



CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Tuition-Free Community College Will Be Focus of Conference Attended by State and National Education Leaders

- Speakers:** California Lt. Gov. [Gavin Newsom](#)
College Promise Campaign Executive Director [Martha Kanter](#)
California Community Colleges Incoming Chancellor [Eloy Oakley](#)
Contra Costa Community College District Chancellor [Helen Benjamin](#)
- What:** A statewide gathering of more than 350 California community college staff, administrators, trustees and partners who are interested in developing or improving a College Promise program. California is considered a leader in implementing these programs, which provide students with financial support and wrap-around services to enable them to attend and complete community college. This gathering will offer participants ideas and strategies on a number of central components of College Promise programs as well as the opportunity to connect with others implementing and developing College Promise programs across the state.
- When:** **Conference: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Tuesday, August 30, 2016, beginning in the International Ballroom
TV media availability: 1:15 – 1:30 p.m. in Board Room 5 ([map](#))
Print media availability: 1:30 p.m. in Board Room 5 ([map](#))
**Note for assignment editors/producers: All media are welcome to attend the entire conference; however we ask questions wait until the media availabilities. Print reporters can attend the earlier media availability but we will begin with questions from TV media in order to expedite on-camera interviews and better accommodate all in attendance.*
- Where:** Hilton Oakland Airport
1 Hegenberger Road
Oakland, California 94621
- Why:** The cost of higher education has risen dramatically over the last few decades, becoming less accessible to students from low- and middle-income families, while the need for college graduates continues to increase. The College Promise Campaign is a national, nonpartisan, local and state-led higher education initiative working to build support for a free community college education for hard-working students. California has emerged as a leader in the development and implementation of College Promise programs. The state has [23 programs](#), 16 of which were announced just this year.
- Conveners:** California Community College Chancellor's Office, Community College League of California, College Promise Campaign, California College Promise Campaign Leadership Team, Regional Education Laboratory West at WestEd.

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