



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Shaena Engle  
Manager, Public Relations  
[engles@lacitycollege.edu](mailto:engles@lacitycollege.edu)

**LACC joins Grow with Google's HSI Career Readiness Program to Train 200,000 Latino Students In Digital Skills by 2025**

LOS ANGELES (February 4, 2022)-- Los Angeles City College (LACC) has announced its participation in the Grow with Google HSI Career Readiness Program. The initiative will help Latino students at over 20 Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) prepare for the workforce through digital skills training and career workshops. Through a \$2 million investment in the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), the program will train 200,000 Latino students by 2025.

"I want to thank Google and the Hispanic Association of Community Colleges for supporting California's students with workforce readiness training," **said Eleni Kounalakis, Lieutenant Governor of California.** "Ensuring our students are equipped with essential digital skills will provide them with additional career opportunities and increase their economic mobility for years to come."

"Students in the Inland Empire deserve access to the best-available resources to help them prepare for their careers and become active members of our community. This type of investment in our students is crucial, and is especially significant in historically-underserved communities. I've been proud to support additional funding for HSIs like San Bernardino Valley College and Cal State San Bernardino, and I'm excited to see these new opportunities come available for our local students," **said Rep. Pete Aguilar.**

Latino workers face systemic barriers to economic opportunity, including a lack of access to digital skills training. Over 80% of U.S. jobs require digital skills, but 55% of Latinos have little to no digital skills training. Latinos are also overrepresented in jobs that are at the highest risk of elimination due to automation, furthering the need to upskill for an increasingly digital economy. Alongside partners, Google's latest commitments aim to increase economic mobility in the Latino community by furthering access to the training and digital skills needed to obtain an in-demand job.

"Grow with Google will help our students obtain the digital skills they need to be successful in the workplace," said Dr. Mary Gallagher, President, Los Angeles City College.

In partnership with HACU, the Grow with Google HSI Career Readiness Program will provide HSI career centers with funding and a semester-long in-person and online digital skills program.

HACU has a track record of increasing access to education in the Latino community, and two-thirds of Latino college students in the U.S. attend one of its member institutions. The initiative will combine career workshops, career counseling, and programming on design thinking, project management, and professional brand building. The participating schools will also create additional material tailored to student needs.

“Google is proud to work with leading Latino-serving organizations to advance access to digital skills and workforce training in the Latino community,” said **Ana Corrales, Chief Operating Officer for Google’s Devices and Services**. “Together with partners like the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, we aim to help bridge wealth and opportunity gaps for students and workers, so that everyone has an opportunity and inspiration to succeed in today’s digital economy.”

“Ensuring Hispanic-Serving Institutions have the resources available to help students excel in the workforce is crucial in today’s competitive job market,” said **HACU President and CEO Antonio R. Flores**. “We are excited to partner with Google on this innovative initiative and collaborate with HSIs to offer career services for students to graduate with the digital skills and training that can expand their employment prospects.”

Google’s latest commitments build on over \$35M provided to date to expand economic opportunity in the Latino community, including a recent \$15 million commitment to help Latino entrepreneurs, job seekers and students succeed in today’s economy. Since 2013, the company’s Google in Residence program has partnered with HSIs and HBCUs to place Google software engineers in schools as faculty, and the company also hosts Tech Exchange, a virtual student exchange program that teaches HSI and HBCU students applied computer science courses.

For more information, please visit [Grow.Google.com](http://Grow.Google.com).

## **ABOUT LACC**

Established in 1929, Los Angeles City College is one of the oldest of the California Community Colleges. Located in the heart of Hollywood, LACC provides a dynamic innovative learning environment offering more than 100 vocational and professional programs including degrees, transfer programs and certificates to more than 18,000 students. Los Angeles City College is home to one of the most vibrant and diverse campuses in the country. The campus provides a wide range of professional and vocational programs at a fraction of the cost of state and private colleges.

## **ABOUT GROW WITH GOOGLE**

Grow with Google was started in 2017 to help Americans grow their skills, careers, and businesses. It provides free training, tools, and expertise to help small business owners, veterans and military families, jobseekers and students, educators, startups, and developers. Since Grow with Google’s inception, it has helped more than seven million Americans develop new skills. Grow with Google has a network of more than 8,000 partner organizations like libraries, schools, small business development centers, chambers of commerce, workforce development boards and nonprofits to help people coast-to-coast.