



COLORADO
Department of
Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Colorado Completes! campaign and campus visits announced

DENVER – Sept. 17, 2014 – It’s one thing to enroll in college. The bigger challenge often is ensuring that students stick it out and graduate in a timely manner. For first generation, low income or other underrepresented students the challenges are even greater.

But many programs at Colorado’s public institutions of higher education are moving the needle on student success by providing support systems necessary for all students to thrive in a campus setting and successfully complete postsecondary work. Earning a degree is more important than ever: In Colorado, 74 percent of Colorado jobs will require some postsecondary credential by 2020.

During the month of October the Colorado Department of Higher Education will be celebrating these programs through campus events and visits by Lt. Gov. Garcia, who serves as executive director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, in a newly launched campaign called Colorado Completes!

In response to a query, the Department received 30 high quality program submissions that were reviewed by members of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education and staff on the criteria of innovation; data; proposed event; and student demographics. The list was whittled to seven campus programs and one runner-up. Campuses to be visited by Lt. Gov. Garcia and dates are:

- Aims Community College (Catalyst second semester program), Oct. 22;
- Community College of Aurora (Student Success Center), Oct. 14;
- Colorado State University in Fort Collins (Key Communities), Oct. 8;
- CSU Pueblo (Denver Scholarship Foundation Program), Oct. 24;

- University of Colorado Boulder (CU LEAD Scholars Program), Oct. 10;
- University of Northern Colorado (University 101), Oct. 22;
- Western State Colorado University (PRIME-Promoting Readiness in Mathematics and English), Oct. 28;
- ***Promising Practice Winner:*** Pueblo Community College (partnership with St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center), Oct. 24.

In addition to the campus visits, all the program submissions will be featured on a Department webpage and highlighted via social media using the hashtag #CoCompletes.

Successful postsecondary completion is at the heart of the state's [higher education master plan](#), and this campaign attempts to capture success stories as measured against goals in this plan. Specific details about campus events will be released as soon as they are available.

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