

## Goals Statement

With the rapid pace of change and the need to respond in a reasonable, timely, and organized fashion - and keeping the focus on our students - Río Hondo College recognizes the following goals as important to our collective success:

- to provide quality instruction to enhance the teaching/learning process
- to provide quality student support programs
- to provide quality student services, utilizing a student-centered process
- to meet the changing technological needs required to support the educational process and to enhance student access and success
- to maintain a safe and pleasant environment for students, staff, and community
- to support participatory governance processes through effective communication among and involvement of students, faculty, staff, trustees, and community
- to provide leadership in the academic, cultural, and economic life of the community
- to support the personal and professional growth of trustees, faculty, and staff
- to develop and utilize fiscal resources in an efficient and effective manner.

## Institutional Code of Ethics (BP 3050)

I. The employees of Río Hondo Community College District are committed to providing a high quality learning environment to help our students successfully achieve their educational goals and objectives. Accordingly, employees have an interest and commitment to ethical behavior. Ethical persons are those who abide by principles and exemplify virtues as understood within a given moral framework. Many believe that virtue is intrinsically rewarding. At the very least, that one be perceived as ethical is instrumental in establishing credibility and trust.

II. To support Río Hondo's commitment to ethical behavior, college employees adhere to standards of ethical and professional behavior related to their duties, and have responsibilities to the institution and to individuals they serve. Although one cannot "legislate morality" in the sense of mandating virtuous intentions, we can, and do, establish general expectations of conduct.

III. There are many sources of ethical inspiration and guidance. All employees of Río Hondo College are subject to official College policies and procedures; applicable regulatory agency requirements; local, state, and federal laws; and professional standards (when applicable). This includes policies such as the Río Hondo College Policy on Sexual Harassment (BP 3430), its Policy on Nondiscrimination (BP 3410), and its Policy on Academic Freedom (BP 4030).

IV. In addition, the Board of Trustees is subject to its own Code of Ethics (BP 2715), and most of our employees are members of professional organizations with their own established codes of ethics, such as the CTA, CSEA, and ACCCA. Employees are encouraged to consult their own organizations, when applicable, for further guidance. As constituents of Río Hondo College, students are likewise encouraged to maintain high Standards of Conduct (BP 5500).

V. As a further demonstration of commitment to high ethical standards, employees of Río Hondo College aspire to be guided by the following values statements. These are guidelines and aspirations to be used for educational and not disciplinary purposes, with our own conscience as the first and most salient means of evaluation:

- The College values open communication, honesty, and truthfulness, and aspires to an "open door" philosophy.
- The College values open inquiry and honors academic freedom.
- The College strives to protect human dignity and individual freedom.
- The College values clear roles and responsibilities, teamwork, and cooperation (as outlined in AB1725), and therefore aspires to develop a climate of trust and mutual support.
- The College is committed to providing excellent educational opportunities to the community, and the instructional faculty seeks to evaluate students by honest appraisal of student performance against faculty standards.

## Institutional Philosophy

Recognizing the individual worth and potential of every human being, Río Hondo College offers an open access, comprehensive educational program to residents of the college district.

The college is dedicated to excellence in instruction and student services to develop the intellectual and personal competence of each individual.

At Río Hondo College, students will have an opportunity to develop ethical values, learn the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, develop career skills, and understand the scientific, artistic, and social achievements of various cultures.

## Institutional Affiliation

Río Hondo College is a member of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the American Association of Community Colleges, and the California Association of Community Colleges. The college is also a member of the San Gabriel/Foothill Association of Community Colleges (SanFACC).

## Accreditations & Certifications

Río Hondo College is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and is authorized by the California Community College Board of Governors to offer courses which parallel the lower-division courses of four-year institutions and qualify the student for junior classification at the university level. College transfer courses are accepted at full value at most colleges and universities throughout the United States.

- Police Academy – California Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) (Certified)
- Fire Academy – California State Fire Marshal; Accredited Local Processing for "State Fire Training Certifications" - California State Fire Marshals office (Accredited)

- Regional Homeland Security Training Center - Certified by California State Fire Marshal and California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) and certified as a UASI homeland security regional training center in Los Angeles County.
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – Los Angeles County Health Services EMT/Paramedic Program Approval Section (Accredited)
- Wildland Fire Program – U.S. Forest Service (Certified)
- First Aid and CPR – American Heart Association & American Red Cross (Certified)
- Expanded Scope Practice for EMTs – LA County Department of Health Services (Certified)
- Drug Studies Program – Accredited by the Addiction Counselor Certification Board of California/California Association for Drug/Alcohol Educators (ACCBC/CAADE) and the California Association of DUI Treatment Programs (CADTP).
- Nursing Program – Approved by the Board of Registered Nursing, State of California and the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, State of California.
- CNA Programs – Approved through the Department of Public Health Services State of California.
- Automotive Programs: National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) (Certified); California Automotive Business Coalition Automotive Technician Training Standards (ATTS) (Certified); California Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) Smog Check Technician Training Institution (Certified).

