

Learning Resource Center receives ITTPC (CRLA International Tutor Training Program Certification - Level One)

We are pleased to announce that the Learning Resource Center has been awarded certification as a Level One certified tutor training program by the internationally recognized College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). This is a major accomplishment that reflects the LRC and CSUCI's commitment to student success.

For more than thirty years, CRLA has been a leader in learning assistance, reading, and academic support programs with almost 1,300 members and over 2,000 certified training programs worldwide. The International Tutor Training Program Certification (ITTPC) certifies tutor training programs in postsecondary educational institutions. Once granted CRLA certification, the tutor training programs each have the authority to recognize their tutors as having met the approved ITTPC tutor training program requirements.

The LRC's rigorous application for this certification required detailed descriptions of the tutoring center, recruitment and hiring model, observation and evaluation procedures, and evidence of tutor training program and professional development outcomes. The application was then peer-reviewed by a team of practitioners in the field of learning assistance.

LRC's Level One Certification benefits the university by:

- setting a benchmark for academic support excellence across the institution;
- ensuring compliance with internationally-recognized best practices in higher education tutorial services;
- increasing assurance that tutoring services comply with standards for ethical academic behavior;
- improving career-readiness by providing quality professional development for tutors;
- creating additional opportunities for students to connect to faculty;
- strengthening the connection between the curriculum and academic support services
- allowing the LRC to provide qualitative and quantitative data that enrich accreditation standards.

CSUCI students will benefit from this certification in myriad ways. Most significantly, students receiving tutoring are working with someone trained in effective helping strategies, communication skills, and structuring of tutor sessions. Research shows that students become more confident as learners by participating in a learner-centered experience, and that "students who attend tutoring with trained tutors perform better academically than those who attend tutoring with untrained tutors."

LRC student tutors will also benefit from the certification in that it encourages tutors to view themselves as paraprofessionals in their work, improves focus in training and evaluation, strengthens tutors' resumes in the form of an internationally recognized certificate, and creates a culture of learning for tutors.

The Learning Resource Center provides inclusive academic success services that support equitable student success at CSUCI. It is exciting and gratifying that the CRLA has acknowledged their excellence by certifying the Center, and putting CSUCI on the map as a university that commits to supporting its students using evidence-based practices.