

District IX Seniors Attend HCC for Free

District IX seniors know a great education deal when they see it. More than 100 of them signed up to take advantage of HCC's new free tuition program.

"My aunt was looking for a granny grant," says Angela James of 96-year-old Dorothy Thomas, a retired HISD schoolteacher who gets a ride from her southeast Houston home to HCC Central South Campus twice a week. "She wanted to learn to play the piano or use the computer. The computer classes were available at South Campus, so she signed up."

James says her aunt especially likes learning and fellowshipping with other seniors. "Everyone at the campus is patient with the seniors," James says. "My aunt is doing very well."

HCC is offering free tuition for up to six credit hours per semester for students 65 and older. In addition, students between 55 and 65 can receive a 50 percent discount on their tuition. The discounts apply to academic and workforce courses that have not already been filled by students paying full price.

If you are 65 and older, the following requirements apply:

- Texas resident or non-resident who is 65 at start of the term
- Enrolled in semester credit hour (academic) course only
- To receive continuation of the discount, student must receive a grade point average of 2.0

If you are between 55 and 65, the following requirements apply:

- Texas resident or non-resident who is 55 at start of the term
- Enrolled in classes for which the college receives tax support
- To receive continuation of the discount, students must receive a grade point average of 2.0 or, for continuing education and non-credit courses, a measurement of satisfactory completion

It's not too late to sign up to take advantage of the free tuition offer for the spring semester. Find more information at hccs.edu/now.



large geographical region. This presents unique challenges that require innovative engagement strategies.

With this new approach - accomplished through a relentless combination of community and college-based efforts coupled with collaborative, spirited teamwork - we have been able to increase course enrollment at South Campus back to more than 1500. This includes first time seniors 55 and older, skills and trades students, ongoing K-12 dual credit classes, and new continuing education classes. Each of these groups has brought new students to the campus and increased HCC's presence in the community.

Strategies for achieving the District IX goals of lifelong learning, skills/trades and K-12 collaborations have now been enacted at South Campus. Lifelong learners 55 and older enjoyed a tailored computer course. Several skills and trades courses were offered in the new Workforce Building and K-12 collaborations produced a new early college high school. The success in meeting these goals reveals that HCC has served District IX well.

2018 has been an amazing year for District IX! There's a new attitude and commitment at HCC to open the doors and successfully engage with constituents. The district population demographic is very diverse and has traditional communities within a

As we move into 2019, we will build upon these goals and set new goals to provide K-12 skills and trades course offerings, establish business and industry collaborations, and increase academic core classes for District IX residents.

HCC looks forward to continuing to serve District IX at the South Campus and Brays Oaks Campus.

- **To apply:** hccs.edu/apply
- **Programs:** hccs.edu/programs
- **Financial help:** hccs.edu/financialaid
- **HCC Foundation:** hccsfoundation.org

In service,

Dr. Pretta Vandible Stallworth

Pretta Vandible Stallworth, Ph.D.
HCC Board of Trustees
District IX

COMMUNITY EVENTS

District IX youngsters received backpacks filled with school supplies and had the opportunity to meet Congressman Al Green and former NFL players at the Central South Campus backpack giveaway.

South Campus was also the site for the Wheels and Heels car and fashion show displaying custom and vintage vehicles and the latest fashion trends. The event provided an opportunity to introduce Sunnyside residents to the myriad of academic, workforce and college-readiness classes offered at South Campus.



SMART DECISION.

Register now for the spring semester!

hccs.edu/now



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More options, new programs available for spring 2019 at HCC Central South

Whether you are taking that first step down the pathway to a lucrative career or adding new skills to your resume in pursuit of a better job, HCC Central South Campus has what you need. The class lineup for the spring semester includes interior design, drafting, scaffolding, solar energy fundamentals, construction management and a full complement of academic core courses to help District IX residents reach their higher-educational goals.

South campus is expanding its program and class offerings to serve students seeking college degrees, transfer credits, short-term workforce programs and continuing education or lifelong, learning courses.

A full schedule of courses offered at the campus is available at hccs.edu/south-campus.

More space for student success

In addition, the campus is strengthening its commitment to student success. In 2019, more offices devoted to counseling, advising, tutoring and other support services to help students through the enrollment process and their coursework are being added.

There will also be a slate of new options for residents seeking short-term enrichment courses. These non-credit, lifelong learning offerings - popularly known as "leisure learning" courses - are being planned to allow District IX residents to hone existing skills or explore new interests. Look for more information - as well as ways to provide input on the types of courses to be offered at Central South - in coming weeks and months.

Computers, iPhones, Androids and more on Brays Oaks Spring Lineup



The HCC Brays Oaks Campus offers a variety of classes for students of all ages.

In the spring, 2019 semester, senior citizens can up their internet game with introductory courses in the use of Apple iPad. Instructors will begin with basic operations, teaching students how to use multi-touch displays, explore settings, change font sizes, use Safari, take photos and videos, and will introduce the wonderful world of apps.

Brays Oaks will also offer seniors introductory courses on the use of iPhones and Android phones; and will hold senior classes on Microsoft's Windows 10 operating system. The Windows class instructor will explain all the fundamentals of Windows 10!

The campus will conduct a windows course of a much different kind: the Window Treatment Maker Class. Students can learn how to become a professional in the world of window treatment and even earn a Level I Certificate.

You will find a myriad of other classes at Brays Oaks as well. A full listing of classes can be found at hccs.edu/locations/southwest-college/brays-oaks-campus.

District IX residents provide input to HCC strategic plan

Houston Community College is finalizing a 10-year strategic plan - a plan that will be the roadmap for moving HCC forward in an era of unprecedented change, in a city of endless possibilities.

Nearly 30 District IX residents turned out in October to offer their input for the plan. Top of mind among the attendees was the need for improved communication between HCC and District IX. Residents would also like to see growth in class offerings continue.

Since HCC kicked off the initiative to develop Embracing Houston's Future nearly a year ago, there have been similar public forums in every corner of Houston. The next one for

District IX residents will be held at Brays Oaks Campus at 8:30 a.m., January 17th.

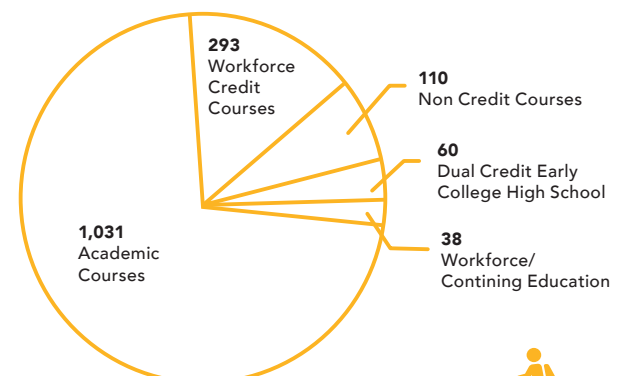
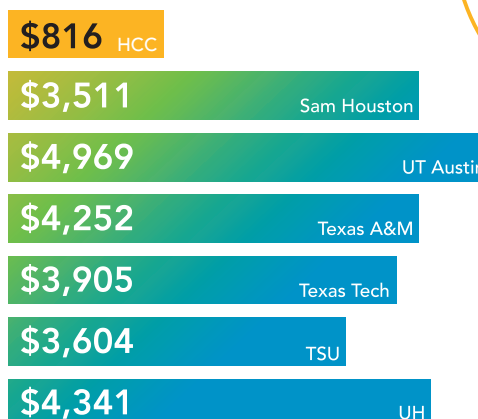
HCC's constituents know best what needs to be done to improve the institution in the next five to 10 years. Your continued input is vital as we determine areas of strategic focus and develop a proposed list of priorities for presentation to the board of trustees in February. Upon their review and approval, the next step in the process will be development of a preliminary plan.

If you have not been able to attend one of the community meetings, please visit hccs.edu/embracinghoustonfuture and fill out the feedback survey.

Fall 2018 South Campus Enrollment



Lowest tuition cost across higher institutions



1,532
Total