

ACCREDITING COMMISSION for COMMUNITY and JUNIOR COLLEGES

Western Association of Schools and Colleges

10 COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD SUITE 204 NOVATO, CA 94949 TELEPHONE: (415) 506-0234 FAX: (415) 506-0238 E-MAIL: accjc@accjc.org www.accjc.org

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Ms. Jill Board President Cerro Coso Community College 3000 College Heights Blvd Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Dear President Board:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 7-9, 2015, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by Cerro Coso Community College. The Follow-Up Report was certified by district and college leadership, including the chair of the governing board, the chancellor, the college president, and leaders of the faculty, and staff organizations.

Based on the College Report and evidence submitted, the Commission finds that Cerro Coso Community College has addressed College Recommendation 2 and has fully resolved the deficiencies in College policies, procedures, and practices which led to noncompliance with Standards I.B.1-7, II.A.2.f, II.B.3, III.A.6, IV.A.5, IV.B.2, and IV.B.2.b.

The next report required from the College will be the Midterm Report in fall 2015. Institutions are expected to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies at all times during the six-year review cycle. Cerro Coso Community College must demonstrate to the Commission at the time of the Midterm Report that the recent changes implemented to resolve deficiencies and meet Eligibility Requirements and Standards have been sustained. Cerro Coso Community College should submit the Midterm Report by October 15, 2015. 1

The Follow-Up Report submitted in October 2014 will become part of the accreditation history of the College. The Commission requires that you give the Follow-Up Report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of the Report. This group should include the Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the Follow-Up Report and this Commission action letter be made available to students and the public by placing a copy on the College website. Please note that in response to public interest in disclosure, the Commission now requires institutions to

Ms. Jill Board Cerro Coso Community College February 6, 2015

post accreditation information on a page no more than one click from the institution's home page.

Institutions are expected to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies at all times during the six-year review cycle. Cerro Coso Community College must demonstrate to the Commission at the time of the next regularly scheduled report that the recent changes implemented to resolve deficiencies and meet Eligibility Requirements and Standards have been sustained.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational quality and students' success. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring institutional integrity, effectiveness, and educational quality.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.

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President

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¹Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission*. It contains the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. It is available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: https://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc.

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Western Association of Schools and Colleges

Barbara A. Beno, President Steven M. Kinsella, Chair

February 5, 2016

Ms. Jill Board President Cerro Coso Community College 3000 College Heights Blvd. Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Dear President Board:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 6-8, 2016, reviewed the Midterm Report, submitted by Cerro Coso Community College, and the evidentiary materials also submitted. College leadership, including the president of the governing board, the district chancellor, and the college president, certified the Report. The purpose of the Commission's review is to determine whether the College continues to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies (hereafter called standards).

After considering all of the written material noted above, the Commission finds that the college has sustained the work accomplished since the last comprehensive evaluation and has maintained compliance with the Standards previously identified in the 2012 comprehensive evaluation team report and linked to College Recommendation 1 through 6 and District Recommendations 1 through 4. The Midterm Report also included the status of the college's Self-Identified Improvement Plans from the Self Evaluation Report of 2012.

The Commission expects that the changes and improvements noted in the Midterm Report will continue forward in college policies, procedures, practices and outcomes. This will be verified at the time of the next regularly scheduled visit. The College's next comprehensive review will occur in fall 2018.

The Commission requires that you give the Midterm Report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who signatories of your Midterm Report. This group should include college leadership, the chancellor, and the Board of Trustees. You should also make these documents available to all campus constituencies and the public by placing a copy on the college website.

Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post accreditation information on a page no more than one click from the institution's home page.

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Ms. Jill Board Cerro Coso Community College February 5, 2016

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the work that Cerro Coso Community College undertook to prepare the Midterm Report. The Commission encourages the College's continued work to ensure educational quality and to support student success. Accreditation and peer review are most effective when the college and the ACCJC work together to encourage continuous quality improvement in higher education. Thank you for sharing the values and the work of accreditation.

If you should have any questions concerning this letter or the Commission action, please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the ACCJC Vice Presidents. We'd be glad to help you.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D

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President

cc: Dr. Sandra Serrano, Chancellor, Kern Community College District