



Barstow Community College District

2025 -2026 Facilities Bond Measure

FACT SHEET

- **MISSION: AN AFFORDABLE, HIGH QUALITY COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR THOUSANDS IN BARSTOW.** Every year, more than 5,300 local college students, veterans and others, turn to Barstow Community College for an affordable, high quality college education to prepare for in-demand jobs, transfer to 4-year colleges and universities, retrain for new jobs and/or reentry into the workforce. We serve these community members with passion and purpose. In particular...
 - **VETERANS.** Through Barstow Community College's close relationship with Fort Irwin and the Marine Corps Logistics Base, we serve veterans, active-duty service members, and military families from across the region who are transitioning from military service into civilian life and preparing for new careers. Many face unique challenges including adjusting to civilian life, navigating complex benefits systems, securing stable employment, and providing for their families. Barstow Community College is one of the few institutions in the region that offers veterans and their families affordable education, skills-training programs, and specialized support services close to home. The College provides academic counseling, tutoring, certificate pathways, job placement assistance, and opportunities to recognize military training through the potential award of college credit, supporting veterans transitioning into civilian careers aligned with their skills and competencies.
 - **COLLEGE ACCESS, CAREER TRAINING, & TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES.** Many families in our region cannot afford the cost of attending a 4-year university or the high cost of housing elsewhere. Barstow Community College provides students with an affordable pathway to begin their higher education close to home rather than having to travel down the hill to get the training and education they need for in-demand careers through career-focused certificates and industry-recognized credential programs in fields such as automotive technology, industrial maintenance, welding, and other skilled trades, or preparing them for transfer to a 4-year college or university. The college also allows local high school students to get a jumpstart on earning college credits by taking courses before they even graduate. Barstow Community College gives students the opportunity to start their college career locally, earn workforce certificates or transferable credits, build the necessary skills, and stay on track for a bachelor's degree while avoiding significant debt and remaining close to their families, jobs, and support systems.
- **OUR FACILITIES STORY OF NEED IS REAL.** Barstow Community College District has worked hard to stretch every dollar, and to be a responsible steward of taxpayer resources. However, after more than 60 years of continuous use, many Barstow Community College buildings and systems are aging, outdated, and in need of essential repairs. To meet today's job-training, safety, and technology standards, the College must update deteriorating sewer, gas and electrical lines, fix leaky roofs, repair HVAC systems, update computer technology, improve outdated classrooms, and modernize emergency communication systems. Students preparing for careers in skilled trades, healthcare, technology, engineering, and public safety need facilities that reflect real-world industry conditions. These upgrades will also allow Barstow to expand and improve hands-on classrooms and labs for in-demand, good paying skilled-trade careers such as welders, electricians, and heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning technicians. Upgrading Barstow's aging infrastructure is critical to ensuring students have safe, functional, modern learning environments that meet workforce needs, and the opportunity to earn credits toward a four-year bachelor's degree locally.

- **LOCAL, AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION.** For many families across the North High Desert, the cost of attending college elsewhere; especially housing, transportation, and food, makes higher education simply out of reach. Barstow Community College provides an affordable, close-to-home option that allows students to stay in the community, avoid major living expenses, and continue their education without taking on overwhelming debt. Strengthening our college ensures local students can access the degrees, certificates, and job-training programs they need for good-paying careers, all while remaining near their families, support networks, and jobs.
- **COLLEGE FACILITIES PLANNING & FUTURE NEEDS.** Barstow Community College District continuously evaluates campus needs to ensure its facilities support high-quality instruction, modern job-training programs, and safe learning environments. The District reviews all available funding options; including existing budget resources, state support, federal grants, and other opportunities. District leadership is also exploring whether additional local investment, including a local bond, may be needed to address high-priority repairs and upgrades. **No decisions have been made yet**, and community input will guide future planning.
- **INVESTING IN BARSTOW COLLEGE IS A SMART INVESTMENT.** Safe, modern, up-to-date college facilities are essential for preparing students for good-paying jobs in the local economy. Upgrading Barstow Community College strengthens the regional workforce, training future healthcare workers, technicians, engineers, skilled trades professionals, emergency responders, and public safety personnel. Barstow Community College is already partnering with local employers such as Barstow Community Hospital, BNSF, and local logistics businesses to ensure programs align with real workforce needs, and upgraded facilities will allow the College to expand and attract even more employer partnerships in the future. Enhanced facilities will bolster Barstow's entrepreneurial ecosystem, driving small business growth and building generational wealth in the community. Improving facilities also generates local construction jobs, supports small businesses, and helps keep Barstow economically thriving. These upgrades will also expand classroom and lab space to allow more students the opportunity to complete advanced coursework and earn a four-year bachelor's degree at Barstow Community College through expanded university partnerships. The longer essential repairs are delayed, the more costly they will become. With any future facilities measure, funds would stay local, be subject to independent citizen oversight, annual audits, and cannot be used for administrator salaries.
- **STRICT ACCOUNTABILITY AND TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS ARE REQUIRED.** Any potential bond measure approved by voters will include strict accountability requirements, including public disclosure of all spending; independent annual financial and performance audits, and a citizens' oversight committee to make sure all funds from the measure are accounted for properly and are used as promised. Furthermore, all funds will be used locally to benefit Barstow Community College and cannot be taken by the County or State government.
- **COMMUNITY INPUT IS WELCOME.** We welcome BCCD student, faculty, staff, and community input. We are working hard to educate our community on exactly what is at stake to ensure that high quality college and job training facilities are here for us and BCCD remains strong for years to come. **For more information call:** (760) 252-7349 **OR email us at:** BCCListens@barstow.edu.