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LACC RECEIVES \$1.6+ MILLION GRANT TO EXPAND TRAINING CAPACITY FOR STUDENTS

College one of only eleven chosen throughout the nation

(January 25, 2021) – Los Angeles City College (LACC) was named the recipient of a U.S. Department of Labor “Strengthening Community College Training Grant.” Out of 120 applicants, LACC is one of only eleven colleges chosen to receive the grant throughout the country and one of four to receive a single grant, the other seven were granted consortiums. Only two colleges in California received the grant. The four-year \$1,686,201 award will aim to address the skill development needs of employers and support workers in gaining skills and transitioning quickly from unemployment to employment. The grant also builds LACC’s capacity to address challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic including expanding online and technology-enabled learning and migrating services to a virtual environment.

“We are extremely grateful for receiving this important grant,” said Dr. Mary Gallagher, president of Los Angeles City College. “The funds will help us successfully strengthen and enhance training provided to our students for a variety of jobs and build a pipeline of workers in critical industries including health care, logistics and cybersecurity.”

“The grant will enable us to develop high-demand short-term certificates related to cybersecurity, cloud computing, data analytics, computer support, web development, and computer programming, allowing students to complete program requirements online and within 12 months through the use of virtual labs and other technologies,” said LACC Computer Science Professor Shawki Dakduk.

The new grant will support LACC’s Building, Aligning, and Strengthening Interventions and Curriculum in Computer Science (BASICCS) project, specific to LACC’s Computer Science,

Information Systems and Applications (CSISA) Department, and the capacity to prepare students for high-demand occupations in the computer and information technology employment sector. LACC is partnering with the MCS Hollywood WorkSource Center; employers including Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Launchpad, Divercity and BuildLACCD; the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and UNITE-LA to revise and add new short-term, stackable certificate programs in LACC's CSISA Department. LACC's CSISA faculty will develop new curriculum including the skills identified by employer partners for their entry-level positions in cloud computing, data analytics, cybersecurity, web applications, programming and information technology support.

“This award would enhance LACC capacity to transform Computer Sciences education, and continue implementing innovative practices, increasing student engagement, completion and success; strengthening the LA County and US competitiveness,” said Armando Rivera-Figueroa, Dean, Academic Affairs, Economic Development Workforce Education.

Additionally, the project will create and enhance Certificate of Achievement and Skills Certificate programs that will qualify LACC students to take part in industry-recognized credentialing exams including CompTIA A+ Certification, Network+ Certification, Security+ Certification, and Amazon Web Services (AWS) Certification. The BASICCS project will employ complementary, evidence-based strategies to remove financial and academic barriers and increase students' success at LACC and in the workforce.

About Los Angeles City College

Established in 1929, Los Angeles City College is one of the oldest of the Los Angeles Community Colleges. Located in the heart of Hollywood, LACC provides a dynamic innovative learning environment offering more than 100 vocational and professional programs including degrees, transfer programs and certificates to more than 18,000 students. In the past decade, a total of 6,651 students have transferred to four-year colleges and universities, including 4,040 students attending Cal State universities and 1,086 students transferring to UC campuses. Los Angeles City College is home to one of the most vibrant and diverse campuses in the country. The campus provides a wide range of professional and vocational programs at a fraction of the cost of state and private colleges. LACC provides students and adult learners vital pathways to more advanced education and enhanced employment.