EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE | ¡Excelencia! IN EDUCATION™

EXCELENCIA SEAL · 2026 CERTIFICATION

WHY THE SEAL OF EXCELENCIA MATTERS

Evergreen Valley College



What Is the Seal of Excelencia?

A national certification — not an award for access alone

Excelencia in Education certifies colleges that improve their outcomes:

— enrollment, retention, transfer, completion, financial support, and representation.

Evidence

Institutional data — cohorts, model programs, named funding.

Practice

Intentionality in programs that scale, not just a student body that is Latinx.

Institutional Benefits

Practices piloted for Latinx students must be shown to lift outcomes for all students.

Why It Matters

National recognition and visibility

Certification signals to students, families, funders, and peer institutions that Latinx student success is a proven, data-backed institutional strength.

Accountability that sharpens practice

Self-assessment, disaggregated data, named ownership of programs — ensures colleges know its own outcomes.

Leverage for funding and partnerships

Certified institutions are better positioned for federal funding, foundation grants, and coaching relationships with other Excelencia sealed colleges.



The Bar for EVC

Six required data areas, each with quantified, disaggregated outcomes

RETENTION

Persistence vs. peer benchmarks

TRANSFER

Rates of transfer increases

REPRESENTATION

Latinx faculty and staff

COMPLETION

Certificates and degrees earned

ENROLLMENT

Growth of Latinx students

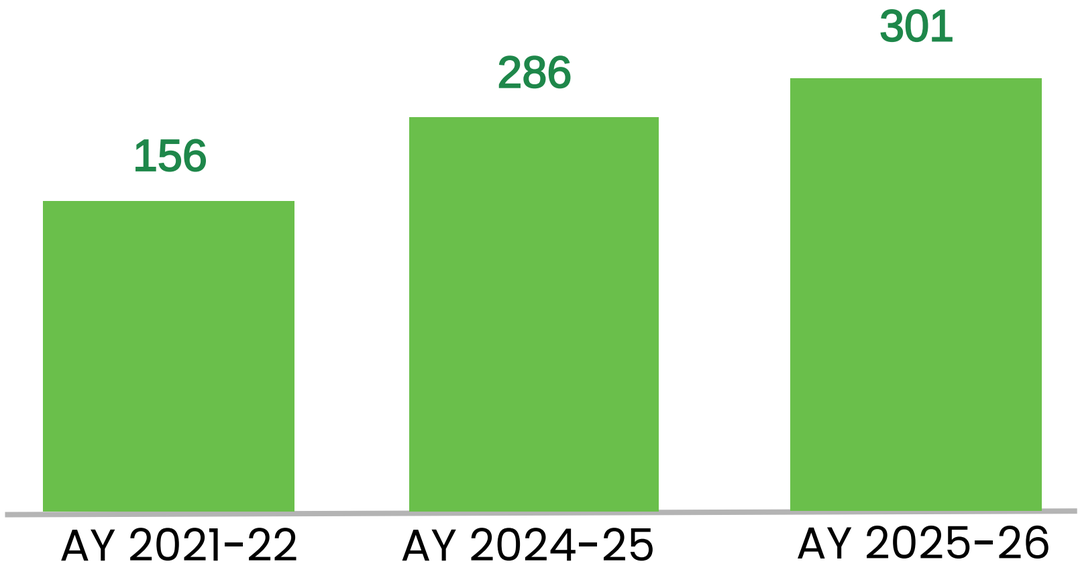
FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Aid access and impact



Transfer & Completion

Degrees & Certificates



+83% growth · Latinx share of certificates grew from 39% to nearly 50%

30% of all transfers are Latinx students; transfer success up 14% (AY 2022 to 2025)

79% UC admit rate for EVC applicants — above the 75% statewide community college average

95% of Biology Scholars transferred within 2.5 years, including to UC Berkeley and Stanford

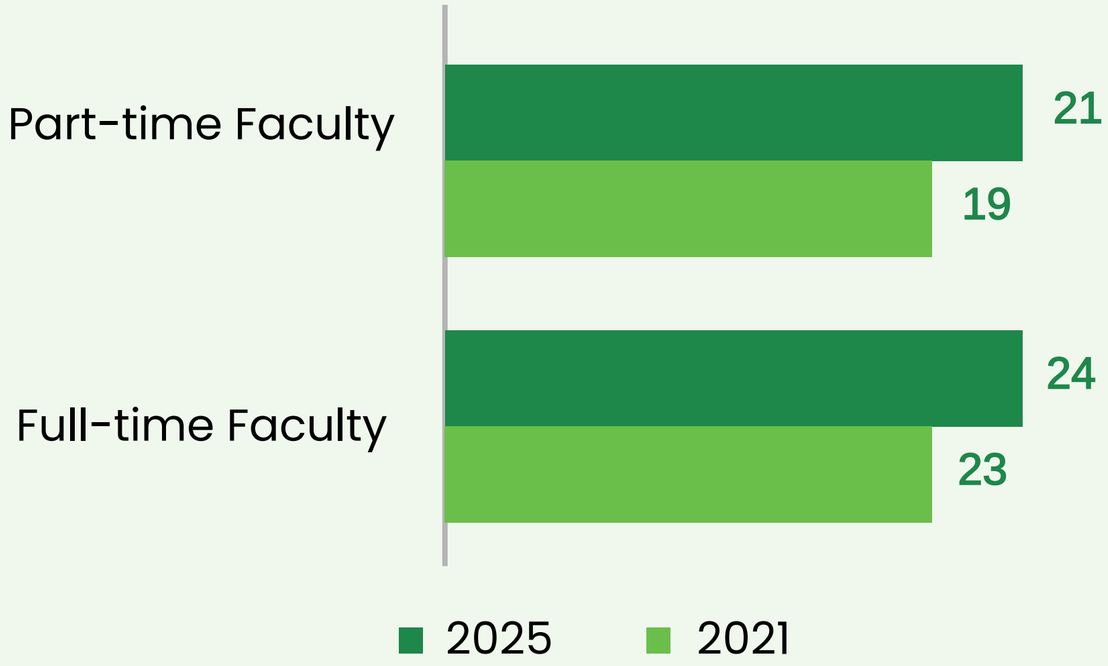
45% of AA earners in 2024-25 were Latinx students

Financial Support & Faculty Representation

Financial Support — Institutional strength

- Latinx Pell recipients increased **14%,** from 802 to 910 students
- Latinx share of Cal Grants grew from **34%** to **49%**
- Emergency Aid: **39%** of recipients are Latinx students
- Emergency Aid recipients persisted at **81%**, vs. **49%** for non-recipients

Representation (Improving)



44% of students are Latinx — faculty representation, while growing, remains the widest gap in the framework.

Leadership Alignment (2025 -2026)



A first-generation, Spanish-speaking president — and a full Latinx governance slate in 2025-26

- Chancellor
- President
- Academic Senate
- Classified Senate
- Student Government
- Student Trustee

Reviewers see governance alignment like this rarely — it signals that Latinx student success is embedded in institutional leadership and decision-making, not confined to a single program office.

Flagship Programs Behind the Data

Each shows a clear origin, a scaling story, and outcome data — intentional practice pillar

Enlace

Tutoring & mentoring model, scaled institution-wide

First Year Experience

Piloted for Latinx students, now serves incoming students (select per funding)

Zero Textbook Cost

Removes a cost barrier to persistence

Emergency Aid

39% Latinx-awarded; recipients persist at 81%

Biology Scholars

70% transfer within two years, and 95% in 2.5 years, incl. UC Berkeley & Stanford

Translation & Interpreting

Transforms bilingual skills into career pathways

Student Voice Is a Priority

Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) in action

Listen

Captures student experiences and barriers to Latinx student success

Learn

Cross-functional team engage in Data Narrative Sessions and workshops

Act

Findings guide inquiry, planning, and practices in outreach, instruction, and services

Moving Forward: 2026 - 2027: Center for Community College Student Engagment Leadership in Engagement and Date (LEADers) Academy

8- Month Academy

EVC joins Leadership in Engagement and Data

Data to Dialogue

Tools to turn CCCSE data into campus action

Campus Practice

Facilitate a real data conversation at EVC

Proven Ready (required by Excelencia)

EVC has completed Excelencia's four-year SSITA institutional self-assessment, under coaching from Miami Dade College — one of the most experienced certified institutions in the network.

This matters because reviewers weigh SSITA heavily: the application reflects that an institution has practiced the Seal's data - and - practice discipline.



What Certification Means for EVC

- National visibility as a proven leader in Latinx student success
- A stronger position for federal funding and foundation grants
- Entry into a peer network of certified institutions for continued coaching and benchmarking
- External validation of the data-and-practice discipline EVC has built



Why Excelenica is Important



Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sILsMPuRJ8w

Student Success

Excellence is not perfection. Perfection is an unchanging state. Once something is **‘perfect,’** there’s nothing more you can do because if you change it then it’s not perfect anymore. Excellence, however, is **a changing evolving process**."

Mara Leandro

EVC Engineering and Enlace graduate,
San Jose State graduate



$1M+

Projected savings for approx. 12,800 EVC students when using Zero or low -cost textbooks in 2026 -27.

Fall 2026: 201 Sections

Spring 2027: 273 sections



EVC’s Excelencia's Team





Miami Dade College Excelencia's Team



Excelencia's team from Miami Dade College was a tremendous resource for EVC.

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THANK YOU!

For more information go to
evc.edu /excelencia today

Evergreen Valley College
Excelencia Team



Bay Area Seal of Excelencia members.