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LCC TO GRADUATE 10 FROM HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA COMPLETION PROGRAM

Program sees dramatic increase in applicants for fall semester due to cuts in other alternative education programs

LANSING, MICH. (Aug. 6, 2008) – Lansing Community College is preparing to graduate 10 students from its High School Diploma Completion Initiative (HSDCI) this week while experiencing a dramatic increase in applicants for the fall semester. The graduation ceremony will take place on Thursday, Aug. 7 at 7 p.m. at LCC's West Campus.

“Our program is very stringent and it is a testament to our graduates that they have put in the work to reach this point,” said Tracey Taylor, director of LCC’s High School Diploma Completion Initiative. “This program is one of the first steps toward making a better life for our students. We’re just hopeful that we’ll be able to meet the rapidly expanding need for the upcoming school year.”

For the fall semester, approximately 50 students have applied. HSDCI currently has capacity for an additional 25 to 30 students. The remaining students will be interviewed and scheduled to begin their studies in the winter semester.

“Unfortunately, state funding which supports alternative education programs has been cut and many programs have needed to close their doors,” said Taylor.

“This part of the reason we’re seeing the increase in need.”

Since the inception of the program in the spring of 2006, a number of its graduates have stayed at LCC after receiving their high school diploma and are working toward a college degree.

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About Lansing Community College

Lansing Community College is Michigan's third largest community college with more than 32,000 students attending each year. The College has more than 240 degree and certificate programs. LCC offers courses in general education for those interested in transferring to a four-year institution, career and workforce development, developmental education and personal enrichment. To meet the professional development and training needs of regional employees, the college offers customized programs for credit, non-credit and continuing education. The University Center at LCC offers students the opportunity to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from six partner universities on the downtown LCC campus. For more information, visit www.lcc.edu.

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