

LAS POSITAS COLLEGE

CALWORKS CONNECTION

Spring 2009



Message from the CalWORKs Coordinator

Hello CalWORKs Students,

This spring has seen an incredible influx of new students into our program. In fact, this semester our program has doubled in size!! On the positive side, we welcome our new students and look forward to the many contributions that each of you make to the campus and our CalWORKs program. On the challenging side, as program staff, we are concerned about continuing to provide high quality support. What has become clear to us as a program is that we need to begin offering group service as a way of helping to meet student needs. This is inviting some new changes to our program that I am excited to share with you.

The first is that the CalWORKs office will be offering multiple opportunities for *group Books and Supplies Workshops*. The dates and times are listed in the newsletter. These workshops will provide a venue for you to submit your Books and Supplies forms, receive assistance and provide you with one \$25 gas card. To aid in the distribution of gas cards and encourage student timeliness in submitting Books and Supplies students must submit their Books and Supplies before the end of the semester in order to be eligible for a gas card. We hope that this will streamline our process, enable you to be better positioned to receive your book money from the County and encourage early registration for classes. If you do not need assistance with your Books and Supplies forms, you are welcome to simply drop them off in the CalWORKs office during our specified collection time and receive your gas card at that time. We will no longer be able to offer individual assistance so please take advantage of our group Books & Supplies workshops.

The second change that we are implementing this fall to support students is a CalWORKs peer mentoring program. Your CalWORKs staff is currently reviewing different peer mentoring models and we hope to have our program ready to begin in the fall. So, for seasoned CalWORKs students, if you are interested in being a mentor, please contact the CalWORKs office. We are beginning an interest list and will soon be providing more specific details about application process, program and mentor benefits. We know that the gifts, knowledge and experience you possess will be a blessing to new students trying to find their way through higher education!

As always, we are excited that you are in our CalWORKs program and look forward to helping support your continued success.

Warmly,
Kimberly Tomlinson
CalWORKs Coordinator



Preparing for Summer/Fall 2009

April 23 & 24: Priority Registration

As CalWORKs students, you are amongst the first students to get to register for your summer and fall classes. Take full advantage of your priority registration by signing up for your classes as early as possible. *This will help to ensure that you get the classes you need at the times that you want.* If you believe that your registration date is later than what is listed above, contact the CalWORKs office and we will confirm that you are added to the priority registration list.



Choosing Summer & Fall Classes

If you are unsure of what classes to register for, or just want to review your education plan, make an appointment to see Jill, our CalWORKs Counselor. Jill is here to help keep you on track for all of your major and general education requirements. For students also in EOPS, meeting with Jill here can also count as one of your mandatory

visits, but *your must inform her that you are using it for that purpose or it will not be counted as such.*

Summer 2009 Books & Supplies Changes

Books & Supplies Workshops

Paperwork Submission Deadline: May 29th

Workshop Dates:

Mon, May 4th, 9am

Tue, May 12th, 12:30pm

Wed, May 20th, 11am

Tue, May 26th, 11:30am

Wed, May 27th, 3:00pm



Due to the increased volume of CalWORKs students, new procedures will be in place for collecting Summer Books & Supplies documentation. CalWORKs staff will no longer be available on a drop-in basis to provide individual assistance. Beginning in May, CalWORKs staff will be conducting workshops to provide group assistance in

completing the forms. Anyone coming to the CalWORKs office for individual assistance will be directed to one of those workshops.

As incentive to complete paperwork in a timely manner, **student eligibility for gas cards will be dependent upon early submission of Books & Supplies paperwork.** In order to be eligible for the summer gas card, your Books & Supplies documentation will need to be submitted to the CalWORKs office no later than the last day of the spring semester, May 29th. Students may still submit this paperwork during the summer semester, but they will no longer be eligible for that semester's gas card. Thank you for your cooperation as we continually streamline the program to serve you better.

Cultural Fluency Workshop

Thursday, April 23, 2009

11:00am—2:30pm

Room: Staff Lounge

Free - Open to All Students



Motivational educator, author, and storyteller Hilda Graham will conduct an entertaining and inspiring workshop regarding cultural fluency.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to:

- *share your thoughts, opinions, & experiences
- *challenge traditional ideas about diversity
- *learn productive communication strategies

The final TANF-CDC meeting of the semester will be held on May 7th at 11am in 2401L.

Are You Interested in Working for CalWORKs?

We are seeking an additional student assistant for our CalWORKs program. Jessica has proven the role of student assistant to be an indispensable component of our program. We will be hiring a *second student* assistant to begin working with the program starting in mid-July. **This position will be for 15-20 hours per week and is expected to include Fridays in their work schedule.**

The student assistant will be expected to:

- *Perform general clerical tasks such as filing, faxing, organizing materials, and compiling data.
- *Possess excellent communication skills; a vital component of the job involves providing detailed assistance to students and contacting the county and other campus departments on the behalf of students.

If interested, please submit a resume to the CalWORKs office no later than **May 15th**.

Feel free to contact the CalWORKs office with any questions.

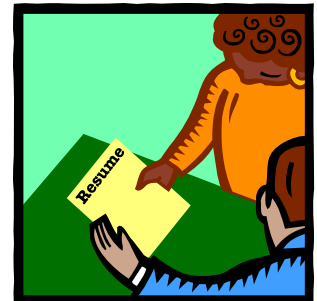
LPC—Employment Fair

Thursday, April 23, 10am-1pm

Come meet various employers from the Tri-Valley and East Bay. Some of the best ways to prepare from the fair include:

- *Preparing a resume
- *Dressing professionally
- *Bringing a positive attitude
- *Practicing your verbal skills

For a sample of attending employers, visit the Career Center in person or online at: www.laspositascollege.edu/employmentcenter/employmentfair.php



Tri-Valley Housing Scholarship

Info Appointments: *Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30pm*
Building 900

The Tri-Valley Housing Scholarship Program provides rental assistance to low-income students in Livermore and Pleasanton.



Applicants must be:

- * Currently enrolled in a full-time educational or vocational program
- * In good standing
- * Have already completed at least one semester.

If interested, contact the CalWORKs office to schedule an appointment: 925-424-1459

Health Careers Orientation

Health 57: *Allied Health Career Exploration*
1.5 Units

June 15-25

Mon.-Thurs.: 9am-2:35pm

Are you interested in a career in Health Care? Take the opportunity this summer for an in-depth introduction to the Health Care profession. Explore your interest in this field through discussion, assessment, and field trips. In addition to class at LPC, students will travel to ValleyCare Hospital to become familiar with the health care staff and setting first-hand.



Building 900
3000 Campus Hill Drive
Livermore, CA 94551
For appointment: 925-424-1459

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY: 8 AM - 5 PM
TUESDAY: 8 AM - 4 PM
WEDNESDAY: 8 AM - 5 PM
THURSDAY: 8 AM - 4 PM
FRIDAY: 9 AM - 3 PM

Kimberly Tomlinson	Coordinator	925-424-1432	ktomlinson@laspositascollege.edu
Jill Oliveira	Counselor	925-424-1432	joliveira@laspositascollege.edu
Vince Hamilton	Counselor Assistant	925-424-1459	vhamilton@laspositascollege.edu
Jessica Bias	Student Assistant	925-424-1459	

CalWORKs Student Mentoring Program

*Do you like to help people? *Are you a good listener?

*Are you familiar with the LPC campus and programs?

If so, you can make a difference as a mentor!

The CalWORKs program is beginning a mentor program this fall in which experienced CalWORKs students will mentor new CalWORKs students. Mentors can help students to learn where campus programs and classes are located. They can also guide students to be aware of upcoming deadlines and events. Come by the CalWORKs office if you are interested in learning more.

www.laspositascollege.edu/calworks

Shout Outs!



Dec. 2008: CalWORKs/CARE Student Recognition Ceremony

Thank you for everyone who helped to make this annual event a great success. We celebrated the achievements of our students and heard from those who have successfully moved forward in their education and careers. Generous donation from the LPC community allowed us to raise over \$5000 to help 42 CalWORKs families through the holidays. Extra special thanks to our major donors included the ASLPC, American Association of University of Women, and the Alden Lane Nursery.



Jan. 2009: LIFETIME Parent Leadership Summit

LIFETIME, an advocacy group devoted to low-income students raising families, conducted a parent leadership summit which culminated in a protest at the state capitol. This demonstration increased awareness of challenges that low-income parents face while pursuing education. Parent advocates, including LPC's *Lakisha Neal-Chatmon*, delivered children's shoes to the steps of the capitol as symbolism of who will be affected by further CalWORKs cuts.

Individual Shout Outs:

Jessica Bias & Kim Gilmour attended the "California Association for the Education of Young Children" conference in recognition of their dedication and devotion to the TANF-CDC program.

Kristalynn Howard was interviewed for the March 13, 2009 edition of the LPC Express. She shared her experiences as a single parent working toward a nursing degree. We are honored that she made special mention of Vince and the CalWORKs program.

Melissa Ott gave birth to Aria Harmony on February 2nd.

Patrice Roof earned a 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2008 semester. We wish her well as Patrice and her family move to Washington.

Please let us know if you are graduating or have other Shout Outs for our next newsletter.