



# CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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## CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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### **Interim Chancellor Erik E. Skinner's Statement on Two California Community Colleges Being Named as Finalists for 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California Community Colleges Interim Chancellor [Erik E. Skinner](#) issued the following statement on two California community colleges, [Chaffey College](#) and [Pasadena City College](#), being named as **finalists** for the 2017 **2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence**:

"I am thrilled that two of our colleges are being recognized for this great honor," said Interim Chancellor Skinner. "The Aspen Prize is widely recognized as the nation's top honor for high achievement and performance in America's community colleges. It is truly wonderful our colleges are being celebrated for the impressive work they do every day to promote student access, improve completion rates and expand student learning."

The Aspen Prize, awarded every two years since 2011, recognizes outstanding institutions for exceptional student outcomes in four areas: student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students. The winner is selected from an original pool of more than 1,000 public community colleges nationwide, narrowed down to 10 finalists. The winner will be announced in March 2017 in Washington, D.C.

*The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation composed of 72 districts and 113 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor's Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. For more information about the community colleges, please visit <http://californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/>, <https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges>, or <https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges>.*

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