

**President's Report
November-December 2025**

President - Dr. Rosana Reyes



**LAMAR
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**



EDUCATION FOR ALL

Phi Theta Kappa Welcomes New Members

On Wednesday, November 5, Lamar Community College (LCC)'s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honored academic excellence at its Fall 2025 Induction Ceremony. Thirteen students from the Nursing, Agriculture, Transfer, Psychology, Health & Wellness, and Welding programs were inducted. The evening also featured Israel Rodriguez, Coordinator for Residence and Student Life, as the guest speaker and the support and enthusiasm of the friends, family members, and LCC staff and faculty in attendance.





EDUCATION FOR ALL

Glad Tidings and Good Eats at Employee Holiday Breakfast



On Monday, December 8, LCC staff and faculty members gathered for a time of food and festivity at the annual Employee Holiday Breakfast. During the event, which was hosted in the Todd Burch Residence Hall, President Dr. Rosana Reyes, Kelly Emick, Vice President of Academic Affairs & Student Services, and Chad DeBono, Vice President of Administrative Services & Institutional Effectiveness, provided updates and significant highlights from across the college, which included expressing their gratitude for faculty assistance in student registration. As a further demonstration of employee appreciation, members of the Executive Team graciously served breakfast to everyone who attended. Special events like these are a way to celebrate and thank the entire LCC community for its dedication to supporting college operations and enhancing student satisfaction.





EDUCATION FOR ALL

Championing Change at Employee Christmas Party 🎄

A total of 77 LCC employees attended the Employee Christmas Party on Monday, December 19, at The Tavern 1301 in Lamar. In addition to delicious food and a lot of energetic dancing, the evening featured a welcome address and enrollment update from President Dr. Rosana Reyes, followed by updates on hiring activity and grant applications. Other significant highlights included renovations to the Bowman East and West buildings, the associated office moves, and the launch of LCC's Adult High School Diploma Program. It was a time for the school community to continue the holiday season with a sense of joy and thanksgiving for a successful year.





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Lamar Community College Launches Adult High School Diploma Program

On Thursday, December 11, LCC announced the official launch of its Adult High School Diploma Program, a tuition-free opportunity for adults to earn an accredited Colorado high school diploma. The program, which began in the Spring 2026 semester, is innovative, flexible, accessible, and designed with working adults in mind. All these elements create a supportive pathway for students to complete their high school education and progress towards stronger career prospects, higher earning potential, and greater overall professional success.

Made possible through Senate Bills 23-007 and 24-051 and approved by the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education, this program reflects Colorado's commitment to adult education pathways statewide. Southeast Colorado has one of the highest rates of adults without a high school diploma in the state. In Prowers County alone, where LCC is located, 17.4% of adults older than the age of 25 lack this credential. Median income is also far below the state and national averages, with 18.3% of residents living below the poverty line. Because of this, LCC recognizes the urgency of providing adult learners with affordable, high-quality education that leads to life-changing opportunities. Additionally, through LCC's new Adult Career Education (ACE) Center, students can develop an individualized learning plan that includes academic advising and tutoring, integrated college coursework, and evening schedules that accommodate work and family responsibilities. And, most significantly, the entire program is completely tuition free with only a \$50 administrative fee.

"This initiative reflects our shared commitment to access, innovation, and the success of Southeast Colorado's adult learners," said Dr. Rosana Reyes, President of LCC. "Through this program, we continue to live our mission to enrich lives through learning and to expand opportunity across the communities we proudly serve."

"This program represents a transformational opportunity for adults in our region," added Kelly Emick, Vice President of Academic and Student Services. "It is a pathway that truly fits their lives—flexible, supportive, and designed with respect for their experiences. We are proud to open the door not only to a high school diploma, but also to college-level study and meaningful career advancement."



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LAMAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACE CENTER

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

**AN AFFORDABLE PROGRAM
BUILT FOR WORKING ADULTS**

This program is dedicated to supporting adults who have not earned a high school diploma and are ready to take the next step in their education. This in-person program allows you to take all three classes at once or pace them out to fit your schedule. You will participate in a regular college setting.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Tutoring provided to help you succeed in your coursework
- Advising is available to guide you through your academic and career goals
- The entire program costs only \$50
- Flexible options to earn your high school diploma with 10 credits of coursework in Mathematics, English, Reading & Civics

This program is affordable, supportive, and designed to help you move forward with confidence. Learn more at lamarcc.edu/adult-career-enrichment-center

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Lamar Community College Staff Members Chosen for AAC&U New Leadership Academy Fellows Program

In December, three members of the LCC community, Dorothy Choat, Financial Aid Director, Dr. Morgan Clark, Director of Nursing & Allied Health Ed. Programs, and Dr. Zach Sands, Humanities Faculty, were selected to join the prestigious New Leadership Academy (NLA) Fellows Program, a six-month national leadership development initiative hosted by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U).

The NLA Fellows Program equips experienced higher education professionals with the tools, knowledge, and confidence needed to navigate the evolving complexities of today's academic landscape. Grounded in the belief that a strong sense of belonging is foundational for students, faculty, and staff alike, the program serves as both a leadership model and an applied learning environment





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for emerging and established leaders. This is evident in its curriculum, which draws from leading research in organizational and leadership theory to reframe leadership as a set of learnable, practice-based skills. Alongside its core curriculum, the NLA Fellows Program offers additional specialized tracks such as health sciences, STEM faculty development, and rural institutions. Throughout the program, participants engage in both virtual and in-person sessions that offer immersive leadership development experiences, including real-world case studies, small-group facilitation, personalized coaching, and mentorship from nationally recognized experts.

"Lamar Community College is deeply committed to growing and investing in local leadership that reflects the strengths and needs of our region," said Dr. Rosana Reyes, President of LCC. "The selection of Dorothy Choat, Dr. Morgan Clark, and Dr. Zach Sands for the AAC&U New Leadership Academy Fellows Program affirms our belief that leadership development is essential to institutional and community vitality. By cultivating leaders from within, we are strengthening our capacity to advance student success, foster belonging, and drive meaningful, sustainable impact for Southeast Colorado."

Additionally, AAC&U invited Reyes to serve as a featured panelist at its Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. this past month. There, she presented alongside three other college presidents on a national panel titled "From Designation to Design: Cultivating Leaders in Rural HSIs". This invitation further underscored LCC's commitment to supporting leadership development and advancing student success.



Dr. Rosana Reyes (far right above, far left below) with her fellow panelists at the AAC&U Conference in Washington, D.C.