

Joe Garcia



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Joe Garcia is the Chancellor of the Colorado Community College System (CCCS). As CCCS Chancellor, Garcia leads the state's largest system of higher education, which serves 137,000 students annually at 13 colleges and 39 locations across Colorado.

Prior to his role at CCCS, Garcia served two years as President of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education ("WICHE"), an interstate compact created to provide access to, and improve the quality of, higher education opportunities for residents of the western United States.

From 2011 to 2016, he served as the Lt. Governor of Colorado and as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. During his time as Lt. Governor, Garcia focused on increasing equity in outcomes for all students, particularly those from low income backgrounds and communities of color.

For nearly a decade, Garcia served as President at both a four-year and two-year institutions. From 2006 to 2010, he was President of Colorado State University-Pueblo, which was named the 2008 Outstanding Member Institutions by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. From 2001 to 2006, Garcia was President of Pikes Peak Community College, Colorado's second largest community college.

Garcia's previous public service positions included serving as a member of the Cabinet of Governor Roy Romer and as a White House appointee under President Bill Clinton. He was the first Hispanic partner in the 100-year history of Denver based Holme Roberts & Owen where he focused on public education law.