

Strategic Goals, 2021-2024

Strategic Goal 1: Maximize Student Success and Access

Strategic Goal 2: Narrow Student Equity Gaps

Strategic Goal 3: Strengthen Organizational Effectiveness

Institutional Learning Outcomes

The four Institutional Learning Outcomes listed below describe the knowledge and skills students are able to satisfactorily demonstrate after completing any program at Cerro Coso Community College —certificate of achievement, associate degree, or associate degree for transfer.

Program and general education content is “mapped” (directly linked) to these Institutional Learning Outcomes. All programs address all of these skills so that a student completing any degree or certificate program is achieving instruction, reinforcement, and assessment in each of the outcomes.

1. Critical Thinking – Students who are completing a program will be able to think critically and creatively and apply reasoning.
2. Communication – Students who are completing a program will be able to communicate ideas, perspectives, and values clearly and persuasively while listening to others openly.
3. Information Competency – Students who are completing a program will be able to access, evaluate, and effectively use information.
4. Citizenship – Students who are completing a program will be prepared to engage in responsible citizenship at various levels.

History

Cerro Coso Community College was established in 1973 as a separate college within the Kern Community College District. Cerro Coso Community College has five instructional sites (Ridgecrest/Indian Wells Valley, Eastern Sierra Center campuses in Bishop and Mammoth Lakes, Kern River Valley campus at Lake Isabella, and East Kern campus in Tehachapi), which together form the largest geographical service area (18,000+ square miles) of any community college in California and which serve a population of approximately 110,000. A leader in online education, Cerro Coso Community College has been offering online courses since 1997 and offers more than a 45 degrees and certificates, including 11 associate degrees (AA/AS) and 11 associate degrees for transfer (AA-T/AS-T). The college’s most recent campus location, Tehachapi, was established in 2014. In addition, the college serves incarcerated students at the California Correctional Institution (CCI) in Tehachapi and many high school students throughout the service area in dual enrollment programs at local high schools. Cerro Coso Community College is a member college of the Kern Community College District and is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and approved by the University of California and the State Department of Education.

Notices

Accreditation

Cerro Coso Community College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, 10 Commercial Boulevard, Suite 204, Novato, California, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education. It meets all standards of the California State Department of Education. The college and its programs are also approved by the California Community College Board of Governors, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services, the Kern County Department of Public Health, Emergency Medical Services Division, and the California State Approving Agency for Veterans Education (CSAAVE). The University of California, the California State University System, and other universities and colleges give full credit for appropriate courses completed at Cerro Coso Community College.

Student Right-To-Know

In compliance with the Student Right-To-Know (SRTK) Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-542), it is the policy of the Kern Community College District and Cerro Coso Community College to make available its completion and transfer rates to all