

YOUR FUTURE: OUR PROMISE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



RÍO
HONDO
COLLEGE



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Río Hondo STEM Students (STARSS) awarded \$6,000 in scholarships.



“

I took this oath of office as a public pledge of service to our College and mission of being an educational and community partner committed to advancing social justice and equity as an anti-racist institution that collectively invests in all students' academic and career pathways that lead to attainment of degree, certificate, transfer and lifelong-learning goals.”

**– Superintendent/President
Marilyn Flores, Ph.D.**

NEW LEADERSHIP AT RÍO HONDO COLLEGE



Río Hondo College and the Board of Trustees appointed Marilyn Flores, Ph.D. as its next Superintendent/President to continue leading the College on the path of prosperity, achievement and success on March 24, 2022. She officially started her tenure as Superintendent/President on July 1, 2022.

Dr. Flores holds a Master's Degree in Education from the University of California, Los Angeles, as well as a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Institutional Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of California, Riverside.

On October 12, 2022 Río Hondo College Board of Trustees, students, faculty, staff, business leaders and elected officials welcomed Dr. Flores to the College and the community with a festive installation ceremony, which heralded a new era of prosperity and achievement under her leadership.

Nearly 200 guests attended the event, held in the breezeway of the L Tower with a beautiful view of the San Gabriel mountains, to see Dr. Flores take the oath of office. Guests also received an overview of Dr. Flores' goals for improving student success, boosting support programs and encouraging a College culture of inclusivity and anti-racism.



‘A TASTE OF RÍO’ RETURNS

Río Hondo College’s longtime annual event delivers delicious eats and raises nearly \$70,000 for scholarships and support services

“A Taste of Río,” the signature event of the Río Hondo College Foundation, astounded guests with an evening of fine foods and drinks on June 17, 2022, bringing in nearly \$70,000 for student scholarships and other support services.

Foundation officials hosted a crowd of approximately 400 guests at the College’s main campus, where they were met with lively music during the outdoor event. Guests enjoyed a wide variety of tastings including Wilson Creek Winery & Vineyards, Gondola Pizza, Mi Burrito Mexican Grill, Eastaza Coffee, Angry Horse Brewing, and beer provided by Río Hondo College’s Fermentation Technology Program.

The guests included students, community members, Río Hondo College Board of Trustees members, staff and administrators, as well as El Monte Union High School District Superintendent Dr. Edward Zuniga, Whittier Union High School District Superintendent Dr. Monica Oviedo, Assemblymember Mike Fong and other elected officials.

“A Taste of Río” began in 2012 as a way to provide additional financial support to students, and was placed on hiatus during the last three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2022 event also included a silent auction, which raised additional funding for student scholarships and other support services.



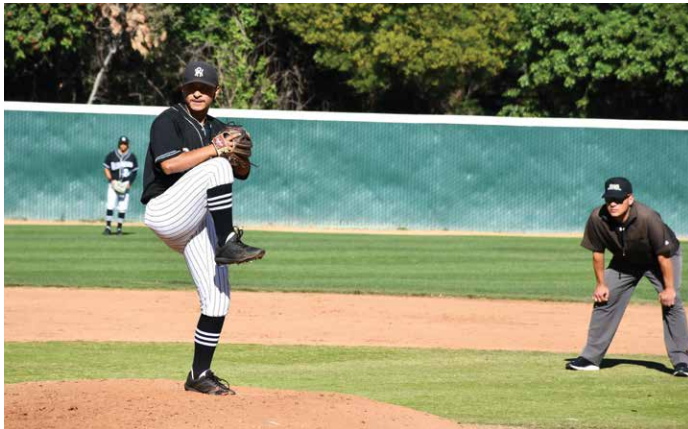


College Receives ACLS/NEH Grant to Boost Anthropology and Humanities Programs

Río Hondo College’s Mesoamerican Clay-Figurine Project received a \$157,000 grant from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), which will improve classroom facilities, provide more learning materials and boost interest in arts and humanities. The grant was awarded by ACLS through the Sustaining Public Engagement Grant Program, which is part of the Sustaining the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan initiative.

Men’s Basketball: Lara, Herrera Named First-Team All-SCC

Following the close of the 2021-22 Río Hondo College men’s basketball season, a pair of Roadrunners were honored with South Coast Conference postseason honors. Freshmen Sebastian Lara and Chris Herrera were selected to the All-South Coast Conference North Division first team.



Former Río Hondo Roadrunner Signs with New York Yankees

Río Hondo College Baseball Head Coach Mike Salazar announced that 2022 All-State catcher Rafael Flores has signed an undrafted free agent deal with the New York Yankees. Flores had an impressive sophomore season for the Roadrunners in spring 2022. He racked up various postseason honors, being named All-State and First-Team All-South Coast Conference while also earning the California Community College Baseball Coaches Association/Rawlings Gold Glove Award.

Theater Department Wows Community with Tony Award-Winning Musical

Río Hondo College’s Theater Department held a production of “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,” a musical comedy about the hijinks surrounding a spelling bee competition. The play premiered on August 4, 2022 in the College’s Wray Theater, marking the return of in-person performances after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Río Hondo College Women’s Volleyball Make Big Moves in Rankings

Río Hondo College’s women’s volleyball team ended the season with major victories – advancing to the regional playoffs and finishing in 14th place, advancing to the second round of playoffs and finishing 24th overall in California out of 98 teams. Players Nadine Oronoz and Faith Lee also finished fifth in the Conference Tournament.

Río Hondo College Receives Board of Governors’ Exemplary Program Award

Río Hondo College was one of just four schools among the 116 California Community Colleges to be honored with an Exemplary Program Award at the January 2022 meeting of the Board of Governors. Río Hondo College’s Division of Arts and Cultural Programs was selected for demonstrating excellence in delivering programs that address “Inequity in a Time of Crisis.”



RÍO HONDO COLLEGE JOINS CALIFORNIANS FOR ALL, GAINING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR VOLUNTEERISM



Río Hondo College students have the opportunity to earn up to \$10,000 toward their college education by participating in the Californians For All College Corps, launched in July 2022.



Río Hondo College was one of 45 institutions selected for the program, which provides students with financial support if they participate in community service in the areas of climate action, K-12 education and food insecurity.

Californians For All College Corps was created to alleviate the rising student debt challenges faced by California students. The program was announced January 18, 2022 by California Chief Service Officer and the head of California Volunteers Josh Fryday, California Governor Gavin Newsom and the leaders of California's college and university systems.



Up to 50 Río Hondo College students are selected for the program each year, with AB540 Dreamer students also eligible for participation. Californians For All College Corps provides up to 6,500 California college students with a stipend of up to \$10,000 a year if they complete 450 hours of community service during each one-year cohort.

Río Hondo College's volunteerism focuses on the areas of food insecurity and education through programs such as The RíoSource Room and Río Hondo's Basic Needs Center, which provides CalFresh Application Assistance and connections to community resources, including mental health and housing referrals.



Summer CTE Academy Introduces Career Paths to K-12 Scholars

Río Hondo College partnered with El Monte City School District and Little Lake City School District to host its annual Career Technical Education Summer Academy in July 2022, during which K-12 students got the chance to learn about first aid and CPR, alternative fuel sources and solar-powered vehicles, the process of using maps for urban planning, podcasting and more.



Grant Obtained to Support Unhoused Students

Río Hondo College was awarded a nearly \$1 million grant in 2022 to fund the Hope Scholars Program, a basic needs assistance project that provides holistic support services for unhoused and transitionally unhoused students. The College was one of five schools nationally recognized with the Basic Needs in Postsecondary Education award by the U.S. Department of Education.

Whittier College Houses Río Hondo College Students

Río Hondo College partnered with Whittier College to provide students with the opportunity to stay in their College's residence halls in exchange for federal housing vouchers. Seven Río Hondo students were housed during fall 2022 and more will receive help with housing and food needs as the partnership continues.

Young Inventors Receive Support with \$3 Million Grant, MIT Partnership

Río Hondo College received a \$3 million Title V grant to create an invention education and social entrepreneurship program, which aims to encourage students' social, emotional, academic and career development. The grant, made possible through a partnership between Río Hondo College and Lemelson-MIT, will allow students to learn about first aid and CPR, alternative fuel sources, solar-powered vehicles and more.

Partnership with Arizona State University Creates Transfer Pathway Program

Río Hondo College has established a Universal Articulation agreement with Arizona State University, providing students with an excellent academic preparedness transfer program to guide them toward earning bachelor's degrees. The agreement was approved in fall 2021 and launched on February 23, 2022.



Río Hondo College Transfer Rate to UCLA Reaches 81%

Río Hondo College's Honors Transfer Program is celebrating an 81% transfer rate to UCLA, with nearly 100% of all students that complete the program being accepted to four-year colleges or universities, according to the data reported by the program's coordinators in the spring 2022 semester.

COMMUNITY WIDE EFFORTS TO SUPPORT EARLY LEARNING

The Río Hondo College Child Development Center (CDC) celebrated a year's worth of learning and growth as an essential service to the College with an end-of-the-year summer celebration on July 1, 2022. Families were welcomed to join their children in developmentally appropriate experiences in the Center's outdoor classroom.

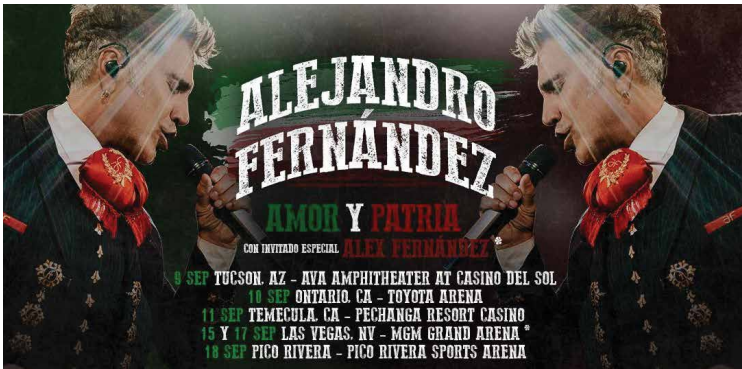
To kick off the new academic year for the Río Hondo College community, the CDC hosted an open house, inviting families and Río Hondo staff, counselors, administrators and the Board of Trustees to tour the facility and meet with teachers and staff.

The CDC is open to Río Hondo College student parents,

staff and the community at large. Student parents and the community are able to pursue and attain their educational and vocational goals while their children benefit from a high-quality, nationally accredited child development program.

The CDC focuses on student parent support and success through the collaboration of various student support services and resources on campus and the surrounding Whittier community. CDC services advance equity by removing barriers that today's students face, particularly students of color, first generation students, single parents, students from low-income backgrounds and working adults.





“Amor y Patria” Tour Brings in Scholarships for Río Hondo College ‘Dreamers’

Renowned singer Alejandro Fernández captivated a sold-out crowd in Pico Rivera on September 18, 2022 at the Pico Rivera Sports Arena during his “Amor y Patria” tour. Fernández donated more than \$15,600 from his tour proceeds to benefit scholarships for several undocumented Río Hondo College students, also known as ‘Dreamers’ under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

VITA Program Helps During Tax Season

Through Río Hondo College’s Accounting Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, 21 student volunteers prepared more than 140 tax returns for the 2022 tax season, providing an estimated savings of over \$28,000 in tax preparation fees for community taxpayers. The VITA group processed \$246,579 in tax refunds and \$68,182 in earned income tax credits for the tax year.

Funding Gained for Pipeline Project Supporting Aspiring Teachers of Color

Río Hondo College along with Cerritos College and El Camino College were part of a consortium that secured \$9 million in federal funding through the Community Partnerships for Teacher Pipeline, with the goal of increasing the number of teachers of color in America to promote innovative schools and increase justice opportunities for all learners.

Río Hondo College Foundation Brings in \$50,000 through Annual Golf Tournament

The Río Hondo College Foundation held its annual golf tournament at the Candlewood Country Club in Whittier on September 26, 2022. The Foundation and guests packed the course to partake in exciting rounds of golf, delicious food and an afternoon of fun. The Foundation raised more than \$50,000 to support programs, students and scholarships.



Roadrunner Family Night Brings Community Together

The Río Hondo College Student Success & Dream Center and Outreach department hosted the seventh annual Roadrunner Family Night on August 31, 2022 with the theme “Reconnect with Río” to introduce students to academic programs, student services programs, professors, administrators, staff and resources.

Undocumented Student Action Week Brings Advocacy, Understanding

Río Hondo College’s Undocumented Student Action Week, held October 17-21, 2022, provided students with an opportunity to hear uplifting and inspiring stories of undocumented students and share them with local, state and federal policymakers.

STEM STARSS Awarded Scholarships

Scholarships to Aid Río Hondo STEM Students (STARSS) held a scholarship celebration on September 10, 2022 for recipients and their families. The day’s awardees were eligible to receive \$6,000 scholarships.



ROADRUNNER BREWING COURSE PREPS NEXT GENERATION OF MICROBREWERS

Río Hondo College's biotechnology program officially announced the creation of "Roadrunner Brewing," a career technical education program that aims to train and place students in the burgeoning Whittier-area microbrewing industry.

The program's certificate includes BIOT 130 – Fermentation Technology I and BIOT 240 – Sensory and Instrumental Analysis. The beers produced by the students have been featured at A Taste of Río, a Lion's Club fundraiser, and the Río Hondo College Homecoming. The public's response to the students' work is overwhelmingly positive. The program was created in 2022 as part of the College's Brewing Technician Certificate program, which has already graduated 11 alumni.

The brewing biotech courses cover a variety of topics, such as the technique known as batch yeast fermentation, the biology and genetics of yeast, the influence of raw materials such as hops and malt, the history of beer brewing and current status of the industry, analysis of equipment and technical aspects of brewing, and the design, formulation and execution of brewing beer in a hands-on environment.



Police Academy Funding Secured for Use of Force/De-escalation Training

In February 2022, the Río Hondo Police Academy received a \$400,000 grant from State Senator Bob Archuleta for Use of Force/De-escalation training. The Academy acquired a state-of-the-art VirTra Training Simulator with the funds and began using it in July 2022.

High Schoolers Tour Río Hondo College's Fire Academy

Santa Fe High School students visited Río Hondo College's Fire Academy on November 9, 2022 to see how firefighters and emergency medical technicians are trained to protect the community through paramedic, wildland fire, and search and rescue occupations.



Fire Academy Class Celebrates 99 Graduates

Río Hondo College honored Fire Academy Classes 98 and 99, and the spring 2022 Wildland Academy, celebrating 99 new firefighters who gained employment in Santa Fe Springs, South Pasadena, Montebello, Monrovia, West Covina, the City of Orange and Los Angeles. The Wildland Academy graduates earned several recognitions and certifications while battling major wildfires in 2022.



Police Academy Graduations

Río Hondo College's Police Academy conducted four academy graduation sessions in 2022, celebrating recruits as they succeeded in becoming guardians of several local communities. The cadets completed more than 950 hours of training over the course of 27 weeks in 42 different learning domains.



Tesla START Program Boosts Numbers Thanks to New Pathway Involvement

Río Hondo College is meeting the high demand for more electric vehicle technicians by joining Tesla's Pathway to START Program – an intensive training course that prepares new high school graduates to enter the College's Tesla START program.

MESA Students Meet Tech Giants at STEM Conference

Ten Río Hondo College Math, Engineering, Science and Achievement (MESA) students attended the Great Minds in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Conference in Pasadena from October 6-8, 2022, where they participated in a variety of competitions.

Río Hondo College Welcomes Middle School Students for CTE Pathway Tour

Río Hondo College's accounting, business, economics, and computer technology student success teams partnered with its career technical education pathways program to host Graves Middle School for a day of career exploration on November 16, 2022.

Hiring of Appraiser Assistants by Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor

Río Hondo College's Noncredit California Property Taxation and Appraisal program produced four new hires for the Los Angeles County Office of the Assessor in 2022 as well as 51 who have passed the assessment process exam. This new program has created a pipeline for students to work as appraiser assistants for L.A. County.

RÍO HONDO COLLEGE CELEBRATES ACADEMIC SUCCESS WITH CLASS OF 2022



You have all the power to strive for success... Keep growing and keep accomplishing through your journey.”

– Associated Students President **Pricilla Mendoza**

Río Hondo College students were celebrated by professors, administrators, friends, and family members in the middle of a beautifully decorated College campus to highlight the achievements of the Class of 2022.

More than 2,250 students earned Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees during the 59th Commencement Ceremony on May 27, 2022. This was the fourth class of students to receive B.S. degrees from the College. In 2022, 12 Río Hondo College students received their B.S. in Automotive Technology. More than 850 received Associate Degrees for Transfer for admission to the California State University system.

During the ceremony, the College also highlighted four Student Success honorees, who received special recognition for achieving above and beyond their goals.

2022’s Student Success honorees were:

- Emil Dominguez, a biochemistry major attending UCLA
- Lenor Chavez, a social work major advancing her studies at California State University, Los Angeles
- Nelida Cervantes Lopez, a communications major attending California State University, Fullerton
- Ruben Muñoz, a communications major attending California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

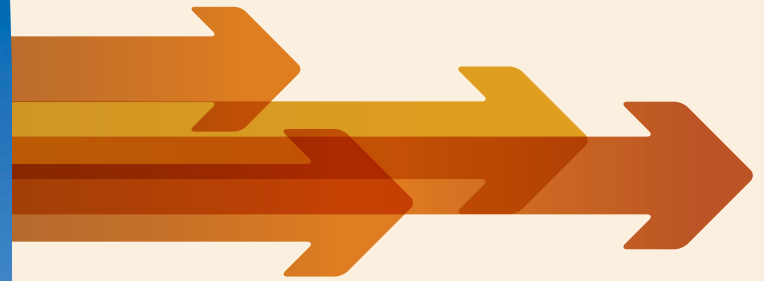
The College also honored Valedictorian Megan Marentes, a biology major now attending California State University, Fullerton. She is the daughter of Mexican and Salvadoran immigrants, is a first-generation college student, was an assistant biology lab technician and in her free time crochets octopus plushies for premature babies in nearby hospital ICUs.

During her remarks, Associated Students President Pricilla Mendoza shared her father’s advice to dedicate herself to doing something she loves and encouraged Río Hondo College graduates to face their fears, overcome their challenges and find their passion.

“You have all the power to strive for success,” Mendoza said. “You made it to this point, but I encourage all of you to keep going to reach your full potential. Keep growing and keep accomplishing through your journey.”

Dr. Kenn PiersonGeiger was also announced as 2022’s Fellow of the College in honor of his 25 years of service to the College as a faculty member and an administrator. PiersonGeiger taught in the Division of Communications and Languages, teaching most of the English and literature courses offered, and was the primary instructor for the College’s only upper-division general education English course, Technical and Professional Writing, for Río Hondo College’s Bachelor of Science Degree in Automotive Technology curriculum.





BOND FINANCIAL REPORT

Since the approval of a \$245 million general obligation bond passed by District voters in 2004, Río Hondo College has undertaken multiple major and impactful facilities projects to boost student learning.

These improvements to the College have been paramount in improving the day-to-day lives of students, faculty and staff and supporting a robust academic experience for the entire community. In 2022, the College's main focus was to continue work on the L Tower building, which will house new offices, classrooms, event space and a new board room for the College's Board of Trustees meetings.

The College also conducted geotechnical and soil testing and completed a seismic retrofit of the L Tower.

For the fiscal year 2021-22, the Measure A bond received an unmodified audit opinion from external auditors Cossolias, Wilson, Dominguez and Leavitt, (CWDL) LLP.

The objectives of the audit were to examine the expenditures of Measure A General Obligation Bonds that were approved under Proposition 39. The audit determined whether expenditures for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2022 from the General Obligation Bond Fund were made in accordance with project budgets and guidelines.

Based upon the procedures performed by external auditors, they noted that, for the items tested, the Río Hondo Community College District had properly accounted for the expenditures of the Measure A General Obligation Bonds. Furthermore, it was noted that the funds were not used for salaries of school administrators or other operating expenses. Total Measure A bond expenditures for the fiscal year 2021-22 amounted to \$6,566,003.

DONORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Río Hondo College Foundation has been a beacon of hope for struggling students – and 2022 was a year of great philanthropy and giving.

This past year, the Río Hondo College Foundation hosted events that brought in more than \$120,000, which will be used to support students in the form of scholarships and other support services. Río Hondo College continues to be honored and humbled by the generosity of our community and is grateful for their ongoing support.

Gifts \$25,000+

Foundation for California
Community Colleges/Osher
Tbp/Architecture

Gifts \$10,000+

Del Terra Foundation Group
Credit Union of Southern California
Maurice Meysenburg
Hilda Solis

Gifts \$5,000+

Bank of the West
Alejandro Fernández
Yoshio Nakamura
El Monte Union High School District
Bryan Tabizon
(Rose Hills Memorial Park)*
Medica Talent Group Inc.

Gifts \$2,500+

Olivarez Madruga
John Burton Advocates for Youth
John Peel*
ACCO Engineering
Allied Restoration
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
California Resource
Management Association

Craig Phillips Engineering & Design
Dianne Pellissier
Mario Rodriguez
Golden Star Technology
P2S Inc.
Ricardo Nevarez (LACOE)
Schools-First Federal Credit Union
Mario Villafan (Follett)

Gifts \$1,000+

Bradley Keenan
Rotary Club of Whittier
Dr. Carmella Franco*
Dr. Earic Dixon-Peters
Dr. Lyla Eddington
Dr. Gisela Spieler-Persad
Henry Gee*
Longo Toyota/Lexus
Max Odonez
Monica Oviedo
Payden & Rygel
Water Replenishment District of
Southern California
California Domestic Water Company
Don Hannah*
Jean Kim
Rosaelva Lomeli*

Dan Rubalcava*
Mark Yokoyama*
Mary Ann Pacheco*
Catherine Page*
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Río Hondo College Faculty Association
James Schlotz
Dr. Kevin Smith*
Scott Jaeggi

**President's Circle Members give \$1,000 or more in unrestricted gifts annually. Members receive recognition and invitations to special events.*

GENDER

41.92%
FEMALE

56.48%
MALE

.05%
NON-BINARY

1.55%
NOT REPORTED

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.) DEGREES **12**
 NON-CREDIT AWARDS **133**
 CHANCELLOR-APPROVED CERTIFICATES **1,804**
 ASSOCIATE DEGREES **2,243**

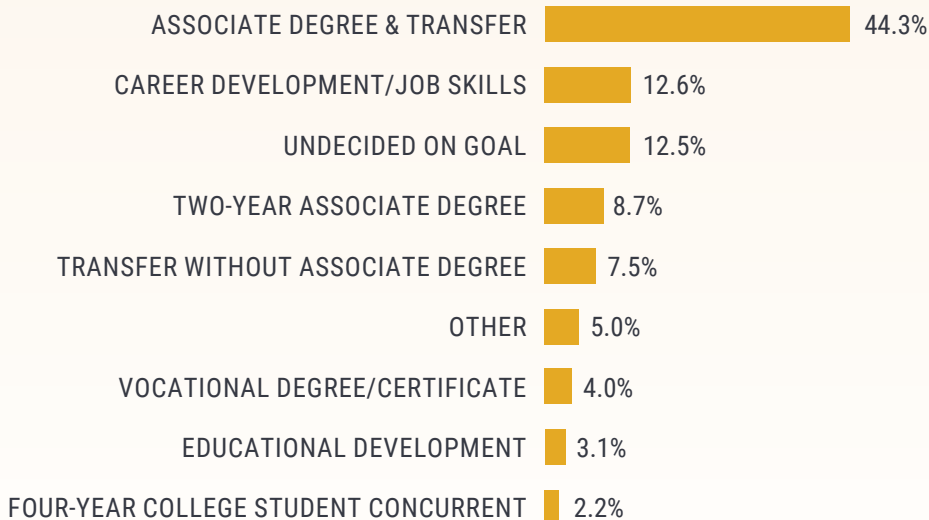
ENROLLMENT STATUS

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| NON-CREDIT | 1,278 |
| FULL-TIME | 3,944 |
| PART-TIME | 12,180 |
| TOTAL | 17,402 |

ETHNICITY



EDUCATIONAL GOALS



STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID

8,772

\$25,622,827
IN TOTAL AID



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ECRWSS

**SUPERINTENDENT/
PRESIDENT**


Marilyn Flores, Ph.D.

POSTAL PATRON


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Anais Medina Diaz, Vice President
Oscar Valladares, Clerk
Rosaelva Lomeli, Member
Vicky Santana, Member
Esmeralda Cazarez, Student Trustee


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 bit.do/riohondocollege

 [riohondo_college](https://TikTok.com/riohondo_college)



2022 All-State catcher Rafael Flores signed an undrafted free agent deal with the New York Yankees.