

# LPC Student Services NEWSLETTER



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How Student Services is at the Heart of LPC Student Success



**DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT:**  
LPC Counseling is on a Serious Roll. Big Wins, More Plans, More Progress



## Message from Dr. Jeanne Wilson, Vice President Student Services at LPC

I'm excited to share our Spring 2026 issue of our new Student Services Newsletter.

This publication highlights the people, programs, and resources across Student Services that support our students every day...from registration to graduation.

Thank you for staying connected and for the work everyone at LPC does to help our students succeed.

*Dr. Jeanne Wilson  
Vice President of Student Services*

**Produced by LPC Vice President of Student Services office.** Questions? Ideas? Comments? Please Contact:  
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# The Secret Sauce of Student Success: How Student Services Helped Lift LPC Out of Hold-Harmless

By Dr. Jeanne Wilson,  
VP Student Services

Every famous restaurant has its “secret sauce.” It’s that mix of ingredients and techniques that turns a regular meal into a masterpiece. And once they figure it out, they bottle it, replicate it, and build a whole chain so millions can enjoy.

Student success works the same way.

Toward the end of Fall '25, our Chancellor shared the news we'd been working toward for years: Chabot–Las Positas Community College District officially emerged from “hold-harmless” status under the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF), a milestone that once felt out of reach.

Years earlier, we were staring at a projected \$20 million structural gap. Clear direction from district and college leadership, plus the day-to-day work of faculty and classified professionals at both Chabot and Las Positas, closed that gap.

So what’s in the LPC Student Services “Secret Sauce”?

- Counselors who refused to let students veer off course without a plan.
- Financial Aid staff who worked relentlessly to connect students with every dollar of support they could.



Student Services Administrators

***“When students feel seen, supported, and guided, they persist. Our work has been about building systems where belonging and progress go hand in hand.”***



## LPC Centered



- Front-line teams who welcomed students with warmth while redesigning processes, practices, and spaces around equity and belonging. (Shout out to the Caring Campus Team)
- Administrators who aligned resources with student success and spoke up for what students and staff needed to make this all happen.

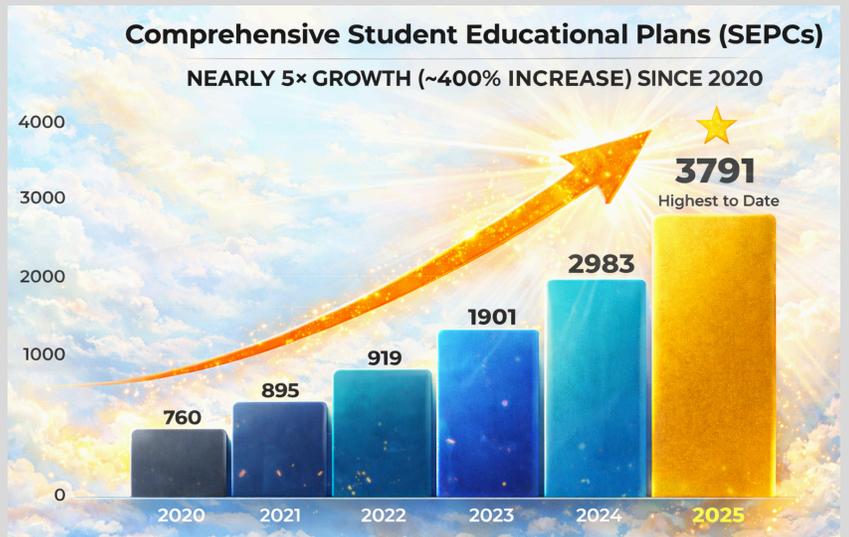
This newsletter is about naming some of the not so secret ingredients that make up the sauce... those specific practices and changes that are working, so we can repeat them, improve them and share them with others.

## General Counseling is on a Serious Roll.

*By Dean Joel Gagnon*

In just a few years, the team has blown past its old numbers for Student Educational Plans (SEPs):

- 2022: 919
- 2023: 1,901
- 2024: 2,983
- 2025: 3,791



That's more than 4x growth since 2022 a huge jump in how many students are getting real, usable plans for their future.

New students are feeling the difference too. SEPC completion for new students went from 43% in Fall 2024 to 55% in Fall 2025. That means more students are connecting with counselors earlier and walking away with a clear roadmap.

Special Programs? They're almost perfect. SEPC completion climbed from 93% to 99%, showing what can happen when counseling is proactive, and equity-focused.

**Bottom line:** Counselors are not just seeing more students, they're helping more students start with a solid plan so they can stay on track, finish faster, and reach their goals.

# LPC is Still Tuition Free: More Students Have Received Expanded Student Aid



By Lavonna Routt, Director of Financial Aid

In 2025, more LPC students than ever received financial aid, reinforcing the college's commitment to tuition-free education. From Fall 2022 to Fall 2025, the number of students receiving Pell Grants increased by 16%, and student eligibility for California College Promise Grants significantly increased by 78%.

This growth reflects the dedicated outreach and personalized support from our Financial Aid team who made the complex application processes feel possible through workshops, one-on-one support, patience, and repeated guidance with FASFA/CADAA applications.

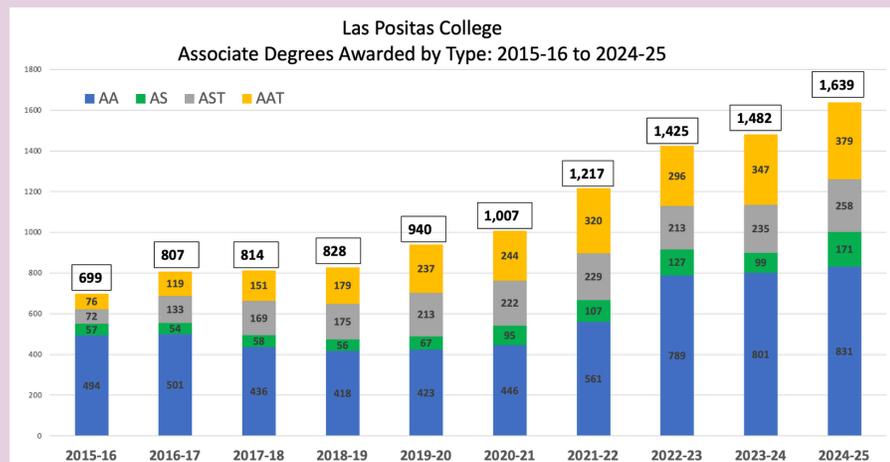
## More Students Earning Degrees and Certificates

By LPC Admissions & Records Office

Counselors and A&R teamed up on what they called the Denied Degree Project. When a student applies for a degree or certificate and doesn't get awarded, counselors now review every "denied" case to see if it's a quick fix, maybe the student qualifies for a different degree, a class from another college didn't get entered, or a small change is needed. Counselors then reach out to the student with an update.

Around the same time this started, our DegreeWorks Coordinator began Proactive Awarding. Sometimes students don't even realize they've already earned a degree or certificate, and So-Jin will process & approve it for them.

These two concrete efforts have led to more students completing and getting recognized for their work, with fewer delays and less paperwork, to earn a Degree and/or Certificate.



- Data & Graph provided by: LPC Office of Research, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness

**DON'T MISS YOUR DEADLINE!**

**Our team John Armstrong, So-Jin Moon, and Jocelyn Santos is ready to review your submissions.**

**To apply today, Visit our website: [How to Apply for Degree/Certificate](#)**



# HSI Ambassadors: Students Helping Students Thrive

By Dr. John Gomez, HSI Director

The Las Positas College HSI Student Ambassador Program brings our Hispanic-Serving Institution mission to life through peer outreach, campus events, and community-building.

HSI Student Ambassadors:

- Support key areas such as Outreach, Welcome Center, Counseling, Financial Aid and more
- Host HSI events, tabling, and classroom visits
- Call students to schedule SEP appointments and share information about academic and career pathways
- Serve as tour guides during LPC's Open House, New Hawk Day and other campus events

By leading and connecting with their peers, ambassadors help make LPC feel welcoming, informed, and inclusive, especially for Latinx and first-generation students.



## DSPS Growth: More Students, More Support

By Chris Crone, DSPS Director

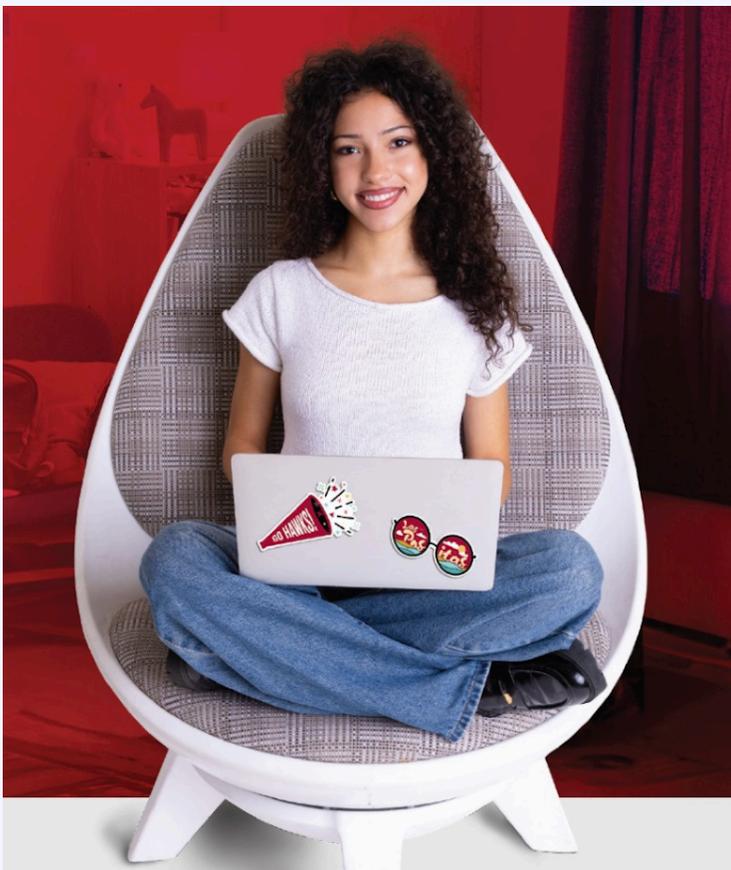
The Disabled Student Program & Services (DSPS) continues to experience sustained, multi-year growth driven by both increased demand for services and targeted recruitment efforts. Overall DSPS student participation has increased steadily:

Program Growth (Students Served):

- 2022–2023: 436
- 2023–2024: 631
- 2024–2025: 732
- 2025–2026: 800+and still counting.



To support this expansion, DSPS has been approved to hire a full-time DSPS Counselor / LD Specialist with specific training in learning disabilities who helps students get assessed, receive appropriate accommodations, and develop educational plans and strategies so they can succeed in their classes.



## LPC's 2025-2028 Student Equity Plan Submitted

*By Dr. Cristine Sidela, Dean of Student Equity and Success*

Built through collaboration among faculty, staff, administrators, students, and campus partners, our equity plan reflects an innovative, intentional, and data-driven approach to student success.

At LPC, our equity initiatives and goals are rooted in deep care for our students, focused on removing barriers, strengthening culturally responsive programs, and providing proactive, personalized support, reflecting a collective campus commitment to student success.

## Removing Barriers for Concurrent & Dual Enrollment

*By Tamica Ward, Dean of Enrollment Services*

We heard our K-12 partners in our Tri-Valley Consortium loud and clear: enrolling at LPC can sometimes feel hard.

To change that story, our Admissions & Records team, led by Humberto Lopez and Traci Peterson, are working with the district, to implement a new platform called DualEnroll.com, which will:

- Let students complete CCCApply and concurrent enrollment forms ONCE, rather than every semester
- Give parents, K-12 counselors, and LPC dual/concurrent enrollment leads real-time tracking of where each student's paperwork is in the process

This work is about more than convenience; it's about opening doors earlier for our middle and high school students who might not otherwise see college as an option.





## LPCSG & Student Life Is More Active Than Ever

With all the events they host and the countless hours they put in, they've helped transform Student Life and Student Government by:

- Growing student clubs from 18 to 80
- Boosting election participation from 100 to 1,200 votes
- Expanding the LPCSG Executive Board from 12 to 34 members

And a huge shout-out to Program Coordinator Josue Hernandez, whose vision and hard work helped make all of this happen in just a few short years. His leadership is powering a more active, connected campus.



## Dean's List & Honor Roll – Fall 2025

In Fall 2025, an incredible 3,034 students at LPC earned a 3.2 GPA or higher and landed on the Dean's List.

Each semester, Dean Gagnon personally sends words of congratulations and encouragement to every honoree, recognizing their hard work, persistence, and focus. **Congratulations Scholars!**

## LPC Market: Meeting Student's Daily Needs

Make sure your students know they have free access to grocery items on campus through our Mini Market, open Tuesday–Friday each week.

The Basic Needs Team distributes 5,000 pounds of fresh produce and groceries weekly and supports students with food, clothing, transportation vouchers, grants and emergency housing referrals.

We are also excited to share that we've been awarded a Fresh Success contract with the Foundation for California Community Colleges for 2026–27. This will help us expand programs and funding to assist qualified students to enroll in CalFresh!



# 2026 Vision for Student Services

Our biggest goal for 2026 is to make college easier to start and easier to navigate for students, and we believe building out Student Success Teams is the way to do it. We're creating Student Services teams for each of our 8 Guided Pathways so students know exactly who to go to for help.

These teams will:

- Use counselor-led plans to reach out, check in, and follow up with students
- Use our CRM (communication system) on a regular schedule so students get timely reminders and gentle nudges
- Connect students to special programs and financial resources that match their goals and needs

We've shown what's possible when every part of the college pulls in the same direction, and we're excited to see that same collective effort help even more students graduate, transfer, and start new careers in the year ahead.

# It's Easier to Contact Us Now!

We know how important it is to talk to a real person when you have questions or need support. That's why we've made improvements to how our phone calls are handled to make it easier for students and community members to reach us.

What's better for you:

- Your call is answered by the next available staff member, so you're less likely to be sent to voicemail
- Shorter wait times, especially during busy enrollment periods
- More consistent support, even when staff are working remotely or out of the office
- Faster help across our departments when you need it most

## Why this matters:

We're committed to making your experience smoother, more accessible, and more supportive because your time and questions matter.

Our Admissions team is here for you, Monday-Friday:

Adria Anderson-Kelly, Aymey Finn, Charlotte Kenny, Suzanne Kohler, Humberto (Beto) Lopez, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Mayo, Sanaa Suleiman and Tania Torres, are excited to meet you. Stop by & say, Hello.

