



Contacts for more information:

Dr. J.D. Garvin, PCC President
(719) 549-3213, john.garvin@pueblocc.edu

Shannon South, Dean of SCCC West Campus
(970) 565-8457, shannon.south@pueblocc.edu

Dr. Lynn Urban, Dean of SCCC East Campus
(970) 247-2929, ext. 7216, Lynn.Urban@pueblocc.edu

Gary Franchi, Public Relations Coordinator
(719) 549-3053, gary.franchi@pueblocc.edu

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Southwest Colorado Community College to be open on Saturdays to register students for fall

MANCOS – With the start of fall semester classes rapidly approaching, Southwest Colorado Community College has expanded its enrollment and registration service by scheduling open hours on the first three Saturdays in August to register students.

In addition to its weekday hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the West Campus in Mancos and the East Campus in Durango will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the next three Saturdays -- Aug. 8, 15 and 22. The fall semester will begin Aug. 24 on both SCCC campuses.

The newly developed college is a division of Pueblo Community College, having been created through the legislative merger of San Juan Basin Technical College and PCC's Southwest Campus. The merger became official July 1, which was the start of the 2009-2010 academic year.

It has created the first comprehensive community college in the Southwest Colorado region, and students will have access to new, robust opportunities in higher education through the addition of many new certificate and associate degree programs. SCCC offers Associate of Arts, Associate of Applied Science, Associate of Science and Associate of General Studies degrees.

Since PCC has articulation agreements with 4-year schools, there will be an ensured seamless credit transfer for those who want to continue their education by pursuing a bachelor's degree. Or, students can take technical and vocational programs and enter the workforce, thus having a positive impact on the region's economy.

Notable is that credits previously earned at SJBTC will transfer to SCCC, and students will have access to PCC's extensive online course schedule. Students also will have access to the abundance of financial aid opportunities available through PCC.

The SCCC also is offering two classes in Pagosa Springs this fall, something PCC did several years ago. Fall semester class schedules are available at both the SCCC's West Campus in the former SJBTC building and the East Campus in The Commons building in downtown Durango. College catalogs and program brochures also are available. Fall semester course schedules are also online at www.enrollSouthwest.org.

An abundance of infrastructure and exterior improvements to the West Campus are taking place, and they will be unveiled at a special dedication and community celebration that will take place there on Aug. 24. Also showcased that day will be the new Heritage Hall that will provide a visual history of the SJBTC and its merger with PCC into SCCC.

For more information, call the West Campus in Mancos at (970) 565-7496 or the East Campus in Durango at (970) 247-2929.

Founded in 1933, Pueblo Community College is a premier teaching institution focused on providing academic and service excellence to help its students acquire the 21st Century skills needed to better their lives. An educational and technological leader, PCC fosters economic development and utilizes strong partnerships in the communities it serves through its Pueblo, Fremont and Southwest campuses.