

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## COLLEGE INFORMATION

### History

Los Angeles Valley College was established in June 1949. It is one of the nine public colleges of the Los Angeles Community College District.

In September 1949, the college opened with a student body of 439 and a faculty of 23 on the Van Nuys High School campus.

The college moved to its present site, now 105 acres, during the summer of 1951. The enrollment at the opening semester on the new campus was 1003, with a faculty of 55.

Reflecting the phenomenal growth in the population of the San Fernando Valley, the enrollment of Los Angeles Valley College now totals more than 18,000 students. These students are served by a faculty of 200 full-time and 421 adjunct faculty members.

In addition to bungalows, 20 permanent buildings have been completed since 1959. These buildings include the library, administration building, cafeteria, theater arts, planetarium, campus center and classroom buildings with science laboratories. Special features on the campus include three separate stages for theater productions, a motion picture studio, choral and instrumental rooms, sound proof practice booths, and a recording center for music instruction, a general machine shop, a weather station, departmental learning centers, a broadcast and speech studio, a computer center and a health center.

To accommodate further growth of the student body, an addition to the library was completed in the Spring of 1967. This addition enabled the library to hold 120,000 volumes.

The campus center classroom building was completed in 1971. A women's physical education building was completed in 1973, and a swimming pool, completed in 1977, was rebuilt in 2008.

The athletic facilities include men's and women's gymnasiums, a fitness center, practice fields, a field house, an archery range, tennis courts, a track, a baseball field, a swimming pool, and a lighted stadium accommodating 6,000 spectators.

The college is undertaking a building program that will result in four new buildings and the refurbishing of the existing buildings under the auspices of Proposition A passed in 2001. In 2003 Proposition AA, an additional bond, was passed.

### Goals

The goals of Los Angeles Valley College are in keeping with the mission statement adopted by the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees, which is to provide comprehensive lower-division general education, occupational education, transfer education, transitional education, counseling and guidance, community services, and continuing education programs which are appropriate to the communities served and which meet the changing needs of students for academic and occupational preparation, citizenship, and cultural understanding.

#### In pursuit of these goals, we endeavor to:

- promote equal opportunity for participation
- maintain appropriate standards for academic achievement
- provide an educational environment which meets the needs of students with varied learning skills
- provide support services which contribute to instructional effectiveness and student success
- affirm the importance of multi-cultural, international and inter-cultural collegiate experiences that foster individual and group understanding
- manage effectively educational and financial resources.

#### In order to assist students in achieving their educational objectives, the faculty and staff of Valley College strive to provide:

- counseling services directed toward identifying and fulfilling educational, financial, health and other personal needs
- opportunities to recognize and further develop a sense of curiosity and an understanding of self and others in an atmosphere of freedom and open communication
- realistic experiences for the implementation of skills and principles acquired
- opportunities to develop and use problem-solving techniques in the achievement of stated objectives
- opportunities to explore, understand and participate in the governance of the college and in other social structures
- opportunities to evaluate the effectiveness of the educational process in terms of the students own goals

- involvement of the members and resources of the community at large in the educational process in a participatory as well as in an advisory capacity
- cooperative relations with other institutions in promoting appropriate educational, cultural and occupational programs.

## Los Angeles Valley College offers the following programs and services:

### Transfer

Four-year universities require students to complete certain requirements for the bachelor's degree. Among these are general education and major requirements. Valley College offers transferable courses which are equivalent to the lower division (i.e., freshman and sophomore) requirements at the many colleges and universities. Among these colleges and universities are: UCLA, USC, CSU Northridge, CSU Los Angeles, CSU Long Beach, CSU Dominguez Hills, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, UC Santa Barbara, UC Irvine.

With counseling and careful planning students may, in most cases, transfer as a junior with their lower division major requirements and appropriate general education requirements completed.

### Associate Degree (AA/AS)

The Associate Degree (AA/AS) may be earned in conjunction with preparation for transfer or an occupational program. It may also be pursued as an educational end in itself.

### Occupational Certificate

The Occupational Certificate is a sequence of courses leading to a specific area of employment. It is designed for those students who have limited time to pursue their formal education and who wish to specialize in a particular employment oriented area.

### General Education

A program of general education comprised of planned experiences which develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for the student to be effective as a worker, family member, and citizen.

### Transitional Education:

A program of remedial and basic skills education for students needing preparation for community college level course and programs; and English as a Second Language instruction for immigrants, foreign students and other students with limited English proficiency.

### Continuing Education

Opportunities are provided for individuals who are interested in improving their occupational competence or personal growth that may supplement formal full-time college attendance.

### Guidance

A guidance program incorporating vocational, educational, and personal counseling to assist students in the selection and pursuit of a life work compatible with their interests, aptitudes, and abilities.

### Community Education & Extension Program:

A comprehensive program designed to meet the college's mission for lifelong learning providing hundreds of not-for-credit educational offerings (online and classroom) in computer applications, health and wellness, open recreation, personal growth, business-related, and paralegal studies. This program is a completely self-supported, fee-based division of the college. Online registration is CommunityEd.lavc.edu.

### The Los Angeles Valley College Foundation

- The Foundation is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to benefit Los Angeles Valley College students and college programs and activities. The Foundation raises funds to support student scholarships, faculty projects, and various campus and alumni events.
- To inquire about the Foundation or to make a contribution, please call (818) 947-2619, or visit them online at [www.lavcfoundation.org](http://www.lavcfoundation.org).