlighted in this report reflects several of the college's strengths: academic and career programs responding to student and regional needs, outreach that brings timely college and financial aid resources directly to students and families, and partnerships that extend learning beyond the classroom. We are also seeing strong engagement through cultural programming, civic activities, the arts, and events that bring students and our broader community together. Behind this work is an ongoing focus with faculty and staff on strengthening enrollment, helping students stay connected and make steady progress toward their goals, and creating clearer pathways that help them reach completion in a timely way.

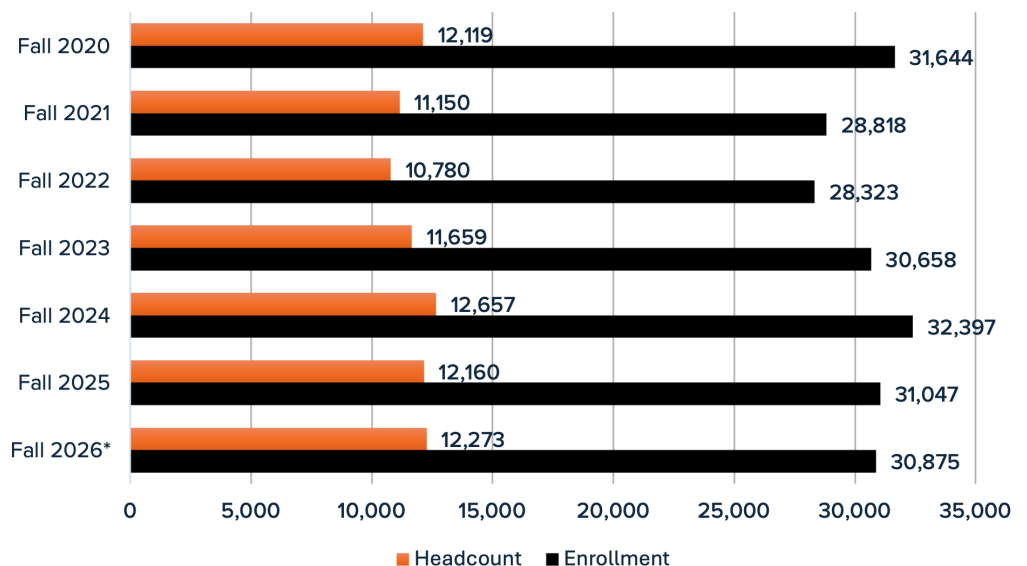
Fall 2026

Enrollment Report Headcount and Enrollment Trend

VC's fall 2026 enrollment is trending very closely with last fall's enrollment. Student headcount is up by approximately 1%, whereas duplicated enrollment is down by approximately 0.3%. This indicates that more students are attending VC this fall than last fall, but that those students are enrolling in slightly fewer classes.

**Fall 26 numbers are preliminary. Final numbers will be available at the end of the term.*

VC Fall Headcount and Enrollment



Headcount = number of unique students

Enrollment = total course enrollments

If a single student enrolls in five courses, they would be counted as one headcount and five enrollments.

Enrollment by Modality

VC offers courses across multiple modalities to meet evolving student needs. Analyses of course fill rates and enrollment patterns indicate that there is stronger student demand for online courses than in-person courses. However, VC is committed to offering a balanced course schedule to meet the needs of our community. As student housing opens, VC fully expects a vibrant living and learning community on campus.

Fall 2026 Course Offerings by Modality

Modality	Count	% of Total	Fill Rate
 In-Person	371	33.6%	79.0%
 Online	424	38.4%	83.4%
 Hybrid	310	28.1%	82.0%
 Total	1,105	100.0%	81.9%

Data Notes:

- Headcount = number of unique students
- Enrollment = number of course enrollments
 - A single student enrolled in 4 classes would count as 1 headcount and 4 enrollments.
- Fill Rate = % of seats taken out of total seats available



Fall 2026 Student Demographics

In fall 2026, approximately 43% of VC students were under the age of 20. This percentage has decreased slightly over the past three fall terms. During this period, we have seen a concomitant increase in the proportion of students between the ages of 30 and 39.

Students by Age

Age	Fall 2024		Fall 2025		Fall 2026	
	Students	%	Students	%	Students	%
Under 20	5,608	44.3%	5,329	43.8%	5,270	42.8%
20-25	3,539	28.0%	3,488	28.7%	3,472	28.2%
25-29	1,245	9.8%	1,159	9.5%	1,157	9.4%
30-39	1,244	9.8%	1,218	10.0%	1,329	10.8%
40-49	594	4.7%	583	4.8%	591	4.8%
50+	427	3.4%	383	3.1%	500	4.1%
Total	12,657	100.0%	12,160	100.0%	12,319	100.0%



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Approximately 56% of VC students were female in fall 2026. This proportion has been relatively stable over the past three fall terms.

Students by Gender

	Fall 2024		Fall 2025		Fall 2026	
Gender	Students	%	Students	%	Students	%
Female	7,016	55.4%	6,851	56.3%	6,864	55.7%
Male	5,301	41.9%	4,996	41.1%	5,086	41.3%
Non-Binary	<10	—	49	0.4%	69	0.6%
Unreported	333	2.6%	264	2.2%	300	2.4%
Total	12,657	100.0%	12,160	100.0%	12,319	100.0%

Approximately, 67% of VC students were Hispanic in fall 2026. This percentage has increased each fall term over the past two decades.

Students by Ethnicity

	Fall 2024		Fall 2025		Fall 2026	
Ethnicity	Students	%	Students	%	Students	%
Asian	601	4.7%	608	5.0%	584	4.7%
Black	223	1.8%	225	1.9%	218	1.8%
Hispanic	8,317	65.7%	8,113	66.7%	8,271	67.1%
Native American	31	0.2%	25	0.2%	22	0.2%
Pacific Islander	27	0.2%	23	0.2%	25	0.2%
Two or More	458	3.6%	473	3.9%	456	3.7%
Unreported	184	1.5%	173	1.4%	208	1.7%
White	2,816	22.2%	2,520	20.7%	2,535	20.6%
Total	12,657	100.0%	12,160	100.0%	12,319	100.0%





Fall 2026 Enrollment Management: “Applied but Not Enrolled” Campaign

As part of Ventura College’s Fall 2026 enrollment management efforts, the Outreach team launched a targeted campaign to reconnect with students who had applied but not yet enrolled. Over three days, the team sent personalized, two-way text messages to 632 students, offering individualized guidance and connections to campus resources. More than 190 students responded, an approximately 30% response rate. Since the campaign began, the number of applicants who had not enrolled declined by 135 students, or 21%, to 497.

Outreach staff helped students navigate financial aid, registration, counseling, academic requirements, and program pathways, including Nursing, Paramedic Studies, Automotive Technology, Diesel Mechanics, and Veterinary Technology. Students were also connected with counselors and campus departments to address individual questions and support their next steps.

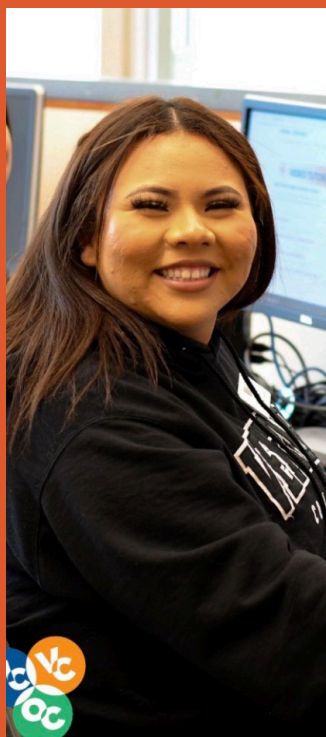
This effort reflects Ventura College’s commitment to a student-centered enrollment experience. By combining proactive outreach with personalized support and coordinated campus referrals, the College is strengthening the transition from application to enrollment and helping more students move toward their educational goals.

Admissions & Records Enrollment Support

Ventura College Admissions and Records, in partnership with Moorpark College, Oxnard College, and the District Office, will launch CCCStart on October 8, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. The new application streamlines admissions by eliminating unnecessary questions and simplifying residency determination. In preparation, staff have tested the application, coordinated student communications, trained campus personnel, and partnered with IT to ensure system readiness. This work has also identified opportunities to improve internal processes, reduce manual application reviews, and shorten student wait times for admission and registration.

Building on this work, district registrars are revising the Residency Reclassification process to align with CCCStart and State Chancellor’s Office requirements. The updated process will incorporate self-attestation and reduce documentation requirements, making it easier for eligible students to qualify for in-state tuition. These changes are intended to reduce financial barriers and minimize the number of students affected by drops for nonpayment. Implementation is anticipated in the coming weeks.

On October 1, 2026, Ventura College implemented the state-mandated identity verification process for all new students to help prevent fraudulent applications and reduce financial losses. Aligned with federal student aid identity requirements, the process preserves free admission applications while protecting the integrity of student records. Staff have been trained to minimize processing delays, and Admissions and Records has collaborated with East Campus personnel to ensure the process protects student information without creating additional barriers for students at the Santa Paula location.



**Start your journey with the
COMMUNITY COLLEGES
OF VENTURA COUNTY**

Enroll today on
CCCStart



Welcome Center Enrollment and Student Support

From July 1 through October 7, 2026, Ventura College's Welcome Center documented 4,627 service interactions supporting enrollment and student success. These interactions included 914 registration assists, 339 application assists, 424 MyVCCCD portal assists, and 1,548 student ID cards processed, along with support for password resets, payment plans, orientation, transcripts, and general inquiries. These figures reflect service activity rather than unique students served and demonstrate the Welcome Center's critical

role in helping students navigate enrollment requirements and overcome barriers to access.

The Welcome Center also continues to strengthen coordinated enrollment support through cross-department collaboration.

At the August 8 Set Sail event, 177 students received one-stop support from the Welcome Center, Admissions and Records, Counseling, and Financial Aid. Among survey respondents, 90.8% reported feeling supported or cared for, and 94.7% said the event helped them feel more involved in their education.

The Welcome Center is also supporting the implementation of CCCStart and identity verification, developing application and portal workshops with Outreach and Counseling, and

partnering with Financial Aid and other campus areas to support registration, campus tours, and student access initiatives.

These efforts extend beyond initial enrollment to support persistence and retention. Through the collegewide Drop for Nonpayment Call Campaign, a team of 43 employees, student workers, and administrators contacted 1,052 students at risk of being dropped from classes last fall, providing personalized outreach and connections to Financial Aid, payment plans, and other resources. Together, these initiatives advance Ventura College's enrollment management efforts by addressing barriers throughout the enrollment cycle, connecting students with appropriate resources, and strengthening coordinated support to help students enroll and remain enrolled.

DualEnroll.com Implementation

Ventura College is expanding DualEnroll to make the dual enrollment process clearer, more accessible, and easier for students and families to navigate. Following a successful pilot with Fillmore High School, the College is expanding the platform to 10 additional partner schools for Spring 2027: Summit School, Nordhoff High School, Ventura High School, Sierra High School, Heritage Valley Independent Studies, Santa Paula High School, El Camino High School at Ventura College, Foothill Technology High School, Pacific High School, and Renaissance High School.

The new platform gives students a more streamlined way to submit and track course requests, understand where they are in the enrollment process, and address outstanding steps before registration. High school partners also have greater visibility into student progress, allowing Ventura College and its K-12 partners to provide more timely support and help students move successfully from interest to enrollment. Participating students were able to begin submitting Spring 2027 course requests as early as September 25, ahead of regular dual enrollment registration on November 13.

The rollout has been a collaborative effort across Admissions & Records, Outreach, Counseling, Welcome Center, and the Dual Enrollment team, with staff working closely together to develop training, student and partner guides, demonstrations, and individualized support for each school. Special recognition goes to Adriana Fernandez and Cynthia Figueroa, whose direct support of students and school partners has been instrumental in helping make the transition successful.

This work reflects Ventura College's continued commitment to meeting students where they are, strengthening K-12 partnerships, removing barriers to college access, expanding equitable dual enrollment opportunities, and creating clearer pathways for high school students to begin and persist in their college journey.



THE COMPASS WELCOME CENTER



914

REGISTRATION
ASSISTS



339

APPLICATION
ASSISTS



424

MyVCCCD
PORTAL ASSISTS



1,548

STUDENT ID CARDS
PROCESSED

FILLMORE HIGH SCHOOL
NORDHOFF HIGH SCHOOL
VENTURA HIGH SCHOOL
SIERRA HIGH SCHOOL
HERITAGE VALLEY INDEPENDENT STUDIES
SANTA PAULA HIGH SCHOOL
EL CAMINO HIGH SCHOOL AT
VENTURA COLLEGE
FOOTHILL TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL
PACIFIC HIGH SCHOOL
RENAISSANCE HIGH SCHOOL

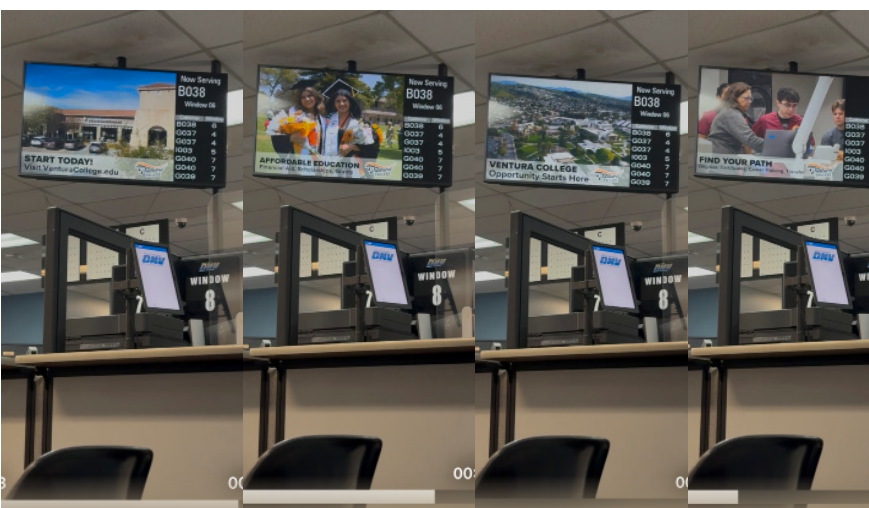
Billboard (Santa Paula)



Postcard (direct mail)



DMV (30 second video)



Marketing and Communications

Ventura College's marketing and communications efforts play an important role in supporting enrollment management by increasing awareness of educational opportunities, strengthening the College's visibility throughout its service area, and keeping students connected to campus resources and activities. Through targeted direct-mail campaigns, billboard advertising in Santa Paula and Fillmore, and advertising at the Santa Paula Department of Motor Vehicles, the College is expanding its reach into surrounding communities and helping prospective students learn about the programs and services available at Ventura College.

The College also leverages multiple social media platforms to promote enrollment opportunities and engage the community. Social media marketing and paid digital advertising help extend the College's reach, with Ventura College's Instagram account approaching 11,000 followers. A two-week YouTube advertising campaign leading up to the start of the fall semester helped increase visibility during a key enrollment period. Radio interviews featuring the President further elevate awareness of College programs and initiatives, while local radio station broadcasts at campus events, including Set Sail and Cash for College, provide opportunities to connect directly with prospective students and families. These efforts help communicate the value of a Ventura College education and promote key entry points into the College.

Recognizing that enrollment management extends beyond recruitment, Ventura College also prioritizes ongoing student engagement. The weekly Pirate Post newsletter keeps students informed about campus activities, events, and opportunities to participate in college life, reinforcing their connection to the campus community. Together, these coordinated marketing efforts support a comprehensive approach to enrollment management by building community awareness, encouraging prospective students to explore educational opportunities, and strengthening the student engagement that contributes to persistence and continued progress toward educational goals.

Enrollment Management Academy

Under the leadership of Roam Romagnoli, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Ventura College (VC) sent a team of vice presidents, deans, department chairs, and counseling faculty to the 2026 Enrollment Management Academy at UC San Diego. The four-day academy provided intensive training in core enrollment management principles, including the new standardized FTES formula and the Student Centered Funding Formula (SCFF).

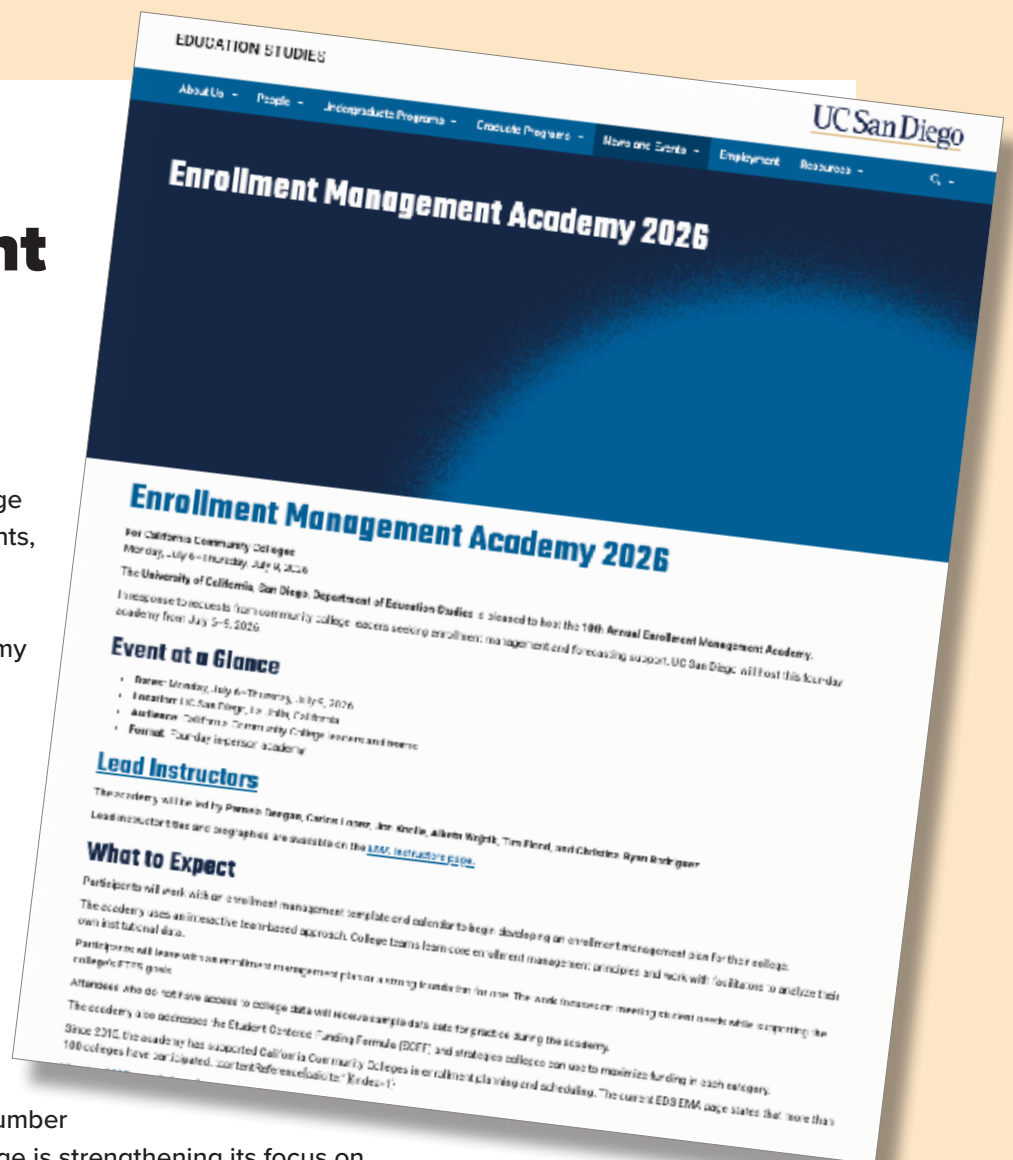
The experience is already shaping how VC approaches enrollment planning. Rather than focusing primarily on the number of students who enroll, the college is strengthening its focus on the full enrollment cycle, including how students enter VC, access courses and pathways, progress from term to term, and receive the support needed to stay on track toward completion. This approach emphasizes greater collaboration between instructional and counseling faculty and equips deans and department chairs with stronger tools to use enrollment, scheduling, and student progression data in planning and decision-making.

Building on this work, VC is developing an Enrollment Foundations and Futuring Academy for the Department Chairs and Coordinators Council, scheduled for November 20, 2026. Facilitated by enrollment management experts from the summer academy at UC San Diego, the one-day academy will advance the following action plan strategies identified by the cross-constituency group of faculty, classified professionals, and administrators who attended the summer academy:

1. **Raising Literacy in Strategic Enrollment Management**
2. **Explore pairing instructional and counseling faculty (in process)**
3. **Deans and Department Chair Training**

In preparation for the academy, the Vice President of Business and Administrative Services will provide a college-specific introduction to SCFF metrics during the preceding week. Following the November 20 academy, UC San Diego facilitators will provide two coaching sessions focused on discipline-specific enrollment planning, with ongoing coaching throughout the year.

Over time, this work will support a more coordinated approach to course scheduling, program planning, student retention and completion, and resource allocation. By aligning enrollment decisions more closely with student needs and educational pathways, Ventura College aims to strengthen students' ability to enter the college, persist in their studies, and achieve their educational goals.



Financial Aid Outreach and Disbursements

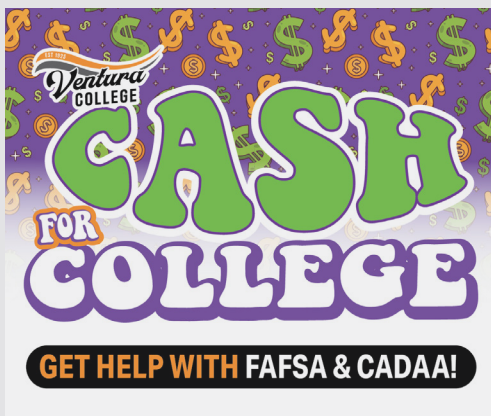
This fall, the Ventura College Financial Aid Office continues to expand its outreach to students and families throughout our service area. Our team has been connecting with students at Ventura, Buena, Santa Paula, and Fillmore high schools, providing financial aid information and helping students and parents prepare for the 2027–28 FAFSA and California Dream Act Application (CADAA), including assistance with creating StudentAid.gov accounts. To date, our Financial Aid team has served 1,237 students and parents through on- and off-campus outreach events this fall. These efforts provide families with early, accessible support and help students take important first steps toward securing financial aid for college.

During the 2025–26 academic year, Ventura College disbursed \$37,580,830.32 in financial aid to students. This total includes grants, student loans, Federal Work-Study (FWS), and emergency aid.

For the 2026–27 academic year, \$14,320,232.95 has already been disbursed year to date, providing critical financial support to students as they pursue their educational goals. This amount does not include California College Promise Grant (CCPG) fee waivers, which waive enrollment fees for eligible California residents.



VENTURA COLLEGE CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



Cash for College

Financial Aid outreach continues in October with two Cash for College events, where students and families receive individualized assistance completing their FAFSA or CADAA. The first event occurred on October 10 at Ventura College. The second event will be on October 24th at the Ventura College East Campus in Santa Paula. Together, these efforts demonstrate the breadth of Ventura College's financial aid work—from bringing financial aid information directly into our communities to delivering millions of dollars in financial assistance that helps students access, persist in, and complete their education.

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

In recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, Ventura College will host its fourth annual Empower Abilities initiative in October. Designed to foster inclusion, connection, and belonging, the program will feature resource fairs, workshops, interactive activities, and a Disability Visibility Panel highlighting accessibility, education, wellness, leadership, and career development.

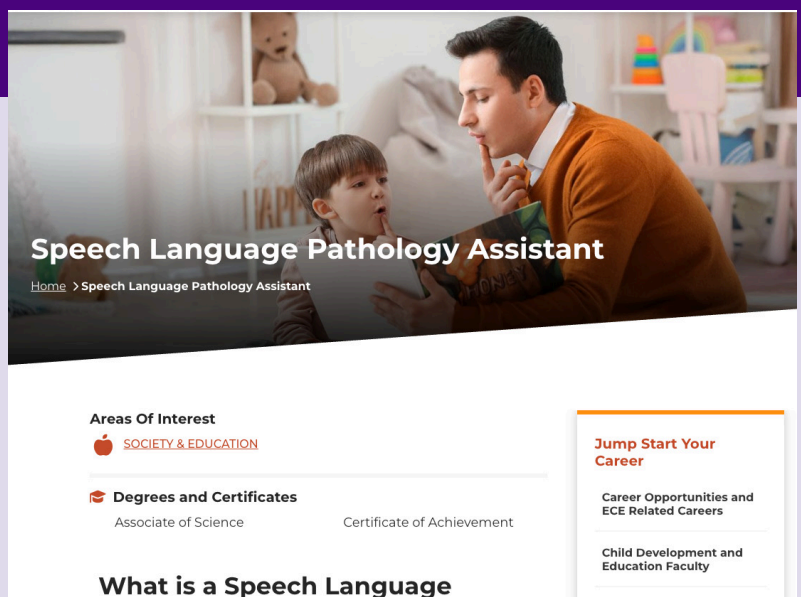
During 2025–26, EAC/DSPS served 1,232 students, representing approximately 6.3% of Ventura College's total enrollment. Activities scheduled for October 12,

19, 21, and 28 will connect students with campus programs and community organizations, expand awareness of available resources, and encourage educational and career exploration.

Empower Abilities reflects Ventura College's commitment to access, belonging, and student success by connecting students with disabilities to the resources, relationships, and opportunities that support their persistence and achievement.

Speech Language Pathology Assistant Program

The newly launched VC Speech Language Pathology Assistant program is pleased to welcome our first class of program completers in December 2026. The program launched in fall of 2025 and was immediately full as VC saw an unprecedented demand for this career preparation program. Throughout the first year of the program, faculty and counselors worked diligently to meet student needs for individualized advising and accelerated scheduling requests. Faculty also worked tirelessly to connect with new community agency clinical partners to execute internship MOUs ahead of schedule. The outcome of this cross-campus and community-wide collaboration was that 11 students were able to accelerate their program and complete the final internship semester of the program this fall- a full semester ahead of schedule. VC is proud to celebrate our first graduates of the SLPA program in December!



Integrated Pest Management Program

On Wednesday, September 16, 2026, Ventura College conducted a scheduled release of beneficial insects using drone technology as part of its Integrated Pest Management program in the Avocado Orchard. The release was conducted in partnership with two industry partners: ParaBug (drone operator) and Bioline (donated the insects). The release is designed to reduce the reliance on chemical pesticides by introducing insects that target specific plant pests affecting the avocado orchard. Ventura College's Agriculture Department includes the Agriculture Pest Control Adviser Preparation Certificate Program. The program includes courses related to crop health, weed science, and pest management that prepares students to obtain the Pest Control Adviser (PCA) License issued by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.



Sherriff's Department Basic Academy Class of 2026-1 Graduation

On September 25, 2026, VC and the Ventura County Sherriff's Department proudly celebrated the Basic Academy class of 2026-1 graduation with a moving ceremony in Thousand Oaks. Forty-two graduates were acknowledged with certificates of completion for passing the demanding Basic Academy. Agencies from across the region send their recruits to the academy, demonstrating their trust and confidence in the excellence and dedication to high standards upheld by the program. Agencies sending recruits included: Burbank PD, CA Department of Insurance, Oxnard PD, Santa Barbara PD, San Fernando PD, San Luis Obispo County Sherriff's Department, Simi Valley PD, Ventura PD, Ventura County Sherriff's Department.



Latinx Heritage Month Kickoff: Rolling with Resistance

On September 22, 2026, Ventura College kicked off Latinx Heritage Month with a presentation exploring the history of lowrider culture and the Chicano Movement. Presented by VC Professor Rubisela Gamboa, *Rolling with Resistance: Lowrider and Chicano Culture* explored how creativity became a form of resistance, how communities fought to be seen and heard, and why lowriding continues to inspire generations today.



Latinx Heritage Month: Poetry with Lorna Dee Cervantes

On October 8, 2026, Ventura College hosted an inspiring evening of poetry, community, and conversation with acclaimed poet and banned book author Lorna Dee Cervantes. Students experienced a live poetry reading, explored Latinx voices and creative expression, connected with fellow students, and engaged with vendors. Students were encouraged to bring their own book to follow along and participate in the celebration of Latinx culture and storytelling.



Latinx Heritage Month Celebration & Car Show

On September 29, 2026, Ventura College continued its Latinx Heritage Month celebrations with a community car show highlighting culture, community, and student engagement. Students and campus community members will have the opportunity to enjoy the car showcase, connect with others, and participate in activities celebrating Latinx culture and heritage.



Latinx Heritage Month Celebration at VCEC

On September 30, 2026, VC East Campus celebrated the rich cultures, traditions, and contributions of Latinx communities. Students enjoyed free food, music, face painting, a photo booth, and opportunities to connect with fellow students and community members while celebrating the diversity, pride, and heritage that enrich our college community.





Ventura College Art Students Bring Giant Calaveras to Life

VC art students brought their creativity to the Ventura Botanical Gardens with Nature's Spirits – Flight of Our Ancestors, a Day of the Dead-inspired exhibit celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month. The exhibit transforms the gardens with bold colors, striking silhouettes and autumn blooms, featuring colorful calaveras gigantes (giant decorative skulls) created by VC art students. Visit the gardens throughout the exhibit or attend a special evening viewing on Oct. 24, 5 p.m.- 8 p.m. Admission is \$15; free for VBG members and children accompanied by an adult. The exhibit runs from Tuesday, Sept. 15 - Sunday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the Ventura Botanical Gardens. Find out more at <https://venturabotanicalgardens.org/event/natures-spirits-flight-of-our-ancestors/>



Manufacturing Maker Fair Carnival

On October 7, Ventura College's Advanced Manufacturing Program hosted a Manufacturing Maker Fair, inviting the campus community to explore the possibilities of modern manufacturing through hands-on activities and interactive demonstrations. Held in the Applied Science Center, the event featured student-built carnival-style games that encouraged creativity, problem-solving, and engagement with manufacturing concepts. The event highlighted the program's commitment to experiential learning, showcasing how students apply technical skills and innovation to create tangible projects while raising awareness of career pathways in advanced manufacturing.



Foundation Alumni Event

The Ventura College Foundation welcomed 23 alumni back into the Ventura College community, representing graduating classes from the 1970s through the 2020s. The event brought together generations of Pirates to reconnect, share memories, and celebrate their enduring connection to the college. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the evening a memorable celebration of the Ventura College community.



Ventura College hosted a California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) training workshop

On October 1, Ventura College hosted a California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) training workshop for college staff, high school counselors, and community partners. The workshop provided updates on the FAFSA and CADAA, California financial aid programs, and resources participants could use to better assist students through the financial aid process. Approximately 125 participants registered for the training. That afternoon, Ventura College celebrated the opening of the FAFSA and CADAA with the Financial Aid Fest. Students and families were invited to receive hands-on application assistance in a welcoming environment while connecting directly with Financial Aid staff and campus resources.



Rock the Vote / Voter Education Week

On October 5, 2026, students gathered at the bookstore quad to participate in interactive civic engagement activities on October 5, 2026, focused on voter education and registration. The event provided opportunities to learn about the voting process, connect with campus resources, and explore ways to become more engaged in their campus and community.



Vote Early Day

On October 27, 2026, students will learn about early voting options and ways to participate in the upcoming election. The event will provide opportunities to ask questions, access voter resources, and take steps toward participating in the civic process. The event will take place from 10:00 am to 11:30 am on the LRC Lawn.



Women's Basketball Alumni Game

Ventura College Women's Basketball hosted its annual Alumni Game on September 26, bringing together more than 15 former student-athletes representing over 20 years of VC women's basketball history. The event featured alumni from the 1990s through today, making it a special opportunity to celebrate the generations of women who have been part of the program. This year's game featured special guests President Dr. Luca Lewis and Vice Chancellor Laura Barroso, who served as honorary coaches. And for the second consecutive year, Coach Laura Barroso remains undefeated. The alumni returned to the court ready to compete and kept the game close throughout. In the end, the current Ventura College women's basketball team won a highly competitive and exciting matchup.



The Great California ShakeOut

On Wednesday, October 14, Ventura College will conduct its annual earthquake preparedness drill in recognition of the Great California ShakeOut, including a test of the College's Emergency Notification System. The exercise will reinforce earthquake safety procedures, including "Drop, Cover, and Hold On," building evacuation, and the use of designated evacuation zones. Campus announcements and emergency notifications will help familiarize students and employees with established safety protocols and emergency communications. By encouraging campus-wide participation and promoting awareness of evacuation maps and emergency notification resources, Ventura College continues to prioritize campus safety and strengthen its preparedness for natural disasters and other emergencies.



Get Ready to Shake Out.

DROP!
COVER!
HOLD ON!

10:14am
October 14
www.ShakeOut.org

Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations

Ventura College began installing the Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations on September 28. This work impacted the parking spaces that received EV Charger pedestals as well as a couple of adjacent parking spaces in the East Lot. The work was completed over a ten-day period and was finished on October 9, 2026.

