



Outcomes | Innovation | Improvement

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

A full-page background image of a forest with tall, thick tree trunks and green foliage. A wooden fence runs across the lower portion of the image.

ACCJC

...on the move

Stories of Student Success
and Institutional Transformation

The story of an institution is the story of the people, places, and communities that serve its students. Conversations about student success often focus solely on graduation rates or other benchmark data that can obscure the true impact that institutions, programs, and people have on the human beings served. [ACCJC On The Move](#) is about our journey to understand the distinct missions of the 138 institutions ACCJC serves, and the promising impactful practices changing lives inside and outside the classroom.

This week we are pleased to feature **Honolulu Community College, Merced College, and Mt. San Antonio College**! Please take a look at the excerpts below, and check out www.accjconthemove.org for the full featured articles.

Honolulu Community College

Honolulu Community College (Ke Kulanui Kaiāulu o Honolulu), established in 1920, holds the distinction of being the oldest community college in Hawai'i. It is an integral part of the 10-campus University of Hawai'i system spread across the Hawaiian Islands. Originally founded as a technical school to support the growing needs of Hawai'i's workforce, Honolulu CC has evolved over the decades into a comprehensive institution offering a wide array of academic programs.

Honolulu CC stands out for its dynamic liberal arts program, distinctive career and technical education offerings, and dedication to providing students with real-world experiences that bridge the gap between education and industry. Among its standout programs, the Music & Entertainment Learning Experience (MELE) stands as a shining example of how academic innovation can harmonize tradition with modern industry demands.





Merced College

Founded in 1962, Merced College is a public community college serving over 18,000 students in the heart of California's Central Valley. Fondly known as the "Gateway to Yosemite," Merced is nestled between San Francisco and Yosemite National Park and is a regional hub for agriculture, transportation, and education. The college serves its students across three locations with the main campus just north of Merced's historic downtown. Merced College offers degree and certificate programs, fast-track career and technical education programs, and outstanding transfer and workforce development opportunities.

Merced College stands out for its innovative and supportive campus culture, with initiatives designed to improve the well-being and success of its employees and students, including traditionally underserved populations. While it is clear Merced College's innovative spirit extends beyond the classroom, there are two groundbreaking new academic programs that stand out: Dreamscape Learn and the Agriculture Technology and Education Collaborative (AgTEC).



Mt. San Antonio College

Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC), located in Walnut, California, is the largest single-district community college in the state. Founded in 1946, it serves nearly 75,000 students across 20 communities in the eastern San Gabriel Valley. Known for its robust program offerings, commitment to access, and innovation, Mt. SAC is home to a wide range of programs that support diverse student populations.

A powerful program at Mt. SAC is Rising Scholars, which supports students who have experienced incarceration or have been directly impacted by the criminal justice system. Rising Scholars destigmatizes these students' pasts and helps them envision a future filled with opportunity. Since its launch in 2020, the program has helped more than 1,000 individuals pursue higher education. In 2025 alone, 58 associate degrees were awarded to 37 students.





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