



Congratulations on your decision to consider that next step in your educational journey. As president of the Community College of Rhode Island, I am proud that you are exploring the opportunities available to you at the state's only community college, which also happens to be the largest two-year degree-granting institution of higher education in New England.

CCRI offers you many choices to help you change your life and achieve your dreams. CCRI has the choice, flexibility, value, convenience and support you need to make the dream of furthering your education a reality.

Choice comes in the form of almost 90 degree and certificate programs offered to students. These range from art to the health sciences and general business to biotechnology. The variety of courses at CCRI provides tremendous opportunity for you to begin your first career or change your career direction.

In fact, each year we add new programs and adjust others to suit the needs of the job opportunities in the state. The college's latest advertising campaign stresses: "Careers begin at CCRI. Discover Yours." So I hope you will take the time to truly explore the next step that's right for you.

You can attend classes on campus during the day, evenings or weekends or experience classes through our ever-expanding distance learning offerings. All of these options give you the flexibility you need to fit school into your busy life.

Our four main campuses in Lincoln, Providence, Newport and Warwick, in addition to satellite campuses in Downcity Providence and Westerly, make attending class more convenient. And our tuition, the best higher education value in Rhode Island, makes furthering your education more affordable than at any other local institution.

These are the reasons CCRI has made higher education a reality for more than 57,000 graduates, who are today's nurses, graphic designers, laboratory assistants, opticians, emergency medical technicians and educators. Many of our alumni live and work in Rhode Island, so you may very well know a friend, family member or co-worker who attended CCRI.

Many can attribute their success to the assistance they received from our dedicated faculty and staff. Our faculty members, most with 15 years or more of committed service to CCRI, focus on their students and teach classes themselves rather than relying on teaching assistants. Staff members support our students by advising them, counseling them and directing them toward their goal.

Be sure to get involved while you are here. We have more than 70 clubs and 12 varsity athletic teams that you can join as part of what we hope will be an exciting and well-rounded student experience.

Welcome to the Community College of Rhode Island. You are joining the ranks of millions of community college students across the country and I hope you find what you are looking for at CCRI. We are dedicated to helping you change your life and achieve your dreams.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Di Pasquale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ray Di Pasquale, President

**The Community College of Rhode Island is accredited by the New England Association of Schools & Colleges Inc. (NEASC).**

Founded in 1885, NEASC is the nation's oldest regional accrediting association whose mission is the establishment and maintenance of high standards for all levels of education, from pre-K to the doctoral level. NEASC serves more than 2,000 public and independent schools, colleges and universities in the six states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont and American/international schools in more than 60 nations worldwide.