

# Certification of Continued Compliance with Eligibility Requirements

## 1. Authority

As the first community college in California, Fresno City College's authority to operate as a degree-granting institution is the continuous accreditation by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, an institution accreditation body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education. This authority is noted on the inside front cover of the college catalog.

## 2. Mission

The current mission statement may be found in the college catalog and the Institutional Strategic Plan 1999-2004. It was most recently revised as part of the institutional self study after input by all college constituencies. The college mission statement, vision, and core values are appropriate to a degree-granting institution of higher education.

## 3. Governing Board

The State Center Community College District (SCCCD) is governed by a seven-member board. Each board member is elected from a specific geographic area of the district, the largest area having two board representatives; however, all elections are districtwide. The board is an independent policy-making body that has ultimate responsibility for ensuring the fiscal integrity of the district and the quality and integrity of the educational programs and services it provides. Board

members have no employment, family, ownership, or other personal financial interest in the district or its colleges and centers. As required by law, board members adhere to a conflict of interest policy.

## 4. Chief Executive Officer

The president of Fresno City College is appointed by the board after a nationwide search and has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the college complies with all board policies and state and federal laws and regulations. The president's chief responsibility is to Fresno City College, although he is expected to contribute to districtwide and community endeavors.

## 5. Administrative Capacity

There are thirty-one administrators at Fresno City College. In May 2005, the board of trustees approved the addition of a director of technology. All administrators have the appropriate educational preparation, experience, and training to support the college mission.

## 6. Operational Status

Fresno City College enrolls approximately 22,000 students. Students are enrolled in a variety of courses that lead to transfer, two-year degrees, certificates of completion, certificates of achievement, and vocational programs. Approximately 1,200 students complete degree programs each year.

## **7. Degrees**

Degree opportunities and transfer courses are clearly identified in the college catalog. Fresno City College offers over 2,000 course sections every semester, of which 88 percent are either degree- or transfer-level. Approximately 90 percent of the students enroll in these courses.

## **8. Educational Programs**

Fresno City College's educational programs are consistent with its mission, are based on recognized fields of study, are of sufficient content and length, and maintain appropriate levels of quality and rigor for the degrees and programs offered. Programs are based on at least two years of coursework, and many of the programs have stated objectives in the college catalog.

## **9. Academic Credit**

Academic credit is based on Title 5 —55002.5.

## **10. Student Learning and Achievement**

Fresno City College defines and publishes in its college catalog course requirements for all degree and certificate programs and provides student matriculation services to assess student progress through such programs and to help ensure student achievement of program outcomes. Student retention rates, student success rates, degree and certificate completion rates, and job placement rates are used during program review to assess the effectiveness of programs.

## **11. General Education**

The purpose of general education courses is stated in the college catalog. General education courses are designed to ensure a breadth of knowledge and to promote intellectual inquiry. All students pursuing a degree must demonstrate competence in writing, reading, oral communication, and mathematics; a familiarity with computer concepts and use; an understanding of national, state, and local government; and an awareness of lifetime physical and mental wellness. Students must also select courses in the natural sciences, social and behavioral sciences, the humanities, and language and rationality. The learning outcomes for these courses are described in the course outline of record. The quality and rigor of these courses are consistent with the academic standards appropriate to higher education.

## **12. Academic Freedom**

Fresno City College maintains an atmosphere in which intellectual freedom and independence exist for both faculty and students. Board Policy 4030 on Academic Freedom affirms that “intellectual freedom is to be guarded as a basic right of all citizens in a free society” and that “this freedom shall be integral to the philosophy of this district and is guaranteed to all staff and students.” This climate of intellectual freedom is maintained faithfully throughout the college.

## **13. Faculty**

In Fall 2005, there were 302 full-time faculty and 795 part-time faculty employed at Fresno City College. The names, degrees, and year of employment of full-time faculty are listed in the

college catalog. Information regarding part-time faculty is kept in the division offices and the district. Faculty duties and responsibilities are stated in the Faculty Handbook and in Board Policy 4118.1.

#### **14. Student Services**

Fresno City College recognizes the importance of providing appropriate student services and development programs to its diverse student populations in order to facilitate student success. The college has funded programs and services for student athletes, Latinos, African Americans, Southeast Asians, and Native Americans.

The college provides services in the following areas: admissions and records; Fresno Works, CalWORKs, health services, international students, college relations, job placement, counseling and guidance, psychological services, DSP&S; upward bound; EOPS, Workforce Development & Special Services; financial aid; assessment; college activities; TRIO Programs; and veterans services.

#### **15. Admissions**

Fresno City College is a public community college with open access. It has adopted and adheres to admission policies that are consistent with the college mission and that specify the qualifications of students appropriate for its programs. These policies are found in the college catalog, schedule of classes, and in informational packets provided by the admissions and records office. Admission is open to any student who has received a high school diploma or its equivalent or to anyone who is at least eighteen years

old. Students may register for any classes or programs offered provided they meet any prerequisites.

#### **16. Information and Learning Resources**

Fresno City College provides long-term access to information and learning resources and services to support its educational mission. The college's learning resources center includes the library, media center, tutorial center, and computer labs. Its collection includes books, periodicals, and nonprint media. The library is open 70 hours a week during the semester. The tutorial center and computer labs are open approximately 50 hours per week. Additional computer labs are open for student and staff use during each week of the semester under the administration of associate deans. In total, the college has over 2,000 computers being used by students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

#### **17. Financial Resources**

Most of the financial resources of the college come from the state of California, through its district allocation. Additional funding is obtained either directly or through the district from grants, vocational funding sources, and entities such as the Fresno City College bookstore and the training institute. All funds are carefully monitored at both the college and district level. The district maintains adequate reserve levels for contingencies and expansion. District and college financial management policies and practices ensure continued fiscal stability that enable the college to provide student learning programs and services and to improve college effectiveness.

## **18. Financial Accountability**

The State Center Community College District is audited on an annual basis by an independent audit firm. The audit firm uses Audits of Colleges and Universities, published by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, as a guide to its audit of the district. The audit meets the reporting requirements of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. At the end of the process, an exit interview with key personnel is conducted to review, explain, and make recommendations. All exceptions are noted and documented in a letter to management. The board of trustees reviews the audit findings, exceptions, letter to management, and any recommendations made by the contracted audit firm. The college regularly submits reports of its annual audit to the commission. The college will submit its two most recent audits to the commission with this eligibility application. The college will provide a copy of the current budget and a certified copy of the current audited financial statement for onsite review by the visiting team.

## **19. Institutional Planning and Evaluation**

The college mission is made public through the college catalog, the schedule of classes, and the college web site. The college has incorporated learning outcomes into the course outlines of record. The college has implemented strategic planning and program review processes to assess achievement toward stated goals and guide decision making. These processes are being evaluated as part of the institutional self study.

## **20. Public Information**

The college catalog provides the information required by the Commission. The mission of Fresno City College is clearly articulated in the college catalog as well as in its current strategic plan. The college catalog and the schedule of classes also provide the public with current information about degrees and curricular offerings, student fees, financial aid, refund policies, admissions policies, and information about transfer requirements. The names and academic preparation of the faculty and administration are listed in the catalog. The names of the members of the board of trustees, the district administration, and Fresno City College administration are listed. Much of this information is now included on the Fresno City College web site.

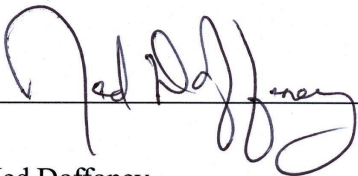
## **21. Relations with the Accrediting Commission**

The board of trustees of the State Center Community College District Board assures that the colleges of the district adhere to the eligibility requirements, the accreditation standards, and the policies of the commission. Fresno City College describes itself in identical terms to all of its accrediting agencies, communicates any changes in its accredited status, and agrees to disclose information required by the commission to carry out its accrediting responsibilities. The college complies with commission requests, directives, decisions, and policies in a timely manner. It also makes complete, accurate, and honest disclosure to the commission.

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## Statement of Assurance

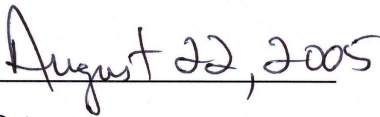
We certify that Fresno City College continues to comply with the eligibility requirements for accreditation established by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.



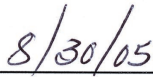
Ned Doffoney  
President, Fresno City College



Patrick E. Patterson  
President, Board of Trustees  
State Center Community College District



Date



Date