

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

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 (Eastern Sierra Centers in Bishop and Mammoth Lakes, Indian Wells Valley, Kern River Valley, and East Kern), 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 85,000. A leader in online education, Cerro Coso Community College has been offering online courses since 1997 and offers 13 Associate degrees entirely online and as many as 160+ courses online each year, with approximately 180 sections per semester. 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.

Values

The Values at Cerro Coso Community College provide the foundation for all student, academic, and community activities.

Educate

- We are committed to student's learning and achievement,

Innovate

- We encourage individual and collective creativity in a rapidly changing world:

- We implement best practices that facilitate and encourage innovation and success;

Inspire

- We model a culture of life-long learning;

Serve

- We celebrate the diversity of each individual: student, staff, and faculty;
- We strive to deliver equitable services to all students at all sites; and
- We foster community partnerships and the relationships we build with them.

Vision

Cerro Coso Community College will be recognized as a leader in higher education, a source of programs and services for tomorrow's workforce, a model for student learning, and a partner with its diverse clientele and communities.

Mission

The mission of Cerro Coso Community College is to provide tailored programs and equitable services to the students in the communities and rural areas we serve. We demonstrate a conscious effort to produce and support student success and achievement through traditional and distance delivery. To accomplish this mission we will provide:

- degrees and certificates in transfer and career technical education,
- remedial instruction,
- comprehensive support services,

- learning opportunities that develop ethical and effective citizenry, and
- continuing education that is compatible with the institutions primary mission.

Strategic Goals, 2015-2018

The Cerro Coso Community College Strategic Plan for 2012-2015 focuses on five strategic goals. These goals are:

1: Student Success

- 1.1 Increase Completion
- 1.2 Improve Milestone Achievements
- 1.3 Increase Student Engagement

2: Equity

- 2.1 Close Achievement Gaps

3: Access

- 3.1 Optimize Student Enrollment
- 3.2 Be the Higher Education Option of First Choice

4: Community Connections

- 4.1 Provide Workforce and Economic Development Programs that Respond to Local Industry
- 4.2 Reflect the Communities We Serve

5: Organization Effectiveness

- 5.1 Provide Effective Professional Development
- 5.2 Meet and Exceed Internal and External Standards and Requirements
- 5.3 Increase Trust and Create a Collaborative Culture
- 5.4 Improve Facilities and Maintenance
- 5.5 Improve Institutional Effectiveness
- 5.6 Generate Revenue