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****MEDIA RELEASE****

CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE FOUNDATION ERASES DEBT FOR MAY 2021 GRADUATES THROUGH FINISH LINE FUND

As part of its commitment to help students through the Covid-19 pandemic, the Contra Costa College (CCC) Foundation just erased all debt leftover from its May 2021 graduating class, wiping away outstanding fees owed to the college. The Finish Line Fund will help ensure that no student graduating in May 2021 is denied a diploma due to money owed to the school.

“Imagine the sigh of relief these students are taking right now. The Finish Line Fund is another example of how the Foundation is stepping up for our students during this difficult pandemic,” said CCC Interim President Damon A.

Bell. “By erasing this debt for over 60 students, the Foundation is empowering students to move forward, whether it’s onto their continued educational journeys or meaningful careers.”



The Covid-19 pandemic has placed an even steeper financial burden on community college students like those at CCC, where 85% are low- or middle-low income and where 39% are first in their family to go to college. The Foundation’s Finish Line Fund, which covers an average debt of \$214 per student, is a student support tool added to a toolkit including wrap-around emergency funding, technology/internet access support and scholarships.

About Contra Costa College

Contra Costa College is a public community college that has served the diverse communities of West Contra Costa County and all others seeking a quality education since 1949. The College offers associates degrees and certificates in an extensive list of program majors, including for students looking to transfer to four-year institutions. It also offers excellent vocational and training programs through its Career Technical Education program. To learn more, visit www.contracosta.edu.

About the Contra Costa College Foundation

Established in 1967, the Contra Costa College Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Funds raised by the Foundation provide key support for student success initiatives such as the Wrap-Around Fund, scholarships, program enhancements and more. For more information on the Contra Costa College Foundation, visit www.contracosta.edu/foundation.