



CENTRAL VALLEY  
HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

**Embark: A Guide to Higher Education in Central California**



➤ **The Central Valley:  
base camp for learning,  
for adventure, for life.**



## CV-HEC President's Message

As you look for colleges, you are beginning one of life's great adventures. We hope you will use this viewbook of Central Valley's colleges to help guide you along the way.

Central Valley Higher Education Consortium is a great tool for navigating the terrain of college planning. Our college resource center, The College Place, in Fresno's Manchester Mall, and our website, [collegenext.org](http://collegenext.org), are valuable sources of information.



Frank Gornick  
CV-HEC Board President

Each year, we participate in a number of events that allow youth to experience college including the annual Hispanic Youth Symposium and College: Making It Happen events. Through organizations like the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley we are advocates for creating additional opportunities for Valley students.

I am honored to be a part of a collaboration that is making a difference in the lives of students in our region.

Sincerely,

Frank Gornick

*President, Central Valley Higher Education Consortium  
Chancellor, West Hills Community College District*

## Gear up:

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# Exploring Camp:

## Life in the Central Valley

California's San Joaquin Valley is central to the state and its geographical wonders; central to its economy; and central to its cultural development and continued growth. The expansive region is home to more than 60 cities and 3.5 million people, but never feels crowded. With a mixture of urban, suburban, and rural landscapes, the Valley provides unparalleled diversity of education, lifestyle, recreation, economy, and opportunity.

### Location

The level valley floor and its communities are crisscrossed by a scattered network of rivers and canals, many flowing from nearby lakes and reservoirs. Often, they are nestled in foothills, sneaking up into majestic mountain ranges. The snowcapped peaks of the Sierra Nevada and the waves of the Pacific Ocean are only a few hours away. Natural wonders surround the Valley, including three national parks: Kings Canyon and

Sequoia National Parks offer glimpses into the living past with their giant Sequoia trees, while Yosemite National Park is perhaps one of the most beautiful places on earth, each year drawing visitors from around the globe. Hiking trails and panoramic vistas are the norm. In the other direction, the Pacific coastline offers beaches and harbors, rugged ocean cliffs and crashing waves. For surfing, beachcombing, or just relaxing, you'll find the perfect spot along the miles of expansive seashore. A bit farther off: giant redwoods to the northwest and serene but scorching deserts to the southeast. Whether you enjoy winter sports or water sports, mountain wilderness or sunbathing at the beach, or perhaps simply experiencing nature in its purest form, the Central Valley offers ideal access.



## Culture

Nature isn't the only thing worth exploring. Generations of immigrants from all points of the globe have created a diversity of culture in the Central Valley that pervades art, architecture, business, and cuisine. It all contributes to the region's extraordinary variation and rich heritage. History and art combine in the area's museums. In recent years, there has been a renewed dedication to art in all its forms. Local music and film festivals, as well as gallery showings, fill event calendars. A sports stadium or arena is never far off, for enjoying professional or college athletics. There's an abundance of Valley organizations to connect like-minded individuals and contribute to the community.

## Business

Since the days after the Gold Rush, the Valley's economy has been largely agricultural. Acres of grapevines, citrus orchards, and cattle ranches still make up much of the land. However, new trends are emerging as Central Valley businesses grow beyond reliance on the soil. Attracted by the centralized location and exceptional growth of the region, pioneering businesses are being established—information technology, healthcare, and retail corporations. All of these depend on the pool of skilled graduates from the area's higher education institutions.

## Education

The Central Valley recognizes its place in California history and charges ahead with the same trailblazing spirit. This unique balance of tradition and innovation reveals itself in the Valley's higher education. In each college and university, a historic commitment to success is coupled with bold new approaches to truly succeed in the 21st century. Along with a lower cost of living and variety of educational options, the Central Valley is the ideal place to pursue higher education and establish a successful career.



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# ➤ The Trailblazer:

## Central Valley Higher Education Consortium



Central Valley Higher Education Consortium aims to increase higher education access, participation, and success in the Central Valley and make a positive impact on the educational achievement of our region.

### CV-HEC

The Central Valley Higher Education Consortium (CV-HEC) was established in 2000 by the presidents and chancellors of the region's colleges and universities. It is a nonprofit coalition of more than 20 accredited colleges and universities—community, public, and private—with the goal of increasing access to higher education for those who may feel it is out of reach. At the same time, CV-HEC continues to support continued advances in the quality and effectiveness of higher education in the 10 counties of



Cheri Cruz  
CV-HEC Executive Director

the region: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne.

The Central Valley is confronted by challenges— including educational attainment levels below the state average— which reduce the quality of life for many in the area. CV-HEC believes education must be part of a long-term, permanent solution to these challenges. That's why it is committed, along with its partner institutions and organizations, to developing higher education in the Valley— making it accessible, affordable, and effective. A successful education is the foundation for a lifetime of success that benefits the entire community.



# ➤ Navigating Opportunities: Higher Education in the Central Valley

Each partner institution plays a vital role in achieving CV-HEC's goals. From Stockton to Bakersfield, they are committed to creating a culture of higher education that will sustain and enrich the growth of the Central Valley. Together, they are working to expand career and technical education programs to prepare students for the distinctive needs of the Valley's broadening economy. They are establishing higher expectations for achievement, and providing students the tools to meet those standards. They are increasing the availability of information and resources to both students and parents. In addition to the many benefits of a Central Valley higher education, each of the 27 partner institutions offers its own contributions, as you'll see on the following pages.



# Community Colleges

Whether you're looking to earn an associate degree, complete your general education requirements before transferring to a four-year university, or simply looking to expand your knowledge, Central California's community colleges will suit your needs. With locations all over the Valley, you're never far from quality instruction and enrichment at a community college. The future is an adventure: these colleges offer the tools you need for the path ahead.

## BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE

Location: Bakersfield  
Established: 1913  
Enrollment: 18,000  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.bakersfieldcollege.edu](http://www.bakersfieldcollege.edu)  
Main Phone: 661.395.4011

## Allied Health Programs

**Bakersfield College** is the South Valley choice for Allied Health careers, with offerings in Nursing, Radiologic Technology, Emergency Medical Technician, and Flight Paramedic programs. Additional public safety career programs include Wildland Fire Control, Firefighter, and Correctional Officer. Bakersfield College offers more than 100 associate degrees and certificate programs in a variety of disciplines. Whether the goal is a career in healthcare, an associate degree, or transfer to a four-year college, students will find a flexible and responsive environment for educational growth at Bakersfield College. The college has a number of facilities in the Bakersfield area to accommodate a range of instructional options.



## Diverse Geography, Diverse Education

With five campuses, covering over 18,000 square miles, **Cerro Coso Community College** provides educational opportunities for the vast desert, mountain, and valley communities within a sweeping four-county region of eastern California. It serves the educational needs of the largest geographical service area of any community college in California, including 85,000 residents. Through associate degrees and general education programs, Cerro Coso encourages critical thinking, an appreciation for the rich diversity of human cultures and traditions, and an understanding of political, social, and ecological environments. When leaving Cerro Coso, students are prepared to thrive in a global society.

## CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Location: Ridgecrest  
Established: 1973  
Enrollment: 5,000  
Campus type: Rural  
Website: [www.cerrocoso.edu](http://www.cerrocoso.edu)  
Main Phone: 760.384.6100



### COLLEGE OF THE SEQUOIAS

Location: Visalia  
Established: 1926  
Enrollment: 10,000+  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.cos.edu](http://www.cos.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.730.3700

## Public Safety Training

The Tulare-Kings Counties Public Safety Training Center is a department of **College of the Sequoias**. The programs serve the law enforcement and firefighting professions in California by providing the highest quality of training to in-service officers and those seeking to enter the profession. The Police Academy, along with associated courses, provide education for future law enforcement. The increasingly popular Fire Technology program trains the next generation of firefighters. In a dangerous world, it is important to ensure training by a qualified staff with the support of a dedicated college like COS.

## Environmentally-informed



Surrounding San Diego Reservoir, from which wooded foothills join the rugged majesty of the Sierra Nevada, **Columbia College** draws inspiration from its natural and historic environment. In keeping with the historic atmosphere of the Mother Lode Region, the design of the campus buildings reflects the architectural style of early California. In this unique and picturesque setting, the

college provides comprehensive programs for academic and occupational education, focusing on the worth and dignity of each student. Students are prepared for full engagement in an evolving world. Columbia College is committed to a culture of improvement through measuring student learning across the institution, striving for excellence, fostering a spirit of professionalism, and celebrating diversity. Columbia College is a center for transformational learning, critical and creative thinking, and personal growth.

### COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Location: Sonora  
Established: 1968  
Enrollment: 3,700  
Campus type: Rural  
Website: [www.gocolumbia.org](http://www.gocolumbia.org)  
Main Phone: 209.588.5100

### Kern Community College District

Kern Community College District serves a geographically diverse area of almost 25,000 square miles, including parts of Inyo, Kern, Mono, San Bernadino, and Tulare counties. Formally established in 1968, the district is comprised of three colleges: Bakersfield College, Porterville College, and Cerro Coso Community College. A number of off-campus centers and distance education programs aid in the service of the area's widely-dispersed residents.

### FRESNO CITY COLLEGE

Location: Fresno  
Established: 1910  
Enrollment: 23,000  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.fresnocitycollege.edu](http://www.fresnocitycollege.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.442.4600

## A Continuing Legacy

In 1910, **Fresno City College** was established as the first junior college in California. It has continued a tradition of providing quality education and maintaining close ties with the surrounding community. Offering a full range of programs, including a general education curriculum designed for hassle-free transfer to a four-year institution, Fresno City has the courses and versatile schedules to accommodate every student's goals. With the renovation and reopening of the Old Administration Building—a historic campus structure, which has been closed for more than 30 years—Fresno City College will display a tangible symbol of its cultural significance and connection to California's history of higher education.



## Collaborative Learning



**Merced College** is committed to a learning environment that encourages excellence and innovation in teaching through collaborative programs such as Learning Communities, Supplemental Instruction, and Study Central. Learning Communities are pairs of courses that revolve around a theme or major. Learning Communities courses enhance basic skills and prepare students for future

success. Supplemental Instruction is a peer-based approach to learning in which student tutors help students cope with difficult courses. Study Central is a low-key approach to the traditional tutoring program in which instructors work with students in a positive, non-intrusive environment. In these three programs and through many others, Merced College maintains its mission to ensure that all instructional efforts are directed at student success. At Merced College, "Students are our focus and we are known by their success."

### MERCED COLLEGE

Location: Merced  
Established: 1962  
Enrollment: 9,000  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.mccd.edu](http://www.mccd.edu)  
Main Phone: 209.384.6000

### State Center Community College District

In the heart of the Valley, State Center Community College District (SCCCD) serves a population area of more than one million in Fresno and Madera counties. Headquartered in central Fresno, SCCCDC operates two colleges, Fresno City College and Reedley College, in addition to regional centers in North Fresno, Clovis, Madera, and Oakhurst. The Career and Technology Center in southwest Fresno and a number of satellite centers are part of SCCCDC.

### MODESTO JUNIOR COLLEGE

Location: Modesto  
Established: 1921  
Enrollment: 18,000  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.mjc.edu](http://www.mjc.edu)  
Main Phone: 209.575.6550

## Award-winning Agriculture

With one of the most comprehensive community college agriculture programs on the West Coast, **Modesto Junior College's** agriculture curriculum includes 16 associate of science degrees and 16 technician certificates. For more than 80 years, the Modesto Junior College Agriculture & Environmental Sciences Program has prepared interested students who wish to enter the workforce directly or pursue higher educational aspirations at the university level. Many of the MJC agriculture staff have received the highest honor bestowed by the California Agriculture Teachers Association (CATA): the "Teacher of Excellence." Instruction includes state-of-the-art technology and practical "hands-on" student learning. Students are prepared for success through a demonstrated commitment to excellence, which has earned distinction and respect throughout the higher education community.



## SMART Education

**Porterville College** provides its local and diverse community with an educational experience that fosters intellectual curiosity and growth, lifelong learning, and prepares our students for personal and academic success. Regardless of the type of student, or their educational goals, Porterville College offers programs and services tailored to the needs of the individual. Shared Multimedia Access to Resources for Teaching, or SMART classes, serve students from both Porterville College and the College of Sequoias (COS) by way of an interactive television system. The classes are broadcast from the originating college, allowing students to attend the class at either campus. In all areas, the college values collaboration, respect, innovation, accountability, and participation.

### PORTERVILLE COLLEGE

Location: Porterville  
Established: 1927  
Enrollment: 5,000  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.portervillecollege.edu](http://www.portervillecollege.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.791.2200

## Yosemite Community College District

Covering a 4,500-square-mile area, the Yosemite Community College District serves residents from parts of six counties in the northeast Central Valley. Modesto Junior College has two campuses, along with 20 community education sites. With Columbia College, nestled in the Sierra Nevada foothills, the district prepares a diverse student body for the future.

#### REEDLEY COLLEGE

Location: Reedley  
Established: 1926  
Enrollment: 12,000  
Campus type: Rural  
Website: [www.reedleycollege.edu](http://www.reedleycollege.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.638.3641

### Aviation Maintenance

**Reedley College** offers a variety of associate degrees, two-year transfer programs, and career training, including its Aviation Maintenance program. For more than 50 years, Reedley College has offered FAA-approved aviation maintenance technician courses. A state-of-the-art facility includes a 22,000-square-foot hangar with adjacent classrooms, a fleet of aircraft and helicopters, and a landing and takeoff access strip. Graduates of the program are prepared to take the FAA exams required for certification. Additionally, the federally regulated oral, practical and written exams may be taken on-site at Reedley College. Regardless of the degree or program pursued, the college offers a flexible schedule of courses to accommodate the needs of any student.



### Veterans' Benefits

The "Troops to College" Program at **San Joaquin Delta College** ensures that members of the armed services are accommodated while pursuing their career and educational goals. The Veteran Student Alliance, the program's student partner, provides a voice for issues important to military students and their families. Together they provide information, resources, and additional support, from the time of admission through graduation or transfer. The support provided by the "Troops to College" Program at Delta College offers active and former members of the armed services an increased likelihood of achievement, with all the promise of a quality higher education.

#### SAN JOAQUIN DELTA COLLEGE

Location: Stockton  
Established: 1963  
Enrollment: 23,000  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.deltacollege.edu](http://www.deltacollege.edu)  
Main Phone: 209.954.5151

#### TAFT COLLEGE

Location: Taft  
Established: 1922  
Enrollment: 10,000  
Campus type: Rural  
Website: [www.taftcollege.edu](http://www.taftcollege.edu)  
Main Phone: 661.763.7700

### Distance Learning

Web-based distance learning offers **Taft College** students individualized instruction, with easier access to instructors (utilizing e-mail, voice mail, and discussion boards). Limited only by schedule and computer access, classes are always available on the Internet. Like traditional on-campus classes, distance learning courses are taken with a group of other students from instructors who are experienced professionals in their fields. Ongoing, individual and group dialogs with instructors and other students ensure an immersed experience. Many degrees and programs are available entirely online for convenience.

### WEST HILLS COLLEGE COALINGA

Location: Coalinga  
Established: 1932  
Enrollment: 1,200  
Campus type: Rural  
Website: [www.westhillscollge.com](http://www.westhillscollge.com)  
Main Phone: 559.934.2000

## On-Campus Living

Bordering foothills on the west side of the Central Valley, **West Hills College Coalinga** is a small community college with 1,200 students, yet it offers many of the benefits of a larger college. It hosts 120 international students from around the world and 200 student athletes from throughout the country. Athletic programs include football, baseball, basketball, softball, volleyball, and a coed rodeo team. Many students elect to live on campus in the college's residence halls—a rare convenience for a community college, and a unique opportunity for students to become immersed in campus life. West Hills Coalinga offers associate degree and transfer programs, as well vocational training, including a psychiatric technician training program, hospital peace officers academy, and precision agriculture.



## Advancing Technology and Innovation



**West Hills College Lemoore** opened its doors in 2002 as the first new California community college built in the 21st century. The campus has since grown to offer students the most advanced technology and equipment, including the largest and most sophisticated library in Kings County. West Hills Lemoore offers an assortment of associate degrees and certificate programs, as well as courses preparing

students to transfer to a four-year college. Some degrees are offered entirely online. Additionally, partnerships with California State University, Fresno and Fresno Pacific University provide local students the option of taking courses towards their bachelor's degree in Lemoore, saving travel time and additional expenses.

### WEST HILLS COLLEGE LEMOORE

Location: Lemoore  
Established: 2002  
Enrollment: 3,200  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.westhillscollge.com](http://www.westhillscollge.com)  
Main Phone: 559.925.3000

### West Hills Community College District

Serving the western Central Valley in Kings and west Fresno counties, West Hills Community College District has two campuses and a center. The original campus, West Hills College Coalinga, was established in 1932. West Hills College Lemoore opened in 2002 and North District Center serves Firebaugh. The district has been recognized nationally for superior service to a diverse student population.

# California State University

The California State University system is the largest public university system in the nation with 23 campuses and more than 400,000 students. The three CSU campuses in the Central Valley—Stanislaus, Fresno, and Bakersfield—carry on a tradition of excellence and diverse educational opportunities. The CSU system produces graduates in wide-ranging disciplines from business and agriculture to communications and education. Anything is possible at a California State University.

## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, BAKERSFIELD

Location: Bakersfield  
Established: 1970  
Enrollment: 7,800  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.csub.edu](http://www.csub.edu)  
Main Phone: 661.654.2011

## Interactivity

Since 1970, **California State University, Bakersfield** has been committed to an extraordinary level of student-faculty interaction and a highly personalized learning atmosphere. The schools of Humanities and Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Business and Public Administration, and Education offer a breadth of bachelor's and master's degree programs, including e-business, petroleum geology, sports management, computer science, environmental resource management, and health care management. Each program serves to advance the intellectual and personal development of its students. An emphasis on student learning is enhanced by a commitment to scholarship, diversity, service, global awareness and lifelong learning. The university collaborates with partners in the community to increase the region's overall educational level, enhance its quality of life, and support its economic development.



## Smittcamp Family Honors College



As a large and diverse university, **California State University, Fresno** offers a range of possibilities, from academics to athletics to scholarship programs like The Smittcamp Family Honors College. Each year it admits 50 high-achieving high school graduates. They receive scholarships for their undergraduate degree program up to a maximum of eight semesters, which cover

in-state registration and fees, laptop stipend and an optional credit for a two-person, community-style room in university housing. Additional financial benefits include free Internet access, free student parking on campus and extended library checkout privileges. The Smittcamp Family Honors College is unique in the California State University system in that scholarship students are admitted as a group, take a series of specially designed honors courses and interact through educational and social activities.

### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

Location: Fresno  
Established: 1911  
Enrollment: 21,000  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.csufresno.edu](http://www.csufresno.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.278.4240

### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

Location: Turlock  
Established: 1957  
Enrollment: 8,800  
Campus type: Suburban  
Website: [www.csustan.edu](http://www.csustan.edu)  
Main Phone: 209.667.3122

## Personalized Education

**California State University, Stanislaus** offers personalized education through small classes, one-on-one relationships with faculty, the Faculty Mentor Program, and a low student-to-faculty ratio of 19:1. With professors, advisers, and mentors who are personally invested in students' success and small class sizes, a CSU Stanislaus education is tailored to the individual student. The 40 undergraduate majors and 29 graduate majors provide a variety of academic options to complement the personalized setting. The campus itself reflects the welcoming and revitalizing atmosphere with hundreds of shade trees, ponds, streams, and waterfalls. Whatever the goal, CSU Stanislaus provides an encouraging environment for achievement.



# University of California

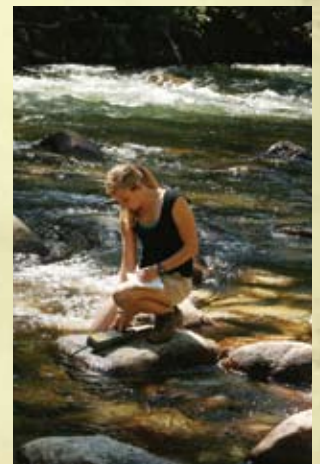
With the founding of the University of California at Berkeley in 1868, the University of California public university system has grown into a model for other states' public universities. For decades, California's Central Valley lacked its own connection to this esteemed system. However, with new doctors now being trained in Fresno through University of California, San Francisco, and the establishment of the Valley's first full-fledged UC campus in Merced, students can receive a University of California education with all the benefits of a Central Valley lifestyle.

## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

Location: Merced  
Established: 2005  
Enrollment: 2,700  
Campus type: Rural, Suburban  
Website: [www.ucmerced.edu](http://www.ucmerced.edu)  
Main Phone: 209.228.4400

## Research-based Education

As the newest campus in the distinguished University of California system, **UC Merced** offers students the opportunity to conduct research early in their academic careers. As early as their freshman year, students may be making microfluidic devices out of Shrinky Dinks in a research laboratory or cataloguing and researching the extensive works of Central Valley poet Wilma McDaniels. It all happens in one of the university's three schools: The School of Engineering, The School of Natural Sciences, and The School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts. As a new and growing university, there is an ever-expanding list of majors, minors, and graduate programs. The focus remains on UC Merced's mission as a student-centered research university.



## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO IN FRESNO

Location: Fresno  
Established: 1975  
Enrollment: More than 200 medical residents, a number of fellows, and up to 24 medical students at any given time  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.fresno.ucsf.edu](http://www.fresno.ucsf.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.499.6400

## Growing Valley Doctors

Established more than 30 years ago, **UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program** is a clinical branch of the University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine. Each year, UCSF Fresno trains more than 200 medical residents in seven specialties and a number of fellows in seven sub-specialties. Nearly 200 medical students also receive training at UCSF Fresno throughout the year. Faculty and medical residents conduct research pertinent to the Valley's growing and diverse population and the program is helping to prepare students for careers in health and medicine. About one-third of UCSF Fresno graduates remain in the Valley to care for area residents. The program is open to medical school graduates who are accepted through a mutual selection process.





# Independent Universities

Independent institutions offer another option for students. These accredited schools are able to offer distinctive benefits, including specialized programs, unique learning environments, and more.

## Applied Social Science and Diversity

As an independent, not-for-profit institution of higher education, **Alliant International University** has six campuses in California, and is committed to improving the lives of people in diverse communities around the world through scholarship and action. The campuses are especially suited to adult learners pursuing psychology or educational postgraduate degrees. The warm and collegial atmosphere promotes learning and encourages interaction with faculty. Students learn not only theories, but also how to apply those theories, effecting real change.

### ALLIANT INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

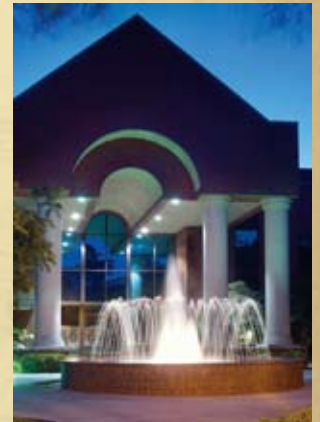
Location: Fresno, Bakersfield  
Established: 1973  
Enrollment: 3,600  
Campus type: Urban, Suburban  
Website: [www.alliant.edu](http://www.alliant.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.456.2777

### FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Location: Fresno  
Established: 1944  
Enrollment: 2,000+  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.fpu.edu](http://www.fpu.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.453.2000

## Region's Highest Four-year Graduation Rate

**Fresno Pacific University** is the Central Valley's only accredited, comprehensive Christian university, preparing students academically, professionally and ethically. FPU offers 45 areas of study to about 2,400 students at campuses in Fresno, Visalia and Bakersfield. Recent high school graduates and working adults benefit from the university's relevant curriculum, expert faculty dedicated to student success and generous financial aid. New for 2009 are an RN to BSN degree and a four-year graduation guarantee for new freshmen. This guarantee builds on FPU's four-year graduation rate—the highest in the Valley. The focus on values springs from the university's Christian perspective. Graduates are prized by top area employers and prestigious graduate schools. *U.S. News & World Report* lists FPU on its top tier among master's universities—west.



## Four-Year Graduation Guarantee

**University of the Pacific**, a top-ranked national university in the heart of northern California, provides a broad selection of courses and majors, including opportunities for undergraduate research, studying abroad, and community service. With small class sizes, an active student body, and an aggressive financial aid program, University of the Pacific offers appealing factors for students. Perhaps most compelling is the university's four-year graduation guarantee. Advisors work closely with students to develop a four-year plan, ensure they get the classes they need, and stay on track for on-time graduation, or any additional tuition is free. Students are able to efficiently complete their degree and embark on the next phase of their lives.

### UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC

Location: Stockton  
Established: 1851  
Enrollment: 6,200  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.pacific.edu](http://www.pacific.edu)  
Main Phone: 209.946.2285

# Private Institutions

Private institutions provide even greater flexibility for busy students. With courses designed for maximum efficiency for working adults, these schools offer just the skills you need to begin a new career or advance in your current position.

## HEALD COLLEGE

Location: Fresno  
Established: 1906  
Enrollment: 750  
Campus type: Urban  
Website: [www.heald.edu](http://www.heald.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.438.4222

## Get Ready For A Career

Since its establishment in 1906, **Heald College Fresno** has evolved into a leading career college that offers a range of programs in healthcare, business, legal and technology. Heald continues its tradition of educating students to become uniquely qualified for rewarding careers. With an atmosphere of helpfulness and efficiency, students learn the skills that make a difference in the Central Valley's emerging job markets. Accommodating schedules and convenient services are designed with the busy student in mind.

## Valley-focused Education



As the second-largest, private, nonprofit institution of higher learning in California, **National University** is dedicated to making lifelong learning opportunities accessible, challenging, and relevant to a diverse student population. Many programs are available online and National's one-course-per-month format offers students their degree at an accelerated pace.

From nursing to teacher education, National University's Valley campuses specialize in providing relevant education for the Central Valley. With locations in Bakersfield, Fresno and Stockton, National University has been serving the Central Valley for over 20 years.

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Location: Fresno, Bakersfield, Stockton  
Established: 1971  
Enrollment: 25,000  
Campus type: Urban, Suburban  
Website: [www.nu.edu](http://www.nu.edu)  
Main Phone: 559.256.4900



# CV-HEC Leadership

## Executive Committee

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Frank Gornick  
*Chancellor, West Hills Community College  
District*

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*President, Merced College*

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