

# Educational Master Plan 2023-2026

Bakersfield College

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## History and Vision

Established in 1913, Bakersfield College (BC) is one of the oldest continuously operating two-year colleges in the nation. In 1913, BC opened its doors to 13 students and since then, the needs of Kern County and the future success of our students has been our highest priority for nearly 110 years.

It was April 30, 1953, that Bakersfield College broke ground and began construction on an empty, barren, probably very dirty and dusty, 153-acre lot on the Panorama Bluffs. Breaking ground on our beloved campus, overlooking the prolific Kern River oil field was just the beginning of a rich history at 1801 Panorama Drive. At the time, the campus had 15 buildings and greeted 1,400 students and 89 faculty members.

In 1975, BC added the Weill Institute located in downtown Bakersfield. Thirty-five miles to the north, the Delano Campus opened with 20 courses and nearly 400 enrollments. Since the early 90’s, BC also aimed to serve students in southwest Bakersfield through community locations intended to facilitate access to higher education for those living and working on that side of town. The current transfer focused co-location known as BC Southwest, opened in 2019 on the property of California State University Bakersfield.

Looking to expand further, focus shifted to Arvin, which is a small farming community located 23 miles southeast of the main campus. It is the site of the latest groundbreaking, for an outreach location to serve another rural community area. For over 18 years classes have been offered at Arvin High School, across from the construction site. The site is expected to open next calendar year to mark yet another expansion of the College’s efforts to promote a college-going culture.

Bakersfield College is seen as a pillar throughout the community, blazing a trail at the forefront of the intellectual, cultural, and economic vitality for all of Kern County. The College’s work is critical for building the solutions to some of our greatest societal and economic challenges including workforce development, job insecurities, income disparities, wellness, safety, and community health. As we look forward and imagine the future of education, Bakersfield College continues to prioritize exploring and applying for additional baccalaureate programs. These offerings have the potential to bring tremendously positive impacts on the local workforce and community.

### Our Mission

Bakersfield College provides opportunities for students from diverse economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds to attain Associate and Baccalaureate degrees and certificates, workplace skills, and preparation for transfer. Our rigorous and supportive learning environment promotes equity and fosters students’ abilities to think critically, communicate effectively, and demonstrate competencies and skills in order to engage productively in their communities and the world.  
*Approved by College Council, March 3, 2023*

### Our Vision

Building upon more than 100 years of excellence, Bakersfield College continues to contribute to the intellectual, cultural, and economic vitality of the communities it serves.

### Our Core Values

**Learning:** We foster curiosity, inquiry, critical thinking, and creativity within a safe and rigorous academic environment so that we might be empowered to radically transform our community into one that gives voice and power to all people.

**Integrity:** We continue to develop and follow an ethical and moral consciousness which places the collective wellbeing and health above the self; this principled environment allows for open, constructive conversations and teaches us to trust each other’s vision so that we will be useful and effective in providing support, resources, and encouragement.

**Wellness:** We believe health and wellness to be integral and foundational elements, and we understand that a holistic education improves all aspects of the individual and the society including the mind, body, and spirit; through education, we will positively impact the health of the natural environment and the global community.

**Diversity:** We insist that diversity be valued and promoted, recognizing that multiple perspectives lead to a better education and knowledge of the world; listening and witnessing different experiences helps us to understand and contextualize power and privilege related to gender, race, class, religion, disability, and sexuality in terms of access and barriers to resources and opportunities.

**Community:** We commit to the wellbeing of all members of our community; we maintain strong ties with the surrounding community, and we respond to their needs by serving as an open institution which engages all students, faculty, and staff; in our college, we have built and continue to build an environment in which all members participate as a community through democratic engagement.

**Sustainability:** We recognize our responsibility for continuing and maintaining this institution which has been shaped by over 100 years of resolute and tenacious labor and judicious foresight, so we unceasingly place our energies into imagining how we might sustain and renew our fiscal, human, and environmental resources into the future.

**Students first:** We affirm our focus on our students and their success.

## External Scan

### Higher Education Policy Impacts

The 2022-23 adopted state budget for higher education restates outcome metrics expectations which are an extension of the Vision for Success aspirations for the community college system. Described as the CCC Roadmap, the budget represents a commitment of investments to aid the system to meet a set of goals and collaboration expectations through 2026-27.

### Population Served

A collection of 25 populated zip code geographies, approximately 5,000 square miles in the Bakersfield area, has been used to define the effective service area served of Bakersfield College. The estimated total population in 2022 was 766,700 residents but that is projected to grow annually at 0.29% until it reaches 777,900 in 2027. By 2040, it is anticipated to become 807,800.

In planning future programs of study, it is critical that the College monitors the population trend in the career choice age range (15 to 24). The numbers of high school graduates in the BC service area between 2021-22 and 2025-26 is expected to increase 1.6% annually. However, from 2026-27 to 2031-32 the growth in the number of graduates is projected to be annually 0.3%.[[1]](#footnote-2) In the effective service area growth in the 15 to 24 age group is expected to slow.

Educational attainment of a college degree by individuals aged 25 or older in 2022 trails the state-wide experience (13% vs. 24% respectively). Only 6% of the area’s residents have achieved a graduate degree whereas throughout the state it is 14%. Equally noticeable is that in 2022, 25% of the area residents did not complete high school while state-wide it was only 14% of the population who did not finish high school. The shortfall is perceived to be one of the barriers to attracting additional business investment to the area.

Although, based on surveys conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, 21% of the population has an income below the poverty level and another 8% are at the poverty level. However, the median household income at $58,800 in 2022 is likely to increase to $73,000 by 2027.

### Economy and Employment

Kern County’s economy is built around five industry clusters: (1) Aerospace and Defense; (2) Renewable Energy and Natural Resources; (3) Health Care Services; (4) Transportation, Logistics, and Advanced Manufacturing; and (5) Agriculture.[[2]](#footnote-3) Future growth, tied to the number and type of quality jobs, depends upon solid educational foundations.

Of those aged 16 or older living in the College effective service area and who were employed in 2022, 41% were in the service industries, 15% worked in agriculture or mining, and 11% were working in retail trade. Of those employed, 47% were in white collar occupations, 37% worked in traditional blue-collar jobs, and 16% were in services occupations. It is noteworthy that unemployment has always been greater in Kern County and Bakersfield than throughout the state.

In February 2023, the unemployment rate in Kern County was 8.9%. This is higher than the national unemployment rate of 3.9%. The unemployment rate in Kern County has been trending down in recent years, but it is still significantly higher than the national average. There are a number of factors that contribute to high unemployment in Kern County. One factor is the county's reliance on the oil and agriculture industries. These industries are both cyclical and volatile, which means that they are more likely to experience booms and busts than other industries. When these industries are in a downturn, they can lead to job losses in Kern County.

Another factor that contributes to high unemployment in Kern County is the county's lack of a diversified economy. Kern County's economy is heavily reliant on a few key industries, which makes it more vulnerable to economic shocks. If one of these industries experiences a downturn, it can have a significant impact on the entire county's economy.

**Relative Unemployment Percentages**

| **Area** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** | **2022** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State** | 4.8% | 4.3% | 4.1% | 10.2% | 7.3% | 3.6% |
| **Kern County** | 9.3% | 8.1% | 7.9% | 12.9% | 10.0% | 6.7% |
| **Bakersfield** | 6.5% | 5.6% | 5.4% | 11.5% | 8.0% | 4.7% |

Source: California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information. *Labor Force Data for All Counties, Cities, and Census Areas.* Retrieved February 18, 2023, from <https://labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/data/industry-employment-and-unemployment-rates-for-counties.html>

## Internal Environmental Scan

### Student Body

Bakersfield College (BC) annually serves an over 38,000 students or over 75% of the Kern Community College District enrollment and is the largest of three colleges in the Kern Community College District. Since 2014-15 BC substantially increased student participation and attendance as measured by full-time equivalent students (FTES).

**Annual Headcount and FTES Trends for Bakersfield College**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Annual Headcount and FTES** | | | | | | | | | | **2014-15 vs. 2021-22** | |
|  | **2014-2015** | **2015-2016** | **2016-2017** | **2017-2018** | **2018-2019** | **2019-2020** | **2020-2021** | **2021-2022** | **2022-2023** | **Number Change** | **Percent Change** |
| **FTES** | 13,878 | 14,836 | 15,823 | 13,503 | 17,591 | 18,057 | 17,837 | 12,688 | 18,282 | 4,404 | 31.7& |
| **Headcount** | 26,432 | 28,848 | 32,117 | 34,222 | 37,089 | 38,492 | 37,153 | 37,667 | 40,185 | 13,753 | 52% |

2016-17 Source: Bakersfield College, Institutional Effectiveness Office

As is commonly the case in higher education, female students outnumber male students. Females have averaged 54% of the student body over the last seven years. Students of Hispanic heritage, averaging 67% of the student body, are the largest group at the College followed by the White-Non-Hispanic cluster that has averaged 19%.

### Programs of Study

The College offers a robust array of certificate and degree programs. In recent years BC has added two Bachelor of Science degrees and numerous noncredit career development/college preparation certificates.

| **Award Category** | **Number of Programs** |
| --- | --- |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Associate Degree for Transfer (AA-T/AS-T)** | 37 |
| **Associate Degree (AA/AS)** | 57 |
| **Bachelors** | 2 |
| **Certificate of Achievement** | 67 |
| **Non-Credit Certificate** | 43 |
| **Job Skills Certificate** | 27 |
| **Proficiency Award** | 1 |
| **Total** | 234 |

Source: Bakersfield College, Curriculum Committee

**Delivery of the Instructional Programs:** The largest concentration of classes and attendance has been associated with the main campus through in-person, online, or hybrid instruction. The long-established Delano location has been a second location of concentrated in-person instruction. Various locations in the Bakersfield area have been used to bring instruction to where students live, attend high school, or work. Under the umbrella of Rural Initiatives, the College has increasingly delivered instruction in the more rural communities.

### Institutional Effectiveness

Two state initiatives have helped BC frame goals and focus on accomplishing them. First, the adoption of Vision for Success goals in 2017 followed by the Governor’s Roadmap for Community College performance from 2022-2023 to 2026-2027. And secondly, the implementation of the Student-Centered Funding Formula (SCFF) in 2018-2019, provided funding based on the needs of low-income students and on student achievement outcomes in lieu of revenue being based exclusively on attendance. These initiatives complement the Accrediting Commission’s expectations that member institutions will annually establish floor and aspirational growth institutional set standards (ISS) using metrics that overlap the Vision for Success and SCFF metrics.

As a Guided Pathways institution, the College is always developing innovations to close equity gaps for student populations that experience the most disproportionate impact. The College has identified key momentum points in a student’s journey through the college experience. Progressing through the momentum points improves the likelihood that students will complete a degree and transfer. Momentum point progress for the largest disproportionately impacted populations, Hispanic/Latino/a/x and Black students, have been of particular interest.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Percentage of First-Time Students Who Achieved Each Momentum Point** | | | | | | | | | **2014 v 2021** |
| **Momentum Point** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** | **2021** | **Increase** |
| **Attempted 15+ Units in First Term** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Hispanic/Latino/a/x** | 10% | 10% | 10% | 13% | 18% | 19% | 21% | 18% | 8% |
| **Black** | 10% | 13% | 12% | 19% | 17% | 19% | 16% | 19% | 9% |
| **Attempted 30+ Units in First Year** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Hispanic/Latino/a/x** | 9% | 10% | 10% | 13% | 15% | 13% | 17% | 15% | 6% |
| **Black** | 6% | 11% | 12% | 10% | 13% | 14% | 17% | 12% | 6% |
| **Completed Transfer Math & English in First Year** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Hispanic/Latino/a/x** | 3% | 3% | 4% | 6% | 7% | 8% | 10% | 10% | 7% |
| **Black** | 0% | 3% | 2% | 2% | 4% | 5% | 6% | 6% | 6% |

Source: Bakersfield College, Institutional Effectiveness Office

### Student Completion With an Emphasis on Transfer

The College has launched an effort to promote degree completion and transfer to four-year institutions by hosting 37 Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT). BC established a presence at California State University Bakersfield (CSUB), launched a Finish-in-4 Program with CSUB, and pioneered the Program Pathways Mapper to support academic planning for prospective transferring students. These efforts have stimulated substantial growth in the number of ADT awards.

BC has eliminated the degree completion equity gap for Latino/a/x students by using the Guided Pathways framework to remove barriers. Students who self-identify as having Hispanic/ Latino/a/x heritage averaged 69% of all awards from 2017-18 to 2020-21, 2% above their 67% average representation in the student body. And over the last six years, 2015-16 to 2020-21, BC has increased the number of students who successfully transferred to any four-year university.

**Transfer Trends**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **BC Students Transferring to any Four-Year Institution** | | | | | | **Average** | **2015 vs 2020** | |
| **2015-2016** | **2016-2017** | **2017-2018** | **2018-2019** | **2019-2020** | **2020-2021** | **Number Change** | **Percent Change** |
| 1,056 | 1,190 | 1,161 | 1,377 | 1,488 | 1,418 | **1,337** | 611 | 58% |

Source: Bakersfield College, Institutional Effectiveness Office. *Renegade Scorecard- Student Success.* Retrieved February 16, 2023, from https://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/scorecard/student-profile

Over the last six years, 2015-16 to 2020-21, the College has increased the number of students who successfully transferred to any four-year university. Given its proximity, 43% of the transferring students attend CSU Bakersfield. Among those entering CSUB the greatest gains have come from Latinx and Black students, the groups who are most severely disproportionately impacted.

## Intersegmental Approach to the Future

Over the past three years, Bakersfield College has been envisioning what the future of learning will look like. As an institution, we are focused on ensuring that historically marginalized students who have disproportionately been impacted by the pandemic, poverty, inaccessible resources, and other barriers are given a streamlined path with equal opportunity and support to succeed.

BC is focused on supporting every student towards a baccalaureate degree or transfer degree or career certifications. We know that a college degree opens up a world of opportunities for our students, leading to better jobs, higher salaries, and a fulfilling career. We strive to break down barriers, so students are supported in a seamless transition from entering higher education, staying on their course, all the way to completion.

### Early College

The Early College program is part of a comprehensive effort to stimulate a college-going culture throughout the service region offering high school students the opportunity to start the college experience while still enrolled in high school. The program uses both dual and concurrent enrollment strategies, in which fees are mostly waived or very minimal, resulting in a highly equitable approach.

The goal has been to allow every ninth grader at nearly 40 high schools throughout Kern County to have the opportunity to earn at least 12 college credits during their high school career. Some students will earn an associate degree simultaneously as they complete 12th grade. The Early College program is part of the College’s equity agenda and currently has over 12,000 students participating in dual or concurrent enrollment courses through Bakersfield College annually, and 10% (or 1,200) of these students are participating in degree completion pathways that will allow them to earn an entire associate degree by the time that they graduate from high school.

| **Distinct Counts of Early College Participants** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2015-16** | **2016-17** | **2017-18** | **2018-19** | **2019-20** | **2020-21** | **2021-22** |
| 1,585 | 5,007 | 5,356 | 7,330 | 9,037 | 8,075 | 10,573 |

Source: Bakersfield College, Institutional Effectiveness Office. *Early College Dashboard*

The College has identified several additional areas for action to further develop the Early College program. These include refining the dual enrollment application process to remove barriers, facilitate annual enrollment, and fee waiver application protocols for non-residents. There is also interest in finding ways to provide services to AB540 eligible students to ease their transition to BC and to help all Early College participating students to complete the federal financial aid application.

The faculty mentorship program between BC and high school instructors will also be expanded to each discipline, rather than by department to promote rigor in instruction, encourage communication, and provide guidance on ways in which students can access support services. College and high school faculty members will continue curriculum alignment discussions for pathway high schools and the intent is to promote that the high school faculty are colleagues and partners with the BC faculty members.

To take the equitable approach one step further, faculty and staff are exploring the use of open education resources in as many courses as possible to mitigate the cost of textbooks for concurrently enrolled students.

### Baccalaureate Programs

Bakersfield College was selected in 2015 as one of 15 California Community Colleges to pilot a bachelor’s degree program. BC’s Industrial Automation Baccalaureate Program was intentionally designed to prepare individuals for technical management careers in industries that utilize automation, including the petroleum, manufacturing, logistics and agriculture industry sectors, to improve the regional economy. In 2018, BC held a record-breaking commencement ceremony, recognizing the first-degree earners of Industrial Automation Baccalaureate degree from a California Community College. Graduates of the Industrial Automation baccalaureate program are typically immediately employed upon graduation and the program.

**Graduates by year of BC’s Baccalaureate in Industrial Automation**

| **Annual Awards** | | | | | | **Goals** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2017-18** | **2018-19** | **2019-20** | **2020-21** | **2021-22** | **2022-23** | **2023-24** | **2024-25** | **2025-26** |
| 7 | 12 | 8 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 26 | 35 | 45 |

Source: Bakersfield College, Institutional Effectiveness Office.

Staff and faculty have advocated for growing the baccalaureate offerings at Bakersfield College to not only meet local demand, but also these affordable and accessible paths are one way educated students will secure lifelong, gainful employment to support themselves and their families right here at home. In 2022, BC was selected as the first California Community College to offer two baccalaureate degrees with the approval of the Bachelor of Science in Research Laboratory Technology. The college looks to grow its baccalaureate offerings through the application process for a third baccalaureate in Police Science with additional applications to follow.

### Programs Meeting Rising Workforce Needs And Special Populations

The College is continually looking to develop programs that will offer gainful employment opportunities and economic growth for the region. Several programs are in focus:

**Adult Education:** Adult learners are the next frontier of service from BC and consist of prospective students who are underemployed or unemployed individuals, displaced people, etc. who have a particularly unique set of needs as learners. Noncredit curriculum and programs provide a tool to incentivize adult learners to attend BC and services are delivered at multiple sites within the BC service area including Delano, Shafter, McFarland, Wasco, metropolitan Bakersfield, and Arvin.

The College plans to use noncredit instruction, credit certificates, and degrees as a means to enhance life opportunities for these learners. An important question to be resolved is how to arrange opportunities so that the students who complete noncredit instruction may transition to a credit certificate or degree program of study. Credit for prior learning protocols is one possible strategy to address this issue.

The Racial Equity for Adult Credentials in Higher Education (REACH) state initiative is also informing BC’s approach to adult learners. BC intends to build “on and off ramps: for these students to access and exit educational programs. The Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK) in Kern County provides basic services (housing, underemployed, etc.). The City Serve faith-based non-profit organization provides wrap around services to support the most vulnerable adult learners. Both organizations are prime partners for the College in supporting some of the adult learners. BC is thinking about the life cycle of a student. The intent is to onboard adult learners through community organizations, teach the adult learners, over a short-term, some essential skills, have the adult learner leave with some support to land a job. The core task over the next one to four years is to provide a more thorough system and to think about relationships in a systematic way to support students from start to end. The BC effort will rely on partnerships. Adult learners are hard to find but they are everywhere and nowhere at the same time. BC would also like to provide for an employer and employees any relevant basic training for prospective adult learners in the workforce and to do so at the employment site.

**Education:** The Education pathway is looking to promote a “grow your own” model that would offer education studies courses to currently employed education paraprofessionals which would lead to a degree. The “grow your own” strategy is particularly relevant for employed paraprofessionals who live in rural areas. They intend to expand these efforts in the next several years.

Although recent legislation regarding teacher credentialing pertaining to transitional kindergarten and K-3 teachers may not go into effect until 2023, the Department is working with districts to provide teachers with the required educational experiences that will qualify them for the new certifications. Several school districts have approached the Department with an invitation to offer their K-12 faculty members curriculum from noncredit certificates which would help those faculty with transitional development (aka professional development) skills and insights appropriate to implement new modes of teaching or curriculum.

Another growing innovation is Parent University, a program offered in the Bakersfield City School District (BCSD) and in the rural community of Arvin to get parents involved in their child’s education or to consider becoming an educational paraprofessional. The pilot is modeled after some aspects of the College’s child development programs. The Parent University leaders seek to create cohorts of parents in need of support from the Family and Consumer Education Department child development faculty members. Courses in the Parent University are offered as either credit or noncredit classes. There is interest from the child development faculty members and the leaders of the Parent University program to expand this project into the northern portions of the BC service area.

**Engineering:** There are ongoing discussions to create a Central Valley articulation agreement in the engineering discipline. The discussions seek to identify skills to be developed by the curriculum and to perform a gap analysis to make content connections among the engineering courses at different institutions. BC’s engineering faculty are interested in creating a curriculum that better aligns to the common specializations within the engineering discipline so that transferring students would be able to complete the baccalaureate with only two additional years of upper division study.

BC has a strong engineering program with nearly 1,000 majors but does not have an articulation with CSUB or other university engineering programs. BC’s faculty members are considering the development of a more applied engineering program to ease transfer to CSUB.

**Hospitality:** BC is developing a Hospitality Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT). The idea for this degree grew out of conversations with the local Tejon tribe which looks to be constructing a 400 room Hard Rock Resort at the base of the Grapevine. The plans for this resort include several restaurants and a promise from the tribe to employ local people to staff the many jobs that will be created by the resort. BC is therefore developing its Hospitality ADT with working professionals in mind. The GE courses will be contextualized, and the program will be offered in flexible modalities. In addition, BC will ensure that sustainability is included in this program by embedding principles and strategies of sustainable business practices within the program’s coursework and by developing an independent course on sustainable business practices. They will also give students practical experience with sustainability by continuing practice of using produce from BC’s edible garden in the hospitality program’s curriculum and events.

The hospitality ADT will be made up of three stackable certificates and the required general education (GE) courses. By Fall 2025, BC plans to launch the new hospitality ADT. To meet this goal, the college must complete the Culinary Arts curriculum alignment to transfer courses and the development of the four new Hospitality courses, develop Hospitality GE courses to meet transfer requirements, take all courses through the curriculum and CID approval process, and take the Hospitality ADT through the state approval process.

**Pre-Medicine:** BC is focused on establishing several articulation agreements and pathways to graduate programs in medicine. BC has a planning grant from the California Wellness Foundation to plan an articulated pathway from the community college for pre-med students to attend University of California (UC) Merced for a bachelor’s degree then acceptance into the medical doctor program at UC San Francisco campus. Another grant is being managed by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools to support planning with CSU Bakersfield (CSUB) and Kern Medicine that would allow high school students to learn about a pathway to attend BC, transfer to CSUB, complete a doctorate at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, and return to Bakersfield for residency at Kern Medical. A similar arrangement is in place with Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta and Dignity Health in Bakersfield.

**Rising Scholars:** BC’s Rising Scholars Program currently operates in five state prisons, two juvenile hall facilities, and a custody to community transitional reentry program located in Kern and Kings Counties. In addition to instruction offered to those who are incarcerated, the College also offers a variety of support services to formerly incarcerated individuals who are enrolled and attending classes at BC.

**Graduates by year of BC’s Rising Scholars Program**

| **Actual** | | | | | | | | | | | **Goals** | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **14-15** | **15-16** | **16-17** | **17-18** | **18-19** | **19-20** | **20-21** | **21-22** | **22-23** | **23-24** | | **24-25** | **25-26** |
| Head count | 21 | 92 | 447 | 847 | 1230 | 1322 | 1332 | 1371 | 1703 |  | |  |  |
| Enrollments | 21 | 183 | 1015 | 1984 | 3436 | 4146 | 5764 | 4839 | 6003 |  | |  |  |

Source: Bakersfield College, Institutional Effectiveness Office.

The program envisions growth over the next few years by expanding the number of degree programs available, expanding the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and CANVAS laptop pilot, developing a tracking and support mechanism for formerly incarcerated students, and expanding support to enrolled students.

Three transfer degree programs are being explored as additional offerings to Rising Scholar students. These include Political Science AA-T, Philosophy AA-T, and Anthropology AA-T degrees and have been selected to intentionally develop pipelines to baccalaureate programs. New fields of study, such as wildland firefighting, will be evaluated.

New collaborations are vital to the program’s success and will be pursued with local jails, custody to community transitional reentry facilities, and juvenile hall facility administrators to increase participation. Most recently, courses have begun at the Casa Aurora drug rehabilitation facility in Bakersfield that is designed for 83 female inmates.

The development of on-site learning spaces with properly equipped classrooms is essential for growing the incarcerated student pathway to the Industrial Automation baccalaureate program. Prison authorities have provided within the prison a mobile lab with equipment since 2021-22.

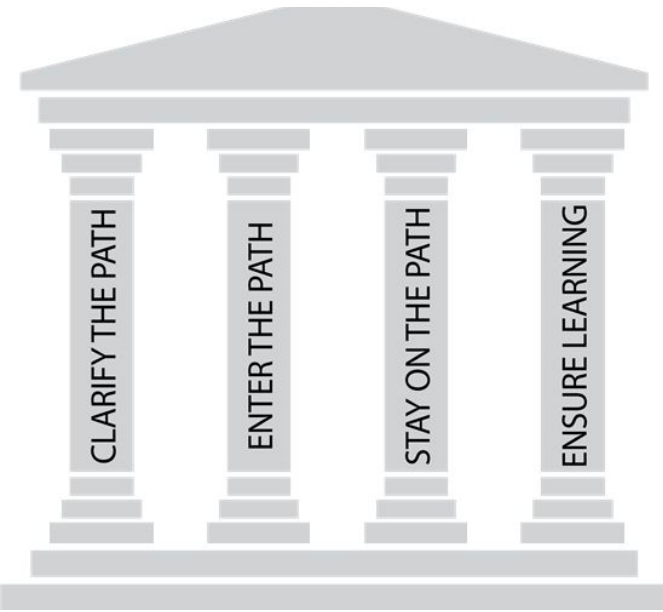
## Equity and Completion Through Guided Pathways for the Future

### Guided Pathways

Bakersfield College implemented Guided Pathways in 2014 along with four momentum points as benchmarks for student success. These benchmarks included:

* Attempting 15+ units in the first term
* Completion of transfer-level math and English in the first year
* Attempting 30+ units in the first year
* Completion of 9 core pathway units in the first year

College data has demonstrated that BC does a great job with the first two pillars of guided pathways, recruitment and enrollment in the first term, however, it has also identified that the College needs to implement strategies to increase student persistence (currently term to term and fall to fall persistence rates are 60% and 75% respectively). Since the inception of guided pathways, the college has focused on improving social and academic support for students, such as the establishment of a robust Basic Needs center called the Renegade Nexus (services include food pantry, transportation, mental health services, etc.), embedded tutoring and writing support, and embedded counseling and advising support.

Going forward, Guided Pathways has the following goals by pillar.

**Pilar 1, Clarify the Path:** (1) Increase awareness and support for Financial Aid application completion, (2) Increase presence and knowledge of transfer at the high schools prior to entering community college, (3) Develop and implement program maps for non-credit certificate pathways, (4) Work to support Adult students through supporting Starfish degree planning and Program Pathway Maps, (5) Expand aligned/stackable programs with Non-Credit entry options for livable wage areas.

**Pillar 2, Enter the Path:** (1) Increase and be more intentional about interaction points with students during their onboarding process, (2) Increase student enrollment by 11% (estimate) over a 4-year period of 2022 to 2026. Student enrollment is defined by the Student Success Metrics Dashboard as follows: Among all applicants who indicated an intent to enroll in the selected institution as a non-special admit student for the first time, the proportion of cohort students who enrolled in the same selected institution in a selected year, (3) Continue to work within the district and at the state level to advocate for improvements to CCCApply, (4) Completion teams with market broadly non-credit courses for CDCP series, (5) Continue to grow and support early college programs.

**Pillar 3, Stay on the Path:** (1) Continue efforts to increase faculty buy-in for the completion of student progress reports, (2) Continue efforts to increase student completion of the milestones previously mentioned, (3) Work with service areas to address needs that arise when student requests for services exceed the availability of those services—with the goal of all students being able to get the help they need to succeed, (4) Work with faculty leads to evaluate program pathway maps for conflicts and bottlenecks, (5) Completion teams will engage in conversation to encourage student-centered scheduling (e.g. Institution goal to develop schedule based on specific student profiles, aligned with updated pathway maps, and ensuring completion is possible in two years).

**Pillar 4, Ensure Learning:** (1) Support institution goals to increase Black and African American student persistence over 3 years by 14.3%, as well as increase male student persistence over 3 years by 5.8%, (2) Engage in conversations to encourage the development of institution set standards with a focus on persistence and completion, (3) Target and support disproportionately impacted students to reduce gaps and address equity, (4) Continued expansion of industry and community partners in CAEP Integration, (5) Focus implementation of Zero Textbook Cost to reduce the economic burden/potential barrier to persistence for students.

### Completion and Transfer

**Transfer/Finish-in-4/Transfer-in-2:** Bakersfield College fully aligned and sequenced its pathways into the Kern Promise: Finish-in-4 maps through which students can complete their Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) in 2 years and earn a guaranteed spot at CSU Bakersfield with junior level standing through structured support and priority access to courses. That work has served students well and earned the college several statewide recognitions.

Through the Kern Promise, the student works with a “Completion Coaching Team” to chart and follow the path to success; and BC provides priority registration, specialized academic and advising support for two years, and guaranteed admission into the CSU system, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), fully online and out-of-state universities, and the participating independent, non-profit universities in California (AICCU).

The Bakersfield College Kern Promise includes the following two programs: Finish-In-4 and Transfer-In-2.

* **FINISH-IN-4**

The Finish-In-4 program guarantees students complete their transfer degree in 2 years at Bakersfield College and a baccalaureate degree in the following 2 years at CSUB.

* **TRANSFER-IN-2**

The Transfer-In-2 program supports student completion of an Associate Degree in 60 semester units at BC followed by transfer to a 4-year institution into a similar major within 2 years.

BC serves over 20 high schools and works collaboratively with high school personnel and other BC departments such as outreach, financial aid, and counseling, to address student needs from pre-matriculation through transfer to a four-year institution. Transfer Center staff are currently working with high school counselors to provide additional opportunities for transfer and financial literacy in high school students and their parents’ education. BC also embeds a transfer pathway in HS dual enrollment programs, and the BC Transfer website clearly identifies transfer information.

Transfer pathway counselors work in conjunction with Learning and Career Pathway counselors to provide additional support and transfer information for students. In addition, a dedicated CSUB advisor is available 20 hours a week BC’s Southwest campus to provide information about CSUB’s transfer requirements and MOU.

Over the next several years, transfer staff will continue to offer services both virtually and in-person, specifically pairing online services for students who take their courses online and in-person services for students who take their classes in-person. Additionally, BC’s Transfer Center plans to continue the implementation of the transfer programs and services noted above, and to continue to assess its programs and services to make informed decisions and improvements.

**AB 1705, English & English for Multilingual Students (EMLS)**: EMLS offers four lower level, non-credit courses that lead to a BC certificate of achievement, as well as intermediate courses that can be taken for credit or non-credit, and a transfer level composition course. A huge percentage of the population that BC serves is comprised of language learners, many of whom are farm workers who have not had the opportunity to take college courses in the past. During the pandemic, since many EMLS students live in rural areas, they were disproportionately impacted by the lack of access to technology hardware, software, and connectivity which led to a drop in EMLS enrollment, and a reduction in the number of sections offered.

Currently and into the next year, EMLS is increasing its use of advertising tools such as course brochures and social media to reach students. They will also collaborate with the Farmworkers Institute of Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) and Self-Help a medium income housing project within the community to offer newly developed courses for true beginners. Two forward thinking strategies within EMLS is collaborating with the BC Library to bring librarians into some courses 4 times per course to teach research skills as well as pivoting to make courses more accessible—both online and in locations and at times that students can attend.

Over the next several years, EMLS plans to continue to explore ways to reach students in formats students use, and using technology that the students will respond to. They will continuing to “Take BC to the community” by offering courses at locations within the communities it serves while embedding necessary academic support services in courses, and the efforts to make students aware of resources that are not embedded.

### International Students PROGRAM

Bakersfield College’s vision for the future includes dedicating resources to the growth of its International Student Program. To that end, the International Student Program is actively developing relationships with both internal and external sources to help increase the number of students enrolled in BC’s international student program.

BC’s international students (F1 visa students) typically identify a UC as their transfer institution of choice, and two of the top transfer UC’s from BC are Berkeley and UC Santa Barbara. BC works closely to ensure successful completion of transfer courses as well as seamless transition to the international student’s 4-year college of choice. The staff in BC’s international student program are currently working to develop pathways for transfer students to the UC’s and bring BC’s exposure to other countries through social media and webinars to provide BC with quality leads for international students.

Future goals of the program include targeting outreach to students from other countries including Korea, Vietnam, Latin America countries, and India, and developing pathways that include support for the unique needs of for international students at identified momentum points. These will include addressing social and emotional needs of international students, including providing opportunities for international students to be active on campus, creating engagement opportunities to combat homesickness, and aiding students to understand logistics of living in Bakersfield.

**KCCD Unique Headcount Dashboard by Semester**

**Bakersfield College by: International Residency Status**

| **Fall 2018** | **Fall 2019** | **Fall 2020** | **Fall 2021** | **Fall 2022** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 60 | 58 | 44 | 32 | 32 |
| 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |
|  | -3.3% | -24.1% | -27.3% | 0.0% |

### Credit for prior Learning (CPL)

To ensure students *enter the path* with credits they’ve earned through validating prior learning, Bakersfield College (BC) has a process established and a web site with forms and information in place for CPL. Military veterans can access a state database, the Military Articulation Platform (MAP), to explore the possibility of being granted BC course credit for training they received in the military. The MAP platform is used by California community colleges to facilitate comparison of course outlines and learning outcomes on a Joint Services Transcript (JST) to the college’s course outline of record and related learning outcomes in order to reach equivalency decisions. BC department chairs are being prompted to use the MAP resource to create equivalencies that would facilitate awarding BC credits to the veteran students and future workshops are being planned to accelerate the review process across all BC programs.

An alternative CPL option for some students is to receive recognition for learning accomplished to earn an industry certificate. BC is part of a state work group effort to extend the MAP to include standard industry recognize certificates. In time, that enhanced resource will facilitate the granting of equivalent BC course credit to students who have documented industry certificates.

Additionally, students who have a work history that is not recognized by an industry certificate but can be documented in a portfolio for BC faculty to review may also be eligible to earn CPL. The next steps are to develop rubrics with which the portfolio materials could be evaluated for equivalency to a BC course.

BC has a robust process for awarding CPL earned through standardized exams (AP, IB, and CLEP) and continues to improve avenues of internal credit by exam for students. Into the future the CPL team plans to develop a handbook to place all of the information about CPL in one place. The College has committed to providing support for the faculty leader of this effort, but the CPL team would like to see a Program Manager position created in order to sustain the effort.

### Competency Based Education (CBE)

BC is one of 8 pilot colleges participating in a grant funded opportunity to work with the State Chancellor’s Office to develop Competency Based Education parameters for the state. This work, and the 8 colleges that are accomplishing it, will eventually facilitate the development and implementation of CBE programs at all 116 California Community Colleges. BC has selected Culinary Arts as its pilot CBE program. CBE will allow students to progress at their own pace, get credit for skills they already possess, and possibly increase the numbers who are able to complete degrees.

Culinary Arts faculty have completed the initial identification of skill competencies required for the Culinary Arts courses. They are currently working to parse and combine competencies to meet the goal of identifying a maximum of 50, including those in general education (GE). BC is seeking a GE faculty member to join the CBE team to help identify the GE competencies. The goal is to have GE faculty develop courses for the CBE programs that can be contextualized within CTE areas. To meet the goal of launching the CBE program by Fall 2025, the College must complete the identification of up to 50 competencies, develop necessary curriculum and proceed through all approval processes, revise any district policies, and complete the ACCJC substantive change to offer CBE.

### The Office of Student Life

Leadership and staff in BC’s Office of Student Life are dedicated to *ensuring learning* through the opportunities they provide students both inside and outside of the classroom. They understand, through both anecdotal and empirical evidence, that increased student success and completion are correlated to student engagement. Student Life will explore the transition to the “Center for Campus Engagement” as the breadth and depth of services provided are encompassed by the various current Student Life programs and services.

Over the next few years, BC’s Office of Student Life envisions a transition from the College’s current perception of Student Life as separate from instructional departments; to one where these aspects of a student’s education are recognized as essential to student equity and success. In this re-envisioned model, Student Life and Instructional departments will work together to form a culture of co-curricular student services where service learning and student organization engagement are embedded in the academic curriculum. This will require a partnership between Student Life and the instructional departments to offer students the opportunity to see the impact of classroom learning on real life experiences. Within the next 5 years, BC Student Life staff hopes to develop an academic certificate in “Leadership” that will include existing BC courses, Government and Civic co-curricular requirements, and the development of new courses as necessary to complete program requirements.

## Evolving Workforce Preparation for the Future

Bakersfield College has a strong commitment to providing a robust lineup of career education programs designed to prepare students to enter the workforce and fill identified gaps between projected job openings requiring technical knowledge and the regional supply of college graduates. The future direction of BC’s workforce preparation is focused on the following categories of efforts: (1) educating healthcare providers; (2) creating apprenticeships and industry partnerships; (3) mastering technology; and (4) improving administrative processes.

### Apprenticeships and Industry Partnerships

BC has leveraged the state’s policy and funding to increase the number of apprenticeship programs to prepare students for the Kern County workforce. The new areas of interest for BC include health care, information technology, transportation and logistics, and energy. Each apprenticeship requires several administrative activities to be accomplished in collaboration with business partners, labor councils and unions, the California Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), the California Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI), and nonprofit and other community groups.

New apprenticeship training programs have been established through partnerships with these firms: Wonderful Company, California Department of General Services, California and Bakersfield Area New Car Dealers Association, Bitwise Industries, OpenClassrooms, Adventist Health, and Kern Medical. Additional apprenticeship opportunities are being pursued in advanced manufacturing, automotive, hospitality, healthcare, and energy.

The partnership with the Wonderful Company draws on some of the curriculum from the industrial automation discipline and is taught at the Company’s training center in Shafter. The target audience contemplated in the proposal to the Wonderful Company is for educational and technical training delivered to existing and the potential workforce for employers at the industrial park and high school students participating in the BC early college initiative. In addition to workforce instruction, the proposal suggests possible connections to Early College credit programs that align with industry certification requirements. Also, a series of 16 non-credit instructional topics about occupational safety, risk management, and office and business skills were proposed. BC is prepared to offer a series of courses in eight-week modules during the primary terms and in the summer months.

### Healthcare

**Health, Equity, and Learning (HEAL):** In November 2018, BC’s representatives, BC’s community healthcare professionals and other partners created a healthcare initiative called the Health, Equity, and Learning (HEAL). The Collaborative has identified several workforce preparation gaps in a variety of medical professions which BC is addressing by introducing new programs of study and increasing enrollment capacity in existing programs. Supported by a Title V grant, the Early College program also intends to increase the number of sections offered, double the number of declared majors, and create pathways from adult schools to health programs of study. Partnerships with hospitals and unions have also created a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) to Registered Nurse (RN) bridge program for perinatal and neonatal nursing care.

**Registered Nursing:** BC’s RN program started an apprenticeship path for those completing the associate degree who want to train for perioperative nursing. This bridge into the community health sector is aimed at expanding opportunities for the RN program graduates. Several new allied health programs are being considered while other existing programs are going to have expanded curriculum. Modification of facilities will allow growth efforts of established programs of study to increase enrollments.

**Physical Therapy Assistant:** BC’s Physical Therapist Assistant program is in the process of seeking accreditation from a national organization to enhance the stature of the program. A course introducing BC students to the discipline has been popular and is being offered at the Kern High School District (KHSD) Career Technical Education Center (CTEC). The program plans to create a credit certificate program for rehabilitation aides to spark interest in the occupation.

**Public Health Sciences:** Four years ago, the Public Health Science major was introduced as an AS-T degree with a heavy science component. Going forward the program looks to emphasize more public health education instruction. The Department is working to strengthen the AS-T to ensure easy transfer to four-year public institutions. The department intends to create and consult with an advisory board to upgrade the two job skills certificates into certificates of achievement. Those two job skills certificates currently require only a few units: (1) community health worker and (2) public health informatics & technology. Curriculum work is being undertaken to convert PBHS B23 and introduce a new course specializing in public health statistics.

**Emergency Medical Technician (EMT):** Public safety health-related career technical education programs of study are also being expanded. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) faculty members are expanding instruction in Delano, Wasco, and eventually in Arvin. Faculty members intend to continue expanding the strategy of using a hybrid delivery modality to attract more students. The overall cost of the BC EMT Program is significantly lower than other similar programing withing the State of California. The American Heart Association (AHA) courses are Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). Additionally, the AHA courses are already in high demand among Paramedic students, in addition to being required courses for BC Nursing Program.

**Mental Health Certificate:** Both the psychology and criminal justice departments have been considering new courses to address mental health issues. Psychology faculty members have partnered with nursing faculty members in the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program to offer an introductory mental health course to complement the currently provided occupational training. The Bakersfield Behavioral Healthcare Hospital approached BC to conduct more training in mental health for their employees. In response, the Psychology Department is working on a non-credit certificate. Several BC leaders have started to discuss a de-escalation curriculum and the topic has become part of the College’s efforts in BC’s criminal justice program to infuse more education about this topic into first responder training.

### Mastering Technology, Research, and Renewable Energy

**Industrial Automation:** Faculty members leading the Industrial Automation program intend to increase enrollments in the program in several ways. Curriculum is taught at six high schools in the Early College Program and this will be a focus of the Early College expansion efforts. The Rising Scholars Program also includes the curriculum in offerings to incarcerated individuals at several state prisons in Kern County. Discipline faculty members are considering ways to facilitate program access for BC students in related disciplines such as engineering, energy, agriculture, advanced manufacturing, etc. Industrial automation courses also have been articulated through the state and the department hopes to continue expanding those agreements. A final new audience has been identified as currently employed individuals who would like to learn some of the topics covered in the upper division curriculum. However, those individuals have not completed the 18 units of lower division coursework and cannot enter the program. However, a certificate of achievement proposal is being developed to address the interests of those currently employed.

**Makerspace:** Faculty members in the Industrial Technology department are seeking to attract BC students to careers in industrial automation, advanced manufacturing, and other technical programs that can utilize the new makerspace laboratory as a creative design center. The vision for the makerspace is to provide learning opportunities focused on innovative and advanced manufacturing technologies in a hub open to BC students and the community. The 900 square foot makerspace will be equipped with a laser for engraving and cutting, a 3D printer, an industrial quality power sewing machine, and various tools necessary to support inventors and innovators. The grand vision is to allow BC students and the community to build wood, plastic, and metal scale models from their designs. A series of six nine-hour non-credit courses is being proposed to prepare students to use the makerspace.

**Research Laboratory Technology:** The second baccalaureate degree program launched by BC is in Research Laboratory Technology. Like the Industrial Automation Bachelor of Science degree, this new degree is a workforce preparation curriculum. The upper division courses are designed to educate students about instrument maintenance and laboratory preparation tasks but not in a medical or clinical laboratory setting. An associate degree similar to the BC Research Laboratory Technology AS degree does not exist in California. Students completing an AS-T in a variety of laboratory-focused programs could complete the BC Research Laboratory Technology AS program with two additional courses. Most students who are currently BC science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) majors could transition easily to the Research Laboratory Technology AS and be immediately on the pathway to the B.S. degree.

**Valley Strong Energy Institute and the California Renewable Energy Lab:** The Kern Community College District (CCD) and BC have had a long interest in advancing renewable energy in the service area and beyond. The Valley Strong Energy Institute was created in Fall 2021 from early KCCD energy efforts through a $2 million gift from the Valley Strong Credit Union. The state of California also awarded Kern CCD a $50 million grant to create a renewable energy hub called the California Renewable Energy Laboratory (CREL). CREL has formed a coalition of 37 partner organizations from labor, industry, community, local indigenous tribes, government, national labs, academia, and workforce development to advance the project’s agenda that is organized into four focus areas: (1) three centers of excellence to conduct demonstration projects, (2) community education and engagement through webinars, (3), technology transfer and commercialization, and (4) workforce development training.

**Modern Energy Workforce Certificate:** To address workforce development, a Modern Energy Workforce certificate has been developed that will be conferred upon completion of a three-course non-credit curriculum and the faculty is developing a credit curriculum certificate and an associate degree in energy systems technology for future energy workers.

Federal grant and low-interest loan resources are going to be available throughout the nation due to funding from the infrastructure and inflation reduction legislation. Those funds are expected to offer many opportunities for the CREL team to partner with BC, community organizations, national laboratories, and the private sector to secure additional federal investment, and technical expertise with which to leverage state and local clean energy advancements.

### Optimizing Processes

**Learning Aligned Employment Program (LAEP):** BC is implementing the Learning Aligned Employment Program that was established in the 2021-22 state budget. It allows the placement of a participating student in an educationally beneficial position that relates to the student’s area of study, career objective, or the exploration of career objectives while decreasing financial barriers associated with educational cost. The program is currently in its beginning phases and the first cohort of students are expected to be placed in Summer 2023.

**Certificates:** Certificates are one type of award that BC confers to recognize a student’s completion of the prescribed courses. They are a testament to the student’s accomplishments and employers may require these before granting a promotion or salary increase. Over the last seven academic years the number of certificates issued has sharply increased with the most profound increase being non-credit certifications that were only started in 2020-21. The recording process for the certificates is that Admissions and Records works with a third-party vendor to print and mail the certificates. To streamline and accelerate the process, the Career Education Department is proposing to print the certificates in-house and hand them to the students after evaluation and recording.

**Non-Credit Courses:** Non-credit courses have been offered to support placement efforts for students in English and Math and as a pre-requisite for students in technical programs, such as to use the makerspace. Non-credit courses are also available to the community through BC’s Launchpad to help entrepreneurs and as other community education efforts such as instruction on edible gardens, early childcare, and education for parents through the Parent University. However, the bulk of the non-credit curriculum and future direction of efforts is in workforce preparation and development.

In an intersegmental approach, BC is collaborating with public school districts to provide K-12 faculty professional development and with community non-profit organizations to develop leadership skills among its members. The Adult Education team uses non-credit curriculum to provide an on-ramp for adult learners to receive instruction in a variety of disciplines to access the workforce or experience career advancement.

## Facilities and Infrastructure for the Future

### Measure J Improvement Projects

Passed in 2016, the Measure J bond of $502 million set Bakersfield College on track to make needed improvements to the BC campus as well as the Delano campus, Arvin campus, Porterville College, and Cerro Coso Community College. Completed, in-progress, and proposed projects are designed for the future; BC students will have the opportunity to learn in facilities outfitted with current and scalable technology that will remain relevant for decades to come.

Completed Measure J projects to date include the following facilities and modernizations: Veterans Resource Center, Science and Engineering building, Campus Center, Administrative Services, Memorial Stadium and the newly completed Welcome Center which serves as a centralized location for students to visit Financial Aid, Admissions, and get general questions answered. Interior building infrastructure has also been updated with wireless access points, water/sewer/gas upgrades have been made, and parking lots have undergone improvements.

#### Current Projects

**Renegade Athletic Complex:** The Renegade Athletic Complex is scheduled for completion in summer 2023 and includes a new gym and women’s fieldhouse as well as fitness center, locker rooms, and other training rooms.

**Delano Learning Resource Center:** In Delano, a new two-story Learning Resource Center (LRC) building is scheduled to be completed in May of 2023 to replace modular units. This facility will include a library, study hall, flexible classrooms capable of holding 32-64 students, a tutoring center with private tutoring rooms, computer labs, and faculty offices. The library is the heart of the building and serves as the place where students can study, and access resources needed to further their education.

**Arvin General Education Center:** The City of Arvin gifted the College a 31-acre plot of land, adjacent to the high school. Begun in summer 2022, the new General Education Center will be the first building to be constructed on the new Arvin Campus, and a large parking area will also be made available. This new facility will consist of flexible classrooms capable of holding 32-64 students, a tutoring center with private tutoring rooms, computer labs, a dedicated Writing Center, an open study hall with group study rooms, and a library to help facilitate research and to provide additional quiet study space. Spaces where students can access help directly from their teachers, counselors, and educational advisors will be available. Finally, also planned is a multipurpose lab to be used by several disciplines from science to art. Occupancy is projected for fall 2024.

#### Future Projects

**Agriculture:** Currently the Agriculture Department resides in a series of outdated and undersized buildings. With new facilities, improvements will allow the program to grow and diversify into a second century of agricultural education. A general Agriculture build-out is proposed to include greenhouses, a horticulture shop, and a mechanized agriculture shop. This reinvented space would be located at the site of the existing Horticulture and Agriculture buildings, keeping the department in close proximity to other disciplines such as Science, Engineering, and Industrial Technology. Having these departments as neighbors could facilitate exciting, multidisciplinary collaboration in the future.

**Parking Lot Construction and New Entry:** By 2025-26, BC intends to create a new parking lot south of the existing agriculture farm and add a new entry road off Panorama Drive. The College also plans to relocate two multi-purpose sport fields south of the existing baseball field to provide space for the new parking lot.

**Culinary Arts:** The culinary arts program looks forward to the modernization of approximately 6,000 square feet of the Mt. Vernon swing space for their use. The facility is on the east side of Mt. Vernon Avenue, adjacent to the main campus. Occupancy is anticipated in 2024-25.

**Center for Student Success:** The creation of a new Center for Student Success either through the renovation of the old library or the construction of a new building are in the early stages of planning and development. The departments to be housed in this building are Academic Support, Career Services & Student Employment, DSPS, EOPS/CalSOAP, Advising & Counseling, Academic Development, and International Programs. In addition to these departments there will be several classrooms, computer labs, and group study areas.

**Fine Arts:** The Fine Arts building work will improve acoustics in the music labs and provide adequate technology infrastructure to create smart classrooms. Instructors will be able to use current teaching methodologies in their art or photography labs when the construction is finished.

**Language Arts:** Similar to the Fine Arts building, the Language Arts building project will provide adequate technology infrastructure to create smart classrooms and support the use of current teaching methodologies in the math and computer labs.

### Other Imrpovement Projects

Transformations are taking place now and, in the future, so BC students can continue learning in supportive environments that meet their needs and mirror their future careers.

**Edible Education Garden:** The Edible Education Garden is now complete and being utilized for Edible Education Garden non-credit courses, and general use for Culinary, Agriculture, and Horticulture Students. Harvests from the Edible Education Garden also serve to reduce food insecurity for BC students.

**Delano Regenerative Farm: The** Delano Campus is in the construction phase of the Regenerative Farm which will be used to teach students about paper plot planting systems, commercial and home hydroponics, and traditional row crop seasonal crops. The Ag Department was recently awarded a grant for commercial and home hydroponic systems as well. Other study areas will include reducing carbon dioxide in the soil, the use of crop covers, and ways to decrease the use of fertilizer.

**Student Housing:** BC has identified a housing need within its student population including specifically, emancipated former foster care students, veteran students, and those who are currently or imminently facing homelessness. The proposed vision is to create housing where these qualifying students, through various subsidy programs, could reside while attending the college. The 154-bed residence hall is to be located on the Bakersfield College Campus in P7 along University.

### Projected Facility Needs

**Bakersfield College Southwest:** Leased space at 9400 Camino Media, on the southern border of the California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB) property, is the location of the Bakersfield College Southwest (BCSW) outreach center. The purpose in maintaining a presence on the west side has been to facilitate access to college for those living in the area and to promote a college-going mind set. BC has used the facility to provide access to college transfer programs for the benefit of high school students in the BC early college initiative and to support the Finish-in-4 campaign with CSUB. Given the overall growth of the student population at the main campus, BCSW provides another location for offering high demand courses and, in order to meet labor market needs, career technical education instruction. BCSW, at capacity now, utilizes the first two floors of space that are authorized in the lease.

Although transfer-oriented programs were the original vision for BCSW, after the COVID pandemic lockdown ended BCSW shifted to include career technical education as a workforce preparation effort with an emphasis on health care and local degrees. Thirteen Associate Degree for Transfer programs are offered at the BCSW facility plus additional non-transfer degrees, certificates, and portions of several health careers programs. Starting in Fall 2023 the Architecture Associate of Science degree curriculum will be offered at the BCSW location. A variety of general education courses that are taught at BCSW allow students to complete the general education pattern requirements for BC, CSU, or UC.

**Public Safety Regional Hub:** There is currently insufficient room to facilitate teaching for all of the public safety instructional programs that Bakersfield College offers. The Kern Community College District would like to establish a regional public safety training hub property of between 100 to 120 acres located outside of the urbanized area. Kern County Sheriff and Bakersfield City Police and fire agencies have a similar interest.

Currently BC’s public safety programs are taught at various locations in the service area: main campus, various high schools through the early college program, Weill Institute, Shafter’s WESTEC facility, and the Olive Drive Fire Training Facility which is owned and used by the Bakersfield City Fire Department. There has been some discussion with the Kern High School District to create a facility at its Regional Occupational Center campus on South Mount Vernon Avenue, or the Career Technical Education Center on Old River Road where BC could provide the Police Science associate of science degree program to high school students participating in the BC early college program.

The Bakersfield Police Department and the Kern County Sheriff’s Department have training facilities but those are not optimal facilities. Cerro Coso College has an instructional service agreement (ISA) with the Kern Sheriff to support their basic academy training. Porterville College has a modularized law enforcement academy but cannot deliver the complete training because they do not have an Emergency Vehicle Operations course.It is in the best interest of Bakersfield College, local law enforcement agencies, KHSD, and the rest of the community to invest in facilities to collaboratively teach our students.

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* Jalisca Thomason
* Renaldo Arroyo
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* Jessalyn Choate
* Leo O’Campo
* Marcos Rodriguez
* Liz Rozell
* Yesenia Isbell
* Carl Dean
* Cathy Jones
* Paula Dahl
* Daniel Reed
* Michelle Beasley
* Debi Anderson
* Tyler Thoms
* Ximena De Silva Tavarez

## Appendices Index

1. California Department of Finance. *California Public K–12 Graded Enrollment and High School Graduate Projections by County — 2022 Series.* Retrieved December 28, 2022, from https://dof.ca.gov/forecasting/Demographics/projections/ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Kern County Economic Development Corporation. *2022 Kern County Market Overview.* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)