



COLORADO COLLEGE

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For Immediate Release

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Colorado College to offer a safe HAVEN for students who transfer from anti-DEI states

HAVEN Initiative the first of its kind in the country

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — September 14, 2023—In a swift response to anti-diversity, equity, and inclusion legislation, Colorado College has created a safe-haven initiative called the Healing and Affirming Village and Empowerment Network, or HAVEN, for any student wanting to leave institutions of higher education in those states. So far, five states have passed anti-DEI laws, including Florida, Texas, North Carolina, Tennessee, and North Dakota. Due to fears these actions could lead to a climate of uncertainty, fear, and violence, CC is offering HAVEN specifically for college students from these states for the next two academic years.

Leaning into CC President L. Song Richardson’s vision of creating a more just world, she is doubling down on her commitment to create greater access. As other colleges are backing away from confronting this new legislation, Colorado College is taking bold steps to provide an affirming space for students to learn by arranging timely transfer admission to CC.

“HAVEN is a response to an immediate need for those in harm’s way and I am proud that CC is acting out our commitment to antiracism in such a meaningful manner,” said Rosalie Rodriguez, associate vice president of Institutional Equity and Belonging. “For colleges that value educating the whole student, now is the time to live out your value system and push back against these repressive laws.”

CC’s Antiracism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) team finds increasing anti-DEI legislation problematic, especially when coupled with the dismantling of race-conscious admissions by the U.S. Supreme Court in June.

Transferring between colleges can be especially difficult with uncertainty about credits earned, financial aid, housing, and support systems. CC is intentionally removing these barriers by offering full financial aid consideration and will offer full credit for transferable coursework. In addition, CC guarantees on-campus housing along with



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access to campus resources. Support systems such as counseling and identity-affirming programming will give special attention to these students.

In order to qualify for HAVEN, students must be degree-seeking with the intent to transfer to and graduate from Colorado College. The transfer application at CC closes October 15, 2023 for January 2024 enrollment and March 1, 2024 for August 2024 enrollment. Interested students should submit their preliminary application as soon as possible. Extensions will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

“We are excited to launch this new program as the college deepens our commitment to anti-racism,” said Vice President for Enrollment Mark Hatch. “As our staff in admission and financial aid seek to enroll a talented and diverse student body, our faculty, staff, and students remain passionate about creating a more welcoming and inclusive environment for the entire Colorado College community.”

For more information on how to apply for HAVEN, students may email admission@coloradocollege.edu.

About Colorado College

Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874. In 1970 the college created the Block Plan, in which its approximately 2,300 undergraduate students take one class at a time in intensive 3½-week segments. A Master of Arts in teaching degree also is offered. The college’s vision is to ignite students’ passion and potential to create a more just world. For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu.

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