College of the Desert

is located in Palm Desert, California, the geographic center of the beautiful Coachella Valley. Nestled among the backdrop of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains in eastern Riverside County, in the Palm Springs area, the Coachella Valley is a resort community that offers over 100 golf courses and a wide variety of outdoor activities such as tennis, hiking, horseback riding, hot air ballooning, polo, bicycling, rock climbing, and swimming.

Formed by a vote of the people in 1958, the Desert Community College District services 4,120 square miles and encompasses three K-12 school districts. The District consists of three campuses, including Palm Desert, Indio and Mecca/Thermal locations. All three campuses are being expanded. Classes are also offered in Palm Springs and Desert Hot Springs, and a permanent campus is planned for Palm Springs in the near future.

The College currently enrolls over 10,000 students and with a student body that is over 65% Hispanic, College of the Desert is a federally recognized Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI).
College of the Desert is in the middle of one of the most exciting periods in its history. Since the College opened in 1962, it has been serving the local community by creating jobs and income, providing area residents with easy access to higher education opportunities, and preparing students for highly-skilled, technical professions.

Currently undergoing a comprehensive realignment, the college is recruiting to fill two new executive leadership positions; Vice President of Student Learning and Vice President of Student Success. These two positions will join the Executive Cabinet at a time when the college is developing a new Strategic Plan, as well as an Education Master Plan and Facilities Plan. The college is also entering its Accreditation Self-Study cycle. This is a unique opportunity to join a leader in higher education and make an impact on student success and learning.

The college is focused on:

- Student Success
- Planning and Governance
- Fiscal Stability and Infrastructure
- Economic, Workforce Development & Community Outreach
- Teamwork, Organizational Development

College of the Desert is experiencing unprecedented demand, resulting in 7% expansion of enrollment for 2014/15. Looking forward, similar growth is expected for 2015/16. The college has already added 10 new full-time faculty for Fall ‘15 and will be hiring again in preparation for 2016.

College of the Desert’s centralized location affords students, faculty and staff convenient access between the campus and each of the surrounding cities. The Coachella Valley is located 110 miles east of Los Angeles allowing for easy day trips to the coastal communities of L.A., San Diego and Orange County. Mountain areas such as Idyllwild, Big Bear and Lake Arrowhead are even closer and can be reached within an hour or so by car. For the quickest mountain escape, the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway delivers its passengers to the top of Mt. San Jacinto 8,500 feet above the valley floor in just 15 minutes.

See the rest of the story at www.StepUpforCOD.com
In addition to fueling our economy, COD graduates spend much of their income right at home – a net impact of $29.3 million each year. And it’s not just graduates who are spending. COD staff and faculty contribute too: salaries stream directly into the local marketplace annually at an amount of $39.6 million.

For every dollar of support for the College of the Desert, taxpayers see a cumulative return of $1.40 over the course of students’ working careers (in the form of higher tax receipts and avoided social costs).

**Regional Plan for College and Career Readiness**

College of the Desert is a significant and committed partner in the Coachella Valley Regional Plan for College and Career Readiness. The plan was developed with over 75 stakeholders, including the Coachella Valley’s three K-12 school districts, Riverside County Office of Education, Riverside County EDA/WIB and industry leaders from across the region. This five year plan aligns the resources of the business, community and education partners to support college and career readiness via a pipeline strategy focused on developing seamless K-University education pathways to prepare valley students for careers in industry clusters which hold great promise for high-wage, high-skilled jobs and economic growth.

Working with these same partners, College of the Desert is also leading the AB 86 Regional Consortium’s efforts to develop a strategic plan for providing Adult Education in the region.

**Strong Community Engagement and Support**

In recent years, the COD Foundation has stewarded more than $25 million in private gifts and grants to support College of the Desert – funding made possible by the generosity of corporations, foundations, Alumni, parents and philanthropists. In 2014, in honor of the Foundation’s 30th Anniversary, the “Changing Lives Campaign” set an ambitious goal to raise $3 million over 30 days. The campaign focused on raising funds for scholarships, the Bighorn Golf Club Charities Veterans Resource Center, student support programs and instructional innovation. When the final figures came in, the total raised was more than $3.5 million.

“We know education is the key to unlocking opportunity, but it takes more than willing students to transform lives. It takes steadfast community support, passionate and committed faculty and staff buoyed by a united and dedicated leadership team – and we’ve seen all these factors come together to support student success at College of the Desert.”

*Joel L. Kinnamon, Ed.D. - Superintendent/President*
College of the Desert offers excellent benefits and competitive salaries. To view our current job opportunities, visit our career site at: https://codjobs.silkroad.com/

More detailed information and job description at www.collegeofthedesert.edu

To see and read more of our success stories visit www.StepUpforCOD.com

We invite you to learn more about Palm Desert and the Greater Palm Springs area by visiting the following sites:

www.visitgreaterpalmsprings.com
www.palm-desert.org/visiting-palm-desert